

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

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You could almost say it was nostalgia time in Grand Forks for me over the past weekend. I have been out of touch with Legion conventions for some time past and it was good to renew acquaintances with some of the holdovers from my years as a Legion representative.

Memories of those good old days flooded back as we signed in at the rather spacious 'Forks Legion headquarters. President Carl Osing, Charlie Harkness, Phil Bateman, Joe Gyte and myself were there to represent Rossland's Branch No. 14 while Phil's wife, Corrie, and Joe's wife, Dorothy, were along to represent the L.A.

The dance orchestra on Saturday night was what really did it though; playing mostly the old-time stuff you don't get too much of these days, it made a thoroughly enjoyable evening out of it and I know I didn't miss too many chances to get out on the floor.

Sometimes the communications were bad but on the whole it was a pretty good convention. Some of us Rosslanders missed the boat on Sunday at the lunch-break because of communications. We had already left for a bite at one of the downtown spots when it was announced that lunch would be served by the women of the branch in the club-rooms along with other refreshments.

province he can be a formidable adversary on the ice lanes.

Among others present at Grand Forks were long-time Legion rep from Trail, Jaimier Hall. Jaimier has held various high posts in all commands right across the country and there's not much he doesn't know about the Legion rules and regulations. Along with Nick Kurulok, Harry Guesford and Hughie McCutcheon of Beaver Valley were several others from Nelson and Castlegar that I'm acquainted with but do not know them all by name.

I sat on the sports committee for the branch which was chaired by Norman Blais of Castlegar. The chairman held the position that he would like to see more mixed participation at the branch and zone level with less stress on the competitive end and more on the social aura of the events.

Apparently there was a dearth of area golfers at the East-West golf tourney at Creston and it irked Trail's Barney Boyczuk somewhat, and he mentioned that it is something he would like to see remedied when golfing becomes popular again next year. I was at the West Zone at Castlegar this year and something came up that prevented me going to Creston, sorry about that, Barney.

I feel that there is enough serious business in Legion affairs that when we turn our

played, lots of cards and crib boards plus darts for anyone interested, snacks, refreshments and coffee will be available.

The need for the centre is certainly apparent. When we held our opening night back in the summer we had more than 120 people there and although through holidays and various other commitments we were unable to staff it for periodic openings since then, it is felt once it is started we shall see quite a lot of use for the facility. I know enquiries have been plentiful if that is any indication.

Back to curling, rinks have been formed and a couple of draws made with the following results: there will be nine rinks and we have contacted a number of spares. Rinks in order of skip, third, second and lead follow: G. Kent, D. Shaw, G. Halladay and J. Hook; A. Vanness, H. Pepper, E. Brown and J. Irvin; A. Popplewell, G. Jensen, E. Thompson and P. Wagner; P. Bateman, D. Tweed, M. Lyster and A. Besso; R.

Broughton, D. Cotton, B. Ling and J. Thompson; G. Dyson, H.F. Hutchinson, B. Ackerman and Rev. A.V. Maglio; N. Harry, L. Scott, J. Mauchline and G. Nixon; T. Harrison, G. Besso, C. Cowland and L. Lawlis; and L. Telfer, B. Ferrey, B. Dobbs and H. Douglas.

Spares contacted so far include Rick Watkinson, John Slubowski, Jack Mitchell, Ernie McGauley, Chuck Harkness and Tom Mitchell. If others would care to join up let us know by phoning Angus at 2-5115 or myself at 2-5205.

The first two draws pit Kent against Vanness, Popplewell vs Bateman, Broughton vs Dyson and Harry vs Harrison; Telfer has the bye, that's today. On Tuesday it's Dyson vs Harry, Vanness vs Harrison, Popplewell vs Telfer, Kent vs Broughton and Bateman gets the bye.

Good curling, guys, and I have to give George Dyson's latest to fill up here. A guy selling cemetery plots announced that the price would increase by 25 per cent, the reason, the high cost of living.

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As usual at these gatherings one runs into some exceptionally interesting people. I had a real good chance to chat with Mayor Sugimoto of Grand Forks when he joined our table at the club on Saturday night after supper. He and his wife afforded us a good chance to hear the views of the people of the Boundary town with a very pleasantly spent hour.

I also get a chance to see and hear our Zone Commander in action for the first time. Earl Moffat gave me the impression that he is with the Legion in his present capacity to do everything in his power to make realities out of our Legion pledges.

This young man, a land representative for B.C. Hydro at Nakusp, is a clear-thinking, forceful speaker and looks capable of backing up his beliefs in any company, large or small. I look for him to give this zone the kind of leadership it certainly can stand; I don't think he's the kind of a gent who would back up once he has taken a stand on anything.

The only times I had met Earl before was at Legion bonspiels, another place besides the convention hall, where he is right at home. Having curled all over the

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I feel that there is enough serious business in Legion affairs that when we turn our thoughts to sports it should be for the relaxation they afford us, not the competition.

Back home we have had a couple of meetings re the Retirees Curling Club activities. We shall have curled our first games of the 79-80 season by the time you read this. Good news for the local over-the-hill gang is that the present cost factor is to remain the same since the club made money from its Fall Fair activity and this has influenced the executive to hold the line on the cost to the curlers.

A date has been tentatively set for an evening open house at the drop-in centre at the lounge for Saturday Nov. 10. The lounge is also being opened for all retired-age people on the mornings the club curls, that is every Tuesday and Friday. It will be opened with an attendant in charge from 11 a.m. to whatever time the visitors wish to avail themselves of the facility.

Bulletins re the opening will be posted around town to let the people know what to expect when they visit the centre. There is a large pool table, a new shuffle board on which several games can be

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