

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

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On Monday evening I listened to the Vancouver weather forecast and it promised some sunshine but a lot of rain. It didn't, in other words, bode very well for our Retirees golf in the morning and I was told by a gent who has a metal roof on his house that they didn't get much sleep from around 3 a.m. on.

When dawn broke, actually, I don't think it did, at least it didn't get much lighter than it had been all night, it was still coming down and I called Dave at the course at about 9:30 a.m., and he said the boys cancelled out about a half hour before my call. It was not only wet, it was cold and we have some pretty ardent golfers on our crew but I guess that even they thought the better of it. However, I guess all we can hope for is some more suitable weather for our next time around.

Last Thursday Bart Dudley and I spent a very nice day at Castlegar. At 8 a.m. we left home and were out on the course at 8:45. We were in different foursomes and I got lucky. Both of our Castlegar hosts had carts, a gent from Nelson accompanied on one while I was on the other. Bart didn't get as lucky so he had to walk around.

When you are on a strange course its nice to have a native member with a cart. They know where they are going all the time. When we finished we went to the club room and had time for a couple of cold ones before being served a really fine meal by the ladies. When you get nine holes of golf and a meal like that one for a \$10 bill, consider yourself lucky, we did!

Gerry Wanless was there and he buttonholed me with a project he has in mind. He would like to see a full day of golf at the Castlegar course especially for retirees, with a meal like we had last Thursday to wind it up. It would probably include a break after nine for refreshments before continuing the last nine. Gerry considers Castlegar the best course in the area. I suppose everyone has the right of preference.

To get away from golf for a minute, I saw a piece in The Times the other day that the Rossland city council is hoping to find a way to make more use of Jubilee Park at the high school. A very laudable project I would be inclined to say, I played soccer a little when I first got here in 1951 and it was a case of a dry-weather game. If it

rained for several hours previous to game time you didn't play, that's how bad it was and according to my information, it still is. The Rossland teams have had problems along that line this summer.

One factor that I didn't know about was that the small soccer pitch which was started below Thompson Avenue was axed because money was unavailable to finish. I always figured someone made the right move when that was started strictly for the kids. I don't know what the thing is with regard to volunteer labor, I would think that quite a gang of us guys with time on our hands could pitch in and do something about that.

I always remember the arena project. A whole lot of guys gave a lot of time to see that it was made to go. Have we lost our desire to help get the kids a suitable place to play? If we have maybe we should give something like this some thought.

But the old swamp would probably take more than just work to do what it needs and from what I hear, I don't think anyone wants any more raises in their tax bill, whatever it's for!

While taking about volunteer labor, I well remember when Cook Avenue Park was just a bog too and a lot of us were still working for Cominco then. It was made into a fine park for the kids and today is used by all and sundry. Mind you a lot of city labor went into that too.

Centennial Park, of which we are so proud was a like project. The city and considerable volunteer labor made that possible. Rock-blasting and many jobs were handled by guys with the expertise from their everyday work. I have to get a word in for that marvel of volunteer labor next door to Centennial, the Lions campground. That project not only is satisfactory to the eye it brings many bucks into this town. It was a Lions project that really paid off. Of course we have to be grateful for the city's help on that one too.

As we come to the rest period between hockey seasons and the early-season jockeying for position in the big baseball leagues we may have time to turn our thoughts to some of these projects that still have not been completed.

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