

PEPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

I bet there were quite a lot of sighs of relief after Tuesday's welcome rain in our area.

I know that we teed off during the preliminary light shower around 9 a.m. for our regular Retirees Day round at the Upper Course and it seemed to me that the general feeling was one of gratitude for the rain; nobody even thought how we might get a bit damp before the round was over.

Sure enough, we did, coming down six and from then on through seven, eight and right up until we had putted out on nine the

downpour seemed to increase in volume. The rain jackets were on and the umbrellas up, but a little thing like rain never seems to bother an ardent golf bug.

I think we were out on the course when this area got its last rain too. That must have been something like six weeks or so back, in fact, I believe it was the weekend of July 1 and we didn't know then that we were in for a long, hot, dry spell.

When you live close to the bush like we do, the dry conditions can give you quite a

lot to think about; but we have been fortunate over the several times that conditions have been bad in the district and it has been quite a long while since we've had a bad fire anywhere in the vicinity of Rossland. That's one of the reasons I was so glad to see the rain come along when it did.

Coming back to Tuesday's golf, there were 31 in attendance who qualified as retirees. The competition was the honey pot and no fewer than seven golfers were tied with 21 points. They were Jack Barnes, Walt Turner, Walt Gerrard, Lou Crowe, Percy Hamilton, Phil Bateman and Joe Biagioni. That total of 31 golfers is among the larger groups that has participated in the upper course Retirees Day — maybe it will get even better as the summer rolls on.

Talking to Recreation Director Lloyd McLellan this morning I was inquiring how the Arena renovation program is progressing. The cement floor in the curling rink is now complete and the report on the dressing room construction is that it is slightly behind schedule. It is anticipated that laying of the new roof will commence next week and if things go well the job will be near completion by the time Golden City Days and the Fall Fair are scheduled.

I also touched on a subject that has caused some discussion around town, that of the glass in the lounge windows, Lloyd explained that the reason for it is two-fold, one is insulation against the cold from the ice surface, the other is the fact that the unbreakable glass is next to impossible to clean without scratching. This would cause the glass to blur and distort the view of the ice surface, hence the real glass on the inside.

Lloyd feels that it will be a matter of educating the people who use the lounge to watch hockey games, to refrain from banging on the glass. Warning signs will be there for everyone to see and anyone ignoring them will be subject to prosecution for damage.

The new walls will be installed in October and outside entrances will be improved to

add to the security of the building. When finished the whole thing should be quite impressive, the color scheme over-all, roof and walls, is to be white.

Rossland's women softballers, with no team of their own this year have placed three of their number on the Terra Nova team of Trail which will travel to Langley on Aug. 24 to contest the Senior Women's Recreational Softball provincial championships on behalf of the East and West Kottenays.

The three are Lorie Gibson, Joy Sivyer and Flo MacArthur. I remember travelling to Kamloops with the Rossland team the year they won the B.C. Championship. Flo was a member of that team and is a real veteran of the game in this area.

Another member of the Terra Nova team who, if he is not too well-known to Rosslanders now will probably be a familiar figure to our hockey fans come spring, is Dave Limacher, team manager. Dave was recently appointed the Warriors' coach for the coming season.

Three or four questions come to mind as we wind up this week. How long will the Montreal Expos be able to stay in the pennant race as it heats up during the final six weeks of the regular season? Will the Yankees be able to pull off one of their sustained drives in the closing weeks of the season or will Baltimore or Boston be able to hold them off? How long can the B.C. Lions continue to lead the West division of the CFL? Can the Whitecaps go all the way in the NASL playoffs this season?

Two Rossland ball fans who have one of the longest-standing wagers on record are Carl Osing and Charlie Cholak. Carl is American League, Charlie is National. They bet on the All-Star game and the World Series; says Carl, "I'm ahead on the World Series but behind on the All-Star game."

After thirty years of betting against one another it looks like it just might be Charlie's year!