

PEPPER-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

MAY 9/86

Some of my readers who play golf around the country will possibly have played the Chewelah golf course. I did that on Saturday. The occasion was a tourney put on with collaboration of a V.F.W. Post of Spokane and the Legion post in Chewelah, to improve the relationship between those people and the West Kootenay Zone of the Royal Canadian Legion.

The course, for those of you who may not have played it, has narrow fairways, tree-lined from tee to green, with a couple of water hazards which are placed so that an errant long drive can find them quite easily. I think the most prominent feature are the cart paths around the course. The old advice about "follow the yellow-brick road" from the Wizard of Oz is very appropriate here, as they are all strewn with yellow-brick dust which must be quite a picture from the air.

The property along the fairways makes fine land to build on and there are a number of fine country homes lining most of the fairways. From what we could observe most of the rest of the land is for sale. A rather deep canyon runs through most of the course and the crossing of these with carts is made very simple with the yellow paths crossing it at several intervals.

After the golf was over, we were welcomed by a well-known Spokane VFW member, Jim King, who was standing by on the course with all the necessities of life. In a beautiful motor home and the hungry players lost no time in helping themselves to the stacks of meats, cheese, crackers and all the liquid refreshments that were on hand.

We then went to the Legion post in town and later on sat down to a steak supper and a short meeting which saw distribution of awards take place and talk of the next year's event which will take place in Canada, hopefully in the Rossland-Trail-Castlegar area.

Bart Dudley and Carl Osing were my partners on the trip and Bart and I played together with two Americans while Carl was in the foursome ahead of us. It was a fine day's outing, good company, a good course to play on and new friends to meet. It rained for a short time while we played the first couple of holes, but with lots of trees to rest under between shots it made keeping reasonably dry not too tough.

Now to something else, last Friday I had a call from Darryl LeMoel from the Trail Recreation Department telling me about the Fitness Challenge between people of Trail and surrounding districts versus those living in a similar area in the vicinity of Port Moody. People are being asked to participate in this event which takes place on May 28. It seems to me that I read somewhere this happened last year and our area edged out the

challenge put on by Port Moody by a narrow percentage point margin. Darryl would like some extra publicity for this event with hope that we shall again win the contest. Maybe this time by a bigger margin. So come on all you golfers, hikers, runners, joggers, cyclists and what have you. Get in there and do your thing for the old alma mater! For more information try phoning 364-2444 for any questions that may arise.

Now back to golf for a moment. As I mentioned last week, the retirees got out on no. 9 last Friday morning to spread the top soil layer. It was a good turnout with better than fifteen of us oldsters on the job. They were Joe Bielli, Chris Christianson, Roger McKeown, Russ Broughton, Bart Dudley, Rich Watkinson, Ferro Pellegrin, Jim Douglas, Torchy Torresan, Sam Martin, Bill Vickers, Stan Fisher, Percy Cutler, Sam Anselmo and yours truly. If I missed someone don't feel badley, just remind me and I'll repair that next time around. However, I didn't stay to the end but Joe Bielli told me he figured they were within an hour or so of finishing when the rains came and drove them to cover. It was planned to complete the job and roll it this past Monday.

I hear some thought has been giving to changing Retirees Day at the upper course. I hope this does not come to pass as we are used to Tuesday and this story about the ladies on Birchbank and us on the upper course, keeping people off the two courses is so much hogwash. Our group is off and running by 8:30 or earlier and we call a halt as soon as we feel those coming have had time to appear. Usually around 10 a.m. or a little later. Last week we sent out 50 golfers in that space of time and that is one of the larger groups we have had out. How the ladies do at the other course, I don't know. Maybe they would welcome a change of days but I am speaking for our group and I don't think they would care to change.

Joe Bielli and Rich Watkinson were in charge this week which saw 60 golfers out there for an 8 a.m. start.

It was an almost perfect day for golf and we presented 7 balls to the winners in five competitions.

Bill Vickers took low gross with a 42. Low net was shared by three, Ken Davies, Al Turner and Pat Martin, all at 33. Closest to the pin on no. 6 after three strokes was won by Ike Bosse, who sank this third for a birdie.

The low hidden hole was no. 2 and Tim Jenkin took it with a 4, while the high hidden hole was no. 8 and Gil LeMoel had that dubious honor with a 9.

Next week Roger McKeown Peter Browne will hold court at the sign-up table. See you all there.

And with that I'll say 'til next time, then!