

PEPPER-JALK

July 26/85
with
Harry
Pepper

This week we have to change the usual golf season format and leave the Tuesday Retiree report until next time around. Not that I'm going to leave golf entirely, but owing to the fact that my steno has to go away on a trip we have to sort of rush things a bit.

First of all, this is going to be quite a big week for our Retiree golfers. I think there were forty or more on a list at Birchbank to find out who were going on an invitational to Nelson on Wednesday. This of course, follows the upper course Retirees day and a day ahead of the Birchbank day which is Thursday.

Bart Dudley, Carl Osing and myself all signed up to go and we shall get an early start. We played four days last week and shall likely do the same this week. Speaking of Carl, we have named a tree on the eighth fairway in his honor. As I said to Tommy Clark the other evening, the hill facing you when you tee off on number four is named after Tommy as he used to have trouble getting his tee shot over it. Well, every time Carl tees off on eight he either hits this tree on the left side or he is behind it or beneath it, so now the big old Cottonwood is called "Carl's Tree."

Saturday evening in the Rossland Legion, Richie Watkinson introduced me to a young man who is visiting him from over in the Old Country. His name is Kevin Surridge and he comes from a part of London which I am quite familiar with, Ilford. It is only a long walk from Leytonstone, where I finished my schooling and got a job as a delivery boy with an ironmonger (that would be hardware merchant over on this side). Anyway, Kevin's folks showed Rich and his friends a pretty good time when he was over there in the forces and now he is over here to help renew the ties that were so much a part of any serviceman's life over there.

Kevin is a budding equestrian and has his own horse, a seven-year-old named Zarin, he says he thinks Canada is a great place to be, and, to tell you the truth, he could possibly be contemplating a move to this country. Just 21 years old and quite a personable young man, I would say to him, "Kevin, you could do a helluva lot worse."

Getting back to the Nelson trip, none of the three of us have ever played the Nelson course, so it will be a change.

Turning now to a subject that is in season at this time of the year in Rossland, lacrosse, I was asked one day recently if I thought the game would ever have a chance around here again. Since that time I have talked to three guys who played the game, two of them in Rossland and a veteran who played the game in Trail.

Murray Johnson and Wes Nadiger both played for Rossland when the Redmen played against the travelling Australian team and both seem to be of the opinion that the only way the game could be revived to become any sort of a fixture would be to do it on a play-for-fun basis. There are quite a number of people around today who might still think enough of the grand entertainment the game has to offer and there are also a number of people who still handle the tools of lacrosse pretty well too.

Maybe a bit of promotion by those who love to watch the game, combined with an effort by those who would still play, could get a fun league going to keep the interest alive. I'll help in any way I can. I sure loved to watch the way those guys handled those sticks and the way they could pass and shoot. I have a lot of memories about lacrosse in Rossland and would sure like to see it again in any form.

Well, I see a Britisher finally won the British Open, back after quite a few years of it being won by people from just about every country in Europe and then by Americans. Finally this year, Sandy Lyle of Scotland came through with the touch to keep the title where it rightfully belongs.

Every day we miss someone who has taken off on holidays. It gives one an itch to be going somewhere too. This weekend we'll be joining a group going to Deer Park, Wa., for a Legion celebration. We went last year and had a real good time, so when the offer to return came along it was too good to pass up.

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Then, sometime in August, the Pepper family will join forces at some as yet undecided rendezvous for our annual celebration. Last year we had a great time at Kalamalka Lake near Vernon. This year it will again be a surprise location. I suspect somewhere in Alberta, two of the kids are there now, one at Brooks and one in Calgary.

And with that we'll say.

Til next time, then!