

Early Monday morning a bunch of cars left Rossland containing 16 members of Rossland's Retirees Curling Club.

They were headed for Grand Forks to answer an invitation extended to them by their opposite counterparts in the border city. Late the same afternoon they returned to Rossland after a very satisfying visit, 18 ends of curling, a great lunch, lots of camaraderie a few games in which the competition was keen.

The 'Forks club had enough members out for seven rinks, so in order that everyone get a chance to participate they rotated their rinks every which way and everyone got to play. All in all, it was the kind of thing which makes curling such a great game; most of us would not be able to enjoy a more vigorous type of activity, so curling really fills the bill. I have not seen any statistics on the matter, but I would hazard a guess the ranks of Retirees curlers are increasing year by year. One thing, for sure, you never lose your eligibility to belong. If you enjoy the game, the fun that goes along with it and the company, you can play it until

PEPP-JALK

with Harry Pepper

death.

One of Rossland's members who made the trek to the 'Forks was George Nixon. George must be among the oldest members of our club ranking right up there with Leo Telfer. George doesn't get around too good, he has some problems with his lower extremities. But don't ever count him out; he's into every game and he faces an awesome climb every Tuesday and Thursday morning in order to get to the rink. Some lesser people might bum a ride, but not George.

I guess the reason we feel an affinity for the Grand Forks club is quite a bunch of the members are former Rosslanders now living at Christina Lake in retirement. There are guys like Stan Hewgill, Ches Edwards, Harry Thorpe and Don Haymond. All once lived among us in the Golden City. Cec Matheson is from Warfield and there are quite

a number of former fellow workers from the Hill who make the beautiful lake area their retirement home. Grand Forks is the natural rendezvous when they go looking for things to fill in their spare time.

Ches Edwards asked our president, Cleve Cowland, when they were going to be invited back. Cleve was right on with his answer, he mentioned July 3, citing the possibility that those who curled in the morning could play a round of golf on the upper course in the afternoon and vice versa.

Actually, that's not a bad idea, everywhere else around the country is going in for summer extravaganzas in their ice palaces, why shouldn't Rossland get into the act?

Turning to hockey, it was a long time coming but the Warriors finally subdued those pesky Nite Hawks from out in the valley and they did it on the Hawks'

home ice. The Rossland win adds another dimension to the already complicated drive for a playoff spot in the West division. Another win for the Warriors on their home pond on Friday could really cause a logjam for the third and fourth spots.

From here on it will have to be "play them one game at a time, giving every fixture the most that they can muster". After Friday's game they will not meet their vying competition for the last two playoff spots again in the regular schedule, so it will be a matter of concentrating on winning their games and hoping the rest of the league keeps the other two teams busy.

The away games with Grand Forks and Creston which should loom as possible satisfying wins will not be able to be taken lightly, neither of those teams have much hope left for post-season play, but in this position they have nothing to lose by playing to the hilt.

Their meetings with the top teams don't give the Warriors any time for relaxation. Two games with the high-flying Nelson Juniors, home and away, will be no easy matter and while they won both of their previous meetings with the Kimberley Knights and Rockies, both these teams are really rolling these days.

The Golden City Lions Club teamed up with a good crowd of Rossland residents on Saturday to raise some good money for the crippled children. And at the same time showed some of those children a good time with snowmobile rides and then took them in for a real feed at the Rossland Motel.

President Gord Phillips of the Lions told me a good number of Lions' members were active Saturday morning at the Lion park at Black Bear to assist with the kiddies and Henry and Suzie Lotecki did a great job on the catering end. He also expressed a wish to say thanks to the Rossland people who turned out for the dance and also a special thanks to the musical group known as "Sundance", for donating their services on behalf of the drive for the Crippled Children Fund.

The big day, of course, will be Feb. 14, that is Snowarama day when the Lions and the snowmobilers stage the ride for the big bucks. An annual affair on the kids behalf, in which, this year, they are getting extra help from other area Lions clubs.

During the past week or so we have heard of numerous deeds of derring-do as Canada's skiing athletes have been well to the fore in meets in Europe and Japan. Gerry Sorenson, Horst Bulau, Steve Podborski and Ken Read and our own DeeDee Haight from Fruitvale, are all names to conjure with as they do their thing around the world on the slopes.

Flash!! The Rossland high school curling team won the right to represent the West Kootenay in high school playdowns by winning the area championship in Nelson last weekend. The rink of Troy Albo, Mark Allen, Darren Albo and Gordie Ross will now play the East Kootenay for the right to advance along the playoff trail.