

# Nov 7/86 PEPPER-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

Of course the big news this week is that the Rossland Retirees have got their 1986-87 curling season underway. After a very well attended Open House on Tuesday, the classification committee met and the rinks were set for the first competition. Everyone was ready for a Thursday morning start.

Ten rinks are in the books and they will be skipped by Dan Burnett, Fred Munro, Angus Popplewell, Jake Lilburn, Bob Stevenson, Russ Broughton, Carl Seefeldt, Phil Bateman, Bert Morrow and this writer. Time will tell how everyone will fare, but I must say these rinks look as even as they could have been picked, even if they had been drawn by lot numbers.

Our classification committee composed of Rich Watkinson, Dick Cotton, Joe Rosse and Phil Bateman, as always, has done a good job of turning out some pretty evenly balanced teams for our first competition. We are still going with the five-man rink format and the guys all seem to like it.

During the month of October I attended two meetings of the Rossland Curling Association and here, courtesy of the association secretary, Karen Tyler, are the highlights of them. One of the highlights was a motion that the association return a percentage of the bar patronage monies to the clubs at the end of each year based on usage of that facility. This was moved, seconded and carried. Another highlight was the motion by Angus Popplewell that 24 extra chairs be purchased for the lounge to save having to pack chairs from the Warrior lounge for every large function held. At the later meeting, Angus, on behalf of the Retirees spoke of a donation of \$1,200 the club will make to the association to buy the chairs. At the same time the Mixed Club will donate \$500 to the association to buy anything that is needed. All in all it looks as though the association is set to do things this season, under the presidency of Tony Topolinski and his board.

Now to some thoughts on Warrior hockey, 1986-87 version. For one thing we are seeing a few more people attending games this season than we have in the past few years. There is no doubt the team has a lot to do with this. We have a very good hockey club this winter and I guess we can thank the Grand Forks people for some of this. In goal Mike McNally has been outstanding and the heavy hitting of our defensive corps has been another point which the fans like to watch. Not to take anything away from the forwards, a lot of shooting and some nifty stick-handling make a picture that every fan loves to see. So come on you Warriors, keep giving us that sort of entertainment and we'll keep coming back again and again. Thanks must go to Bob Whitlock and Rich Chobanuk for the good job they are making of the running of our young people on the Warriors.

Well, we are rapidly approaching the Remembrance Day celebration and as is usual a member of Branch No. 14 will be at the high school to talk to the youngsters on the subject of the futility of war with all its degradation, horror and all the other terrible side-effects. This is a subject that I sincerely believe is probably foremost in the minds of those of us who have been through it, its not only us but what a terrible effect it has on the kids. I'll never forget, in Italy we had a mess tent in a large gravel pit. The little ones ringed that place every meal-time with their pitiful little cans, ready to swoop down as soon as we started to empty our scraps. A whole lot of the guys never finished a meal in that place would beckon the kids to come down and share what they had instead.

"Til next time, then!