

JAN 9.

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

As we enter the New Year 1981, we find the ski addicts turning their eyes skyward in the search for more of the white stuff to top up the rapidly dwindling supply which gathered on the slopes as 1980 drew to a close. The situation is getting to be pretty serious from here to the coast with the big resorts having to close down as the rain continues to eat away at the once deeply-covered slopes.

Talking to people who have been around Rossland a lot longer than I, most cannot recall a similar situation, where a deep covering of snow has virtually disappeared before New Year's. What once looked like a skier's dream come true is rapidly becoming a nightmare.

Curling is once again going in earnest with all clubs now back in action. The Retirees Club started again Tuesday with new rink personnel, a new competition and a new formula that allows all 10 rinks to play twice a week instead of the byes which plagued our first half of the season.

We now play our regular four games at the assigned time and another game on the spare sheet left over from the women's afternoon club.

Norm Harry started the

won over Beryl Davis, Carol Albo beat Irene Dunlop and Bev Bell got the better of Enza Boutry.

The Men's Club has had its playoff for Brier representative and Ted Wiltshire has won the right to go to Grand Forks this weekend to do his bit for Rossland. With Ted will be Jimmy Bateman, Dave Davidow and Ron Wisted. Ted beat Alfie Albo 7-6 in an extra end; playing with Alfie were his brother Jimmy, Ivan Bell and Jimmy Driscoll.

In the Junior Men's West Kootenay playdown held in Rossland last weekend a Nelson rink skipped by a young man named Nowosellski won out over another Nelson rink in the final. Rossland's entry, skipped by Troy Albo, had a 1-2 mark. They beat the Farenholtz rink from Nelson 8-6, lost to the ultimate winners 7-6 in an extra end and lost to Stahl from Salmo 6-5. Curling with Troy were Mark Allen, Gordie Ross and Troy Wisted.

One thing I always like to look at is an old picture and the other day Al Dixon showed me one of a junior hockey club in Rossland in the year 1934-35. George Nixon and Cec Pitt were the managers and the players included some names which might be familiar to some of my readers. They are Bob Smith, Len Scott, George Brown, Ben Dickson, Gordy Lynn, Mike Delich, Clyde Nyman, Ernie and Harry Beaulieu, Tommy Eccles, Norman Zanussi, Al LaFace and Al Dixon. Ernie Cleverly was stick boy.

Talking of old pictures, have you been into the local Legion branch lately? If not, you have a treat coming to you. A mural painted by Lee Flanders and Gordon Hoyer depicts a scene from Rossland's past, year 1902, I believe, of a fire on Spokane Street which destroyed most of the block where the Arrow Laundry now stands.

When you look at it, study it closely, the detail is really interesting, the artists have shown a real sense of humor

along with their artistic excellence.

And talking of the Legion, the 1981 executive held its first meeting this week under new president Jack MacDonald. The installation of the new body will take place Jan. 24. If you are a member, plan to attend this function.

On the new exec are Bernie Fourn, vice-president; Jim Schuck, treasurer; Joe Thalman, sgt.-at-arms; Toby Edworthy, welfare officer and Isobel Cutler, secretary.

Remaining members are John Cozzetto, John Rock, George Dyson, Keith Woods, Lil Watkinson, Jim Flanders, Chuck Harkness, Angus Popplewell, Wayne Delio, Herb Castle, Ches Lenard and Harry Pepper. Carl Osing is past-president and joins the trustee body along with MacDonald and Fourn.

The Warriors' winning streak was broken in Nelson last evening as they dropped a 6-3 decision to the Junior

Maple Leafs but previous to that they had a string of four wins over Creston, away, Castlegar, Trail and Grand Forks, all at home. They hope to get back on a winning track as they meet the Rebels this evening at Rossland.

That game will be played on the eve of the annual KIJHL All-Star Game which this year is in Castlegar. This is the annual showpiece of the league season, complete with banquet and guest speaker, Babe Pratt of NHL fame. He is usually worth the price of admission and the food is always excellent.

After this game, always a break in the league action, the Warriors will have nine games left to play, five at home and four away. Trail visits twice, Nelson, Castlegar and Spokane once each while Rossland will play twice in Nelson and once each in Castlegar and Grand Forks. To assure a playoff berth they have to play at least .500 hockey the rest of the way.

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Norm Harry started the new year with a bang, polishing off the George Dyson rink, of which I am a member, to the tune of 11-4. In another game Phil Bateman was laying an eight-ender against Richie Watkinson and the guys were getting ready to run for the cameras, but Richie came through with last rock to lay one.

Over in the Business Girls' Club, publicity committee head Carol Albo tells us they are nearing the end of the initial competition, two more games and they will swing into a new one. In the latest draw Phyllis Woodward topped Donna Price, Arlene Dyson

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