

RECREATION

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

Canada's annual extravaganza for kids, which had its birthplace in the Trail district, Minor Hockey Week, was held all across the country last weekend. In Rossland it was a big thing for the kids of our town and afforded a lot of pleasure for quite a number of adults as well.

Thanks to the good offices of Barb Armour of our minor hockey executive, I got a pretty complete report of the happenings at the rink. I was unable to attend because of our Legion installation ceremonies, and Barb did her usual thorough job of putting me in the picture.

The opening ceremony was at 2:45 with Gary Holm, president of the Rossland Minor Hockey Association, acting as master of ceremonies. Alderman Jenks spoke to those assembled on behalf of the city and Golden City Days Queen Margit Pistak dropped the puck for the

opening faceoff.

The Novices, as they always do, performed with all the zest they could muster and came up with a very entertaining game. This group of 25 boys is coached by Rich Chobanuk and Joe Zanussi.

The second game was between the Atom "A" team and the Atom "B" with the "B" team coming out on top, coaches of these boys are Geoff Chambers and Lou DeRosa.

In the third game of the day the Pee Wee "A" battled the "B" squad and the "A" team were victorious. These youngsters are coached by Gary Holm and Brett Drake.

Next up were the Rossland Bantams who had a team from Trail for opposition. These youngsters, who we saw in action a couple of weeks back in action against the Swedish touring team, were the winners in this game and are a very well coached club thanks to the

efforts of Rich Chobanuk and Rod Zavaduk.

In the final game of the night the Junior Warriors were in action against the Creston Clippers. It was the first meeting of the season between the two teams in regular league play and Creston came out on top by an 8-6 score. As a tribute to Minor Hockey Night, a young Atom player, five-year-old Bruce Armour, was allowed to start at centre for the Warriors with his brother, Warrior regular Scott, on right wing. After a couple of tries Bruce managed to put the puck in the net. It was retrieved by the ref and given to Bruce as a memento of Minor Hockey Night.

This is always a great night for the kids and they can always be depended upon to give the folks a greatly entertaining show.

While on the subject of hockey, the two games the Warriors lost last weekend

could go a long way towards sealing fifth-place fate. Had they won them both, with seven games left to play, they could have breathed a little easier, now they are faced with a monumental task, win all the remaining games and hope the opposition loses, they don't meet Beaver Valley or the Rebels again in regular league play.

Creston, a team who had won only seven games prior to coming here, are the opposition on their own ice in one of the remaining games. While the doormats of the West division, the Border Bruins, have two games against the Rossland team, one is a make-up game which will be played in Grand Forks this coming weekend, according to Rossland manager, Doug Hinton.

The curling season for the Retirees has entered the fun stage now as we start the final competition of the season, this is rotation play throughout and some of our newer members are getting a taste of what the skips' job is all about. It will be fun to watch which of them can handle the job which so far they have only watched somebody else do.

We are into the final round of our playoff to see which of our rinks will play for our club in the over-60 playdown at the rink in mid-February.

Wednesday the George Dyson rink was able to come up with a win over Arnold Vanness' rink and so eliminated Arnold from the playoff. Angus Popplewell

overcame a three-ender start by Phil Bateman to win his way into a spot in the playdowns, now Phil and George must tangle to see who goes to the other spot, each club in the association is allowed a rink for every 25 members, so we are allowed two.

In our second competition, just completed, it was Dick Cotton with 14 points from nine games while Angus Popplewell and Phil Bateman followed with thirteen. The dark horse I mentioned last week, George Dyson, closed fast and was fourth with 12. There was a bunch at seven apiece and Norm Harry brought up the rear with six.

The Legion's popular Pot 'o' Gold has been closed down again as have the weekend sweeps. George Dyson of the entertainment committee reported that during their brief run the two games had provided over \$500 to be used for bursaries and hospital donations. Let's hope the green light will be given for these worthwhile charitable opportunities to re-open in the near future.

The installation ceremonies at the club was a very well-conducted affair with a dance to the popular Breezin' orchestra following, Barney Boychuk of the Trail branch and his popular wife, Jean, did the honors in the absence of "Bucko" Lapointe our Zone Chairman from Nelson, who was prevented from attending because of the awful weather over the last weekend.