

# PEPPER-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

MAR 30/84

Up in Rossland on Sunday the Legion Branch 14 held its annual one-day fun 'spiel and it was a dandy with twelve rinks entered and players from five branches taking part. The friendly competition in every game was its outstanding feature. The entries were all drawn from the hat and the line-ups were as well mixed as one could wish for.

Winning the A event was the Jim Bateman rink with Gary Seefeldt playing lead, Frank Webster of Castlegar second and Jim Markle third. The runner-up in A was a rink skipped by Ivan Bell, who had all Rossland retirees in his line-up. There was Roly Ellis as lead, Bernie Fournier at second and John Bruce third.

Jim finished with 16 points out of a possible 24 while Ivan edged out three other rinks, those of Ted Leslie of Trail, Angus Popplewell and Jim Schuck. Ivan had 13 points. The others all had 12.

In the B event, the Gil Besso rink with Fred Girard of Castlegar at third, Beaver Valley's lone entry Ken Walts second and Herb Castle of Rossland, lead, won out by one point, 15 to 14, over the Deke Davies' rink. The Nakusp skip, whom most people of my age group remember as a better-than-average lacrosse player, and Dick Vermiere at third, Walter Fields of Castlegar second and Chuck Harkness as lead. They were followed by the rinks skipped by Arnie Sherwood (13), Phil Bateman (12) and Earl Moffat of Nakusp (10).

The Dick Cotton rink in A and the Norm Harry rink in B were off the pace with seven or eight points respectively.

The day wound up with a bang-up stew supper at the Legion and presentation of trophies. It had been quite a day with almost six inches of snow accumulating while the curling was in progress.

Over on the other side of the rink, the little guys were having their big weekend tourney, courtesy of the Rossland Minor Hockey Association. Teams from the West Kootenay and Spokane played some real sparkling hockey before some good numbers of spectators before the three-day affair wound down with the Grand Forks entry beating Trail to take the gold medal. Nelson took bronze by edging Rossland 5-3.

The youngsters joined their other chums on a wind-up party of supper and awards presentations on Wednesday evening at the high school after a busy season topped by the excellent weekend tourney.

The Retirees curling club wound up its schedule on Tuesday with a full slate of games with the Bob Stevenson rink edging Phil Bateman's rink in the running for the final competition first spot. The club will hold its wind-up supper and awards

presentation on Thursday evening at the Legion with all members in agreement that '83-'84 has been a good curling season for the older set.

I drove past the Birchbank course on Monday morning and that beautiful green looks really inviting. Some of our boys have been out already and all report a fine day on the course. Tony Farnsworth said, when I asked him how he was hitting the ball, "Great, if I get any better, I'm going to hit the gold trail!" Pretty good for so early in the season.

Well, in Rossland the snow is depressing. Progress is not as fast as it is in some of our neighboring communities where the ground is starting to show through. Guys, like Norm Harry, get a funny feeling around this time of the year. They get the itchy feeling to get out there and get something in the ground. When you do the kind of job Norm does, you've got to admit that it's

all worth it. He starts to reap dividends pretty early and they keep on coming until fall.