

Dec 16/83

PEPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

The Christmas season draws closer every day and the feeling of good will takes over. We think first of what we have to give to our fellow-travellers on the road of life. Maybe it will be just a greeting card, on which we express our wishes and then again, maybe we can afford something more substantial. Maybe all we can come up with is a cheery greeting and a hearty handshake.

So, to get right down to it, may I start by thanking our city fathers and the merchants of our town for the work that has been accomplished in downtown revitalization and on the Heritage projects. It has indeed been a revelation to me that so much has been accomplished. This thought probably extends to a lot of my fellow citizens so I would like to pass along the compliments of the season to all you ladies and gentlemen on behalf of my family and any others who wish to join me.

Next in line are my fellow members of our Retirees' Curling Club from president

Angus all the way down the line. Included in this greeting are members of retirees' clubs all around our great area, many of whom I know personally.

To you all, in Grand Forks, Nelson, Castlegar, Trail and our own boys right here in Rossland, I hope your Christmas may be the best ever and the New Year, too. Here's a great line: "May you all live as long as you want to and never want as long as you live."

Then there's the people who do so much for our kids in the fields of recreation; the Rossland Minor Hockey Association and its hard-working executive who are also partly responsible for our Warriors among all their other programs. Our minor soccer people whose work is appreciated by many of us plus all those engaged in the promotion of kids' tennis, field hockey, swimming, cycling, hiking and a legion of others too numerous to mention. To everyone who helps in any way, I want to thank you for my family and wish you many years of

continued and increasing success in your efforts.

Then there are those people up on the hill who administer the work of keeping the ski slopes and trails ready for the multitudes. To our newly-elected alderman and hill manager, Bob Steckle and his merry group of helpers, may you enjoy a great holiday season.

I can't miss the chance to say, "Hello," to all my fellow Legionnaires who are all in the battle to bring, once again, good times and a better future for our troubled branch. This week will see us vote to elect a slate for '84.

It could turn out to be chance for you to make key decisions on your ballot. By now, you have made those choices. Let's all hope they were the right ones, then we shall all be able to have a very Merry Christmas and a really happy and prosperous New Year.

To all the other teams in the KIJHL West, the Spokane Flames, who are really rolling, those pesky Nite Hawks from Beaver Valley, the Rebels of Castlegar, the Bruins of Grand Forks, Nelson's Leafs and Trail's luckless Smokies, I would like to wish you the best of the season just so long as it doesn't conflict too much with our Warriors getting into the playoffs. Anyways, have a great time over the holiday and just keep skating.

To those guys who take a lot of hassle over a regular 40-game season, you know, the chaps in the striped-shirted livery, who show up for every game and do their best to keep order, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

And to all the fans who are showing up for Warrior

games, thank you and may you have a wonderful holiday and see more and more wins to cheer in the New Year.

Now, a very special Christmas wish to a bunch of ladies whom we all admire, those irrepressible girls of the "Granny Band." I think I hurt one or more of your feelings in my last write-up about you. One of your members came to me after and said, "So, you think I'm an elderly lady, hey?" My reply was masterful.

"Yes, but don't forget," I also said, "your personality sparkled along with your music and you were the number one sparkler." Edith positively glowed.

And now, last but certainly not least among the great loves of my life, come a group of people who made many nights memorable over the years. They are known as the Rossland Warriors, from big Doug at the head of the list, down to team stick-boy. I want to wish you all a very, very wonderful holiday, Doug and Freddy, Doug Hinton, Marion, Barb, coaches Richard, Tom and Bob, trainer Don and the people who make that lounge operate. To Bert, Darryl and Doug, our goalies, on to Rod, Darren P., Gary, Garrett and Darren S., John and Russ, who make up the bulk of our defence, Brian, Danny D. and Allan, Danny F., Tim and Mike, Murray, Rob and Gordie, along with Kenny, Tony and Darren R., the ones who get the goals so necessary to victory.