

Dec 23/83

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

The average Trail hockey fan had quite a shock this past week with the news that Duke Scodellaro had passed away. It was quite a shock to me.

When Duke started to play goal in Trail I was working for an elderly couple in the Strathmore area of Alberta. When my chores were finished we young people would listen on the radio and follow the Allan Cup playoffs. The Duke quickly became one of my favorites.

Duke will be missed by a lot of people in this area, especially around the local golf courses. This corner would like to pass along our sympathies to his family in their loss.

Turning to curling on the Retirees front, at the present we older chaps are enjoying a well-earned break for the holidays after more than 90 games.

Arnold Vanness and his crew of Gil Besso at third, Dick Vermiere, second and Lou Freeman lead, finished with 11 wins, one tie and a loss to finish first.

Following Arnie were Phil Bateman's rink at 9-2-2, next in line was the Norm Harry

rink at 8-4-1, Dan Burnett 7-5-1 and Angue Popplewell at 7-6. Six game winners were Bob Stevenson, Jack Mitchell and Harry Pepper, while there were five rinks at five wins and one which had a luckless competition at 2-9-1, plus one default.

Our second competition will commence Jan. 3 and we shall be playing on three mornings of the week with 13 rinks taking part. During that period we shall also be conducting playoffs for teams to enter the Retirees' zone finals. We shall also be making a trip to Nelson along with the Grand Forks club Jan. 25 for an invitational. There will no doubt be other in the works for us.

Our Christmas party took place on Dec. 15 in which we enjoyed a fine afternoon of entertainment along with the Ladies' Afternoon club. We had a fine meal, some refreshment and an auction conducted by Dorothy Albo, which turned a nice profit. Our friend, Lou Crowe, made a real gesture when he bought an ice bucket and then turned it back to the ladies allowing them to re-auction it for even more profit.

Well, the Legion election for the '84 executive in Branch 14 contained no great surprises. Our president was re-elected for the coming year, helping Bernie Fourt in the business of the branch in the coming year will be Allan Stinson as vice-president, Vivian Thompson treasurer, and the members elected to fill the remaining posts, Lil Watkinson, Ev Ellis, Toby Edworthy, Rich Watkinson, Carl Seefeldt, Harry Cardwell, Carl Osing and Mike Kraftchick.

Stil on Legion business, the publicity regarding the zone curling event in Trail on Jan. 20-22 has not received as much attention as it might. The event, as far as I can find out, has not gotten the attention of the branches involved. Rossland has entered seven rinks and as far as I know are among the top branches.

One place I and my friends always like to stop when we are in Trail is a small pub on the way home. It numbers among its clientele fellows who gather most afternoons at a large table by a big window where they can watch the traffic in The

Gulch and have a few among friends. They are a great bunch of guys and at this time of the year it is appropriate to pass along good wishes.

So all our best wishes to Ab Cronie, Paul Seymour, Barney Boychuk, Jake McLeod and his brother Archie, Mike Georgetti, Mike Buckna, Archie Reuter, John Woods, Allan Jones and Murdo Morrison, may you spend many more pleasant days in good company.

The Warriors didn't win any games last weekend but both games were pretty close, a 4-3 overtime loss to Cranbrook and a 7-6 decision to the Nite Hawks in the Valley. Now they will concentrate on practices until Jan. 6 when they entertain Elk Valley prior to a trip to Nelson. They have eight games at home and four away and could wind up as high as second, but third or fourth is a more realistic prognosis. They could take five or six of the home games and possibly as many as three of the away dates.

So with that we'll say, "See you next time!"