PEPP-JALK with Harry Pepper

In Rossland today many people are pointing their thoughts towards our city's annual wing-ding, Golden City Days. This fall madcap session has drawn a lot of people to the Kootenays to watch and participate in the various events.

This is the time of year quite a number of Rossland natives from all over try to be present to meet new and renew old friendships. The events held are many and varied but the one I think most people like to be present for is the big parade, winding around almost 20 city blocks.

I have heard it said by some viewers of parades that, for the size of our town, it is probably one of the best of its kind in the country. I'm in no position to argue with that point of view and probably wouldn't do so even if I could.

Since this event started we have seen the incorporation of the old Fall Fair into the structure and this adds quite a lot to the original idea.

The Fall Fair is held in the arena and today is a lot more than just a test of the various skills of our people. Gardening, canning, cooking, needlecrafts, were the backbone of the old fair, and are now embellished by a variety of projects, including an art show of no mean proportions, the presentations by our local youngsters of some of their fine musical talents, games of chance, and the opportunity for merchants and salesmen from around the area to advertise their wares.

Two or three raffles are conducted by the local hockey teams, to help replenish their coffers for the upcoming season along with others run by the local fraternal organizations.

Always a big drawing card is the one or more outlets where people may sit down with their friends and quench their thirst while recounting the high spots of their lives.

Unlike the recent Slo-pitch Tournament, which was unfortunate to be plagued with some terrible weather, most everything connected with the Golden City Days can, if necessary, be moved indoors. Last year, if memory serves me correctly, we had some nasty moments at the start of the parade but it got better as time progressed.

Last week a couple of people from our local curling organizations dropped in to see the head of Rossland Recreation, Jack Richardson, in connection with a letter received by various clubs around town from the Regional District. It asked people for ideas about how our recreation facilities can be improved.

Jack listened to Viv Thompson, president of the Ladies Afternoon Club and myself as a member of the Retirees Club, and gave us an outline of projected improvements to the lounge area of the curling club. There will be some impressive changes there if and when the funds become available.

Jack also pointed out the ceiling in the curling rink has now been started. The present progress covers no. four sheet and will be continued as time and funds permit, by the rink staff, who, by the way, are putting a new ceiling in the lobby on the north end at the moment.

I dropped up to the lounge in the main Arena the same day and was pleasantly surprised to see quite a number of our Retirees enjoying a game of pool and a cup of coffee. They meet every Wednesday and Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock. If you haven't been up there and are a retired person who likes to play pool, shuffleboard, darts or whatever, feel free to drop up there. You can get in by going up the steps on the north end and knocking on the door.

Pat Morris Day, this year held at Birchbank, saw us have the first really nice day for golf in a long time. I rode out with Gil Besso and played with Bob Walley, Fred Buccini and Phil Leduc. We teed off on no. 1 at 8:30 and were in the clubhouse by 10 a.m. Gil and Bernie Ferrey were in the initial foursome off no. 10.

This week at the Upper Course the competition was "name your handicap and match par". Seven of our veteran players were able to meet the challenge. They were Bill Chartres, Tony DeBiasio, Bernie Ferrey, Clyde Nyman, Matt Mattson, Jim Scott, and Joe Bielli.

Next week's competition will be run by Herb Martin and "Red" Ins. So, we can sook for something special. That's it for this week!