PEPP-JALK with Harry Pepper

On Monday morning I got a call from Willi Krause. Willi was looking for information with regard to the names of some of the people who took part in the running of the indoor track and field meets that were held in the Cominco Arena some years back.

Willi was telling me that since Trail now has its field-house he would like to get some data on the way, they operated those meets back then. He says he knows the Canadian Legion had a large part in their sponsorship. But he has a letter from the people who were in charge at the Legion at that time telling him the Legion was going to discontinue their sponsorship because they felt Willi did not need it.

Willi says this was a very mistaken idea. If and when he gets his wish to get the meets started in the field-house, the Legion would be one of the first organizations he would approach because of the excellence of the work they did in the past meets.

The conception that Willi has of these proposed meets is that they will offer the chance for youngsters from the elementary and higher grades from throughout the district to participate. Perhaps they could start out with the immediate district first and go on from there to develop the idea of an Interior championship class meet.

I have talked to Rossland's famous son, Joe Haley. It was he who first broached the subject to me and Joe said he would help Willi in any way he could.

I shall go on to talk to people in all the Zone Legions to put the idea of a sponsorship in their minds. Willi tells me that with all the groundwork for indoor meets now laid out in the field-house, the Legion's job would not be nearly as onerous as it was in the previous case.

Now that I have laid it out for people to consider, would anyone with some knowledge of the problems that were faced before please get in touch with Willi. He's retired now and his number is in the book, but like any old work horse he's still willing to take the bit in his teeth and charge into anything.

So come on! Anyone who has something to help Willi get things started, give him a call.

The Canadian Legion does sponsor a Canada-wide youth training program that helps our kids get a good start in their athletic endeavors. But, as Willi points out, it is concentrated in the East, not that the program is dead in the West, but all the big meets are in the East. Witness "Pepp-Talk" of September 7 telling about two young athletes from Trail, Eileen Volpatti and Carla DiBiasio who took part in the above program and collected three bronze medals at a country-wide meet at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Willi's idea to bring back Legion sponsorship locally would be a big boost towards getting the Legion brain-trust to possibly give this part of the country one of those attractive big meets. The Legion is in the busines of helping both the young and old and I feel they will give anyone who approaches them a fair hearing.

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So Winnipeg is Grey Cup champion for '84. They thoroughly deserved their victory. After a slow start that saw Hamilton build up a 14-3 edge, they started a comeback that saw them outscore the Ti-Cats 44-3 after the first quarter. The easy victory gave our Toby Edworthy a win in our Grey Cup party sweep. Lucky old Tobe!

And with that I'll say "Till next time!"