

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

During the past week I had a chance to talk at some length with Maurice MacArthur, the manager of Rossland's representative team in the provincial Pee Wee playoffs held last week in Fort St. John.

That was some trip they undertook, 2,000 miles with a fully-loaded bus can definitely put a lot of strain on everyone concerned. There were 15 players, 19 parents, plus two coaches and manager, all under the care of Neil Murdoch who always comes up with a better-than-average driving job.

The journey was made in two legs each way with overnight stops at Prince George going up and Williams Lake on the return trip.

One of the boys had to be

left in Kamloops on the return trip as he took sick with what was thought to be an attack of appendicitis but turned out to be a stomach ailment. He is now home and OK.

In the opening game, against the host team, the boys were leading 3-2 in the second period before the effects of the trip caught up with them and they lost 10-3; the next outing was an 8-8 tie against Cranbrook in a game which saw penalties galore.

Next was a 12-4 win over Kitimat in a comparatively easy outing, then came an 11-2 loss to the North Shore Winter Club of Vancouver. Rossland took eight penalties in this one to North Shore's five. Their fifth game was one of their best and was to prove to be their last winning effort of the

tourney. They beat Prince George 6-4 in that one which was refereed by none other than Doug Gray, formerly of Castlegar.

Then came consecutive losses to Courtenay-Comox and Kamloops, 9-4 and 12-3 respectively and the boys wound up with five points, good for sixth place over-all in the eight-team round-robin tourney.

Maurice tells me that Fort St. John is a fantastic hockey town and that the people are terrific hosts. He said Gary Neilson, the tournament director, was very helpful in every way. The only fly in the ointment was the fact that Rossland was called upon to play every morning at 8 which meant the boys had to be out of bed around six to be ready.

Rossland's big scoring line of Tony Bobbitt, Dallas Drake and Kenny MacArthur was a big factor scoring-wise accounting for a large percentage of the team's points; Greg Schuck, Leon Turnbull and Kevin Bouchier were a good checking combination while Lyle Simm, Darrel Fry and Greg Holm made up the third line.

Pat Corrado, Colin Eaton, Tom Feeney and Dan Castle were the defence which was hard-pressed a lot of the time and Larry Simm and Darrin Lloyd provided the last line of defence. The boys were outscored 46 to 38 over-all.

John Stanton and Jim Drake were the coaches responsible and Ron Lloyd was the trainer. For the first

experience in provincial play, I think we should give all those who took part in the tournament a great big "A" for effort.

The boys take off again this weekend, this time it's a combined House League and Tier One Pee Wee tourney in Fernie and we wish them lots of luck.

Before we drop the subject, we want to say to the parents who went along at no little cost to themselves on that long trip, "You're great people, I don't know what the kids would do without you."

Curling has finished in Rossland, the ice is being taken out of the arena and the brooms are stashed, the silverware has been handed out and we can prepare for a summer of golf, or what have you.

The Retirees' Club had its windup last Friday, a really great meal put on by Freddy and Viv Thompson ably assisted by Tullio Lenarduzzi and Marge Rosse.

The silverware was handed out with Norm Harry, Richie Watkinson and Jack Mitchell being the big winners, but George Dyson in his usual inimitable style saw to it that everyone was noticed with all kinds of fun prizes.

Just imagine, a box of aspirin, for yours truly. And there were lots of others in the same vein.

Meanwhile the women's club, whom we haven't reported on very much this winter, gave me a resume of their season, courtesy Fanny Albo. They had a pot-luck

supper with 26 members present to start their windup, followed by a short business meeting chaired by Dorothy Fines, club president, who thanked all her committees for their help during the past season.

Bonspiel chairman Fanny Albo gave her report and thanked all who contributed to the task. Slate of officers for the coming season was read by Lee-Ann Paul, and are as follows: president, Dorothy Fines; vice-president, Lee-Ann Paul; secretary, Terry Lyster; treasurer, Gert Sandulescu; one-day spiel, Viv Thompson; social, Ede Harasin; press, Fanny Albo; Zone convener, Marge Rosse; ice, Irene Brennan; prizes, Dorothy Albo; bonspiel chairman, Ruth Dougan.

Prizes for four trophies were then presented. I have been given the full rinks but space will not allow.

The Cominco trophy was won by Helen Ling with Marge Rosse second, the Seccombe trophy went to Fanny Albo with Ede Harasin in second spot, the same two women led their rinks to similar positions in play for the Smart Trophy and in the Haden-Capalbo Trophy it was Helen Ling again, this time Fanny Albo was second.

After the presentations a mini-spiel was held with Dorothy Fines taking first and Marge Rosse second.

To use Fannie's own words, "This brings to an end a season of fun, friendship and exercise." You can't do much better than that.