

JAN 14/84

# PEPP-JALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

Predictions do not always go the way you expect. Two of mine over the past couple of weeks have gone awry. I predicted the Flyers would trip the Soviets to give the NHL a tie in the series just completed but they were never in it with the smart boys from Eastern Europe.

Then, I forecast that the West would probably continue their domination over the East in the KIJHL all-star game played in Nelson last weekend.

That prognostication also fell short as the East team pulled away in the second period to take a 4-2 victory over their West counterparts. The standing in the series now is 5-3 in favor of the West.

Herb Castle, a past executive officer of the league, was at the game and told me that it was an excellent contest throughout.

He also mentioned that the rest of the celebration at the event was carried out in a very professional manner with the Nelson Junior Maple Leaf organization coming in for plaudits for their handling of the details, like an excellent supper and the presentation of the awards but the crowd at the game left something to be desired.

There was one note in the printing of the program that caused a smile for a number

of people. The league's popular president, Rossland's Jim Markle, had remarks of his in the opening page of the program attributed to one Jim Demaris. I guess is caused quite a ripple of amusement at the celebration too.

I wonder if the win by the East all-stars foreshadows what could happen in the playoffs this spring. The Eastern division is a closer race than that in the West where Trail are more or less runaway leaders of that division leading their closest rivals Beaver Valley by 11 points and almost 35 points ahead of the last-place Bruins. Cranbrook at the top in the East lead Columbia Valley by nine and the bottom two teams, Kimberley and Creston, are another 21 back.

After their drubbing by the Junior Smokies on Friday in Trail the Warriors bounced back with a 6-4 win Tuesday in Castlegar. Tim McNulty got his first two-goal game since joining the Warriors shortly before the holidays. They face a stern test tonight as they play host to the high-flying Nite Hawks in their first home game since before Xmas.

Wednesday at the curling club we of the retirees curling will entertain rinks from the Trail and Nelson clubs. The Trail rinks play

the morning draw and Nelson in the afternoon with a lunch around the noon break. Three five-man rinks are coming in from each of the visiting clubs and we have drawn up six five-man rinks to oppose them in rotation play.

This makes for a busy week for our club as our regular days are Tuesday and Thursday, however we had no trouble recruiting the necessary people to man the six rinks. Phil Bateman, Bob Stevenson and Arnold Vanness will skip the three morning rinks versus Trail and Lou Crowe, Russ Broughton and Bernie Ferrey the three against Nelson in the afternoon.

It is good to be able to report that Ernie McGauley is back from his sojourn in the hospital. He told his skip, Arnie Vanness, that he hopes to get back curling again in the very near future. Meanwhile, Bud Hachey has decided to lay off as he has some knee trouble as does Jim Scott.

The saying goes that the activity of participation helps keep us retired people going and in most cases this is true but there are times when too much of that can cause the aging joints to get a little sore. We hope the boys who are ailing at present will recover their mobility and return before the season ends.