

# Ottawa Ski Club News

PUBLISHED BY THE OTTAWA SKI CLUB

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**Just starting!**—The twenty-eight days of February now lie ahead of us, with their deep snows and bright sunshine; then there will be the thirty-one days of March and the thirty days of April, and possibly a good bit of May as the snow has reached such an amazing height that it is very doubtful if next summer's sun will be able to melt it all. Of a fourteen-foot ladder set up against a tree at Camp Fortune and forgotten in the fall, only the top rung was visible last week-end and even that is hidden now. Worse than that, some three hundred of our members must be snowed in in their cellars as they have not been seen out on the trail yet. Who will dig them out, so that they may enjoy a bit of God's fresh air and sunshine?

**How is the sale of tickets going?**—The cost of the car and other expenses are covered. Every ticket we sell from now on goes to the Club. How many can you dispose of from now until Feb. 17th? Have you tried? Come, be honest with yourself! You know that you can easily sell one book of five tickets every day for the next two weeks, and if every one of our members will but exert himself to that extent, we will be well away towards paying off our debts, saving more acres of stately trees, and putting our lodges on a more modern and comfortable basis. We have been working hard for you all these years, so that you might have a fuller enjoyment of your favorite sport—the sport that has contributed so much to your happiness. Give us a hand now and help us out of our present difficulties by selling tickets. You may get other books from McGiffin's, 102 Sparks St., or from Bert Liberty, C.N.R. Freight Office, Union Station. Let us sell membership tickets to the O.S.C. Forestry Preservation Society, every one of us!

**In connection** with the Quebec Ski Championships that are being held by the Montreal Ski Club in Montreal and Shawbridge, Feb. 17-18th, it may interest our readers to know that the C.N.R. are running a special week-end excursion to Montreal for \$2.25, by trains leaving at 8 a.m., 1.30 p.m., and 4.20 p.m. on Saturday, returning until Monday night. Skis will not be taken on the train but they may be bundled together and shipped by express at the rate of 65 cents for 100 lbs. (about eight or ten pairs of skis). Those intending to go are requested to notify Louis Grimes (Q. 1443) who is looking after the arrangements.

**Try the Cafeteria.**—An unfortunate spill on the Canyon, with a haversack that had not been closed at the top, left your Editor bereft of his lunch and compelled him to buy a meal from the Cafeteria at Camp Fortune. He was amazed at the variety and excellence of the menu; soup that is soup, thick and succulent, old fashioned baked beans that could have been made in a shanty, sandwiches that must have come straight from Sandwich island, deep crusted apple pie that was a poem in itself, real Chinese tea and delicious fragrant coffee, and all this for a nominal sum! No more logging food for your Editor in the future; he will eat at the cafeteria. Stopping at the Dome hill lodge on the way down, he found another cafeteria, quite as good.

**A NOVEL RACE.**—Keen interest was aroused at Camp Fortune during one of the last week-ends when two skiers, scattering bright coloured confetti, swiftly passed over the knoll and up Traveler's hill in the direction of the Dippers, madly followed by some twenty boys and girls in pairs, each of whom wore a huge string necklace adorned with a number of cardboard disks which they tore off viciously whenever they fell. What kind of new-fangled competition was that? The followers were too intent upon the chase, too busy in getting rid of their load of cardboard, to answer your Editor's questions, but Major Chapman who followed the circus, satisfied our curiosity. It was nothing but a paper chase including, however, some rather novel and interesting features. The contestants were judged by their ability to stand and their willingness to take risks rather than by their swiftness of foot. In other words, time was not a factor; good and courageous skiing was the only thing considered. Each one of the cardboard disks on their string necklace represented a penalty of 1 to 10 points, according to the seriousness of the "crime." For a straightforward, honest fall, the penalty was one point; that is, a contestant who fell tore off from his necklace a disk representing one point; if he or she slid down a hill sitting on the back of the skis, the penalty was 5 points; if the contestant walked down a hill, skis on or off, the penalty was ten points. The number of disks left on the contestant's necklace when he reached the finishing line gave the measure of his real standing as a skier. There were also two other features worth noting in the competition: While the contestants were paired off in teams for the race, each member of every team was also secretly paired off, by draw, with a contestant on some other team, for the winning of the prize. For instance, a contestant might finish the race with his full load of cardboard disks, that is without a single entry on his crime sheet, while his unknown partner, designated by fate, perhaps a beginner, on team No. 16, might be almost out of cardboards at the end, having fallen, say, 68 times over the course! The reason for this secret pairing off is obvious. If the teams following the hounds were also partners for the prize, they might not be so strictly honest about their falls or their lack of courage. One can easily imagine a girl just "barely" sitting down on a hill and saying to her partner: "Say, that was not a fall, was it?" and the partner answering: "Of course not, it is a recognized form of checking." Or again, coming to a very steep hill, the girl might say "No one alive can take that" and her partner would assure her that a few side steps would be no crime. But if this too indulgent partner knows that the girl he is with may be paired off with some hated rival in team No. 3, he will see to it that she duly records every loss of balance known as a fall or every display of "yellow streak" by pulling a disk off her necklace. Thus an element of surprise and uncertainty is introduced in the race, adding to the fun of it.—Major Chapman, the originator of the race, is also the author of the "Chapman Cut," an ingenious short cut from the lowest point on Little Switzerland to the highest point in the Descent of the Canyon, practically accomplishing perpetual down hill motion in skiing, with a wee bit of climbing thrown in.

**THE CANADIAN SKI ANNUAL.**—Good wine improves with age, we are told. Of this we cannot speak from practical experience, seeing that any wine that came our way disappeared almost as quickly as it came, but we can state positively that every issue of the Canadian Ski Annual has been a marked improvement over the preceding one, and this year's issue, full of bright and witty stories, of snappy articles and, as usual, splendidly illustrated, again does great credit to its Editor, our old friend Percy Douglas, and should be read, from cover to cover, by every skier in Canada. Long may Percy Douglas edit the Canadian Ski Annual! **Five hundred copies of the Annual are now at McGiffin's** (102 Sparks St.) and will be dished out to the members as long as the supply lasts. Call for your copy!

**The annual Holmenkollen** international ski contests, which attract the foremost skiers of the world, will take place at Oslo, Norway, starting on March 3 and finishing two days later. Cups symbolic of the championship of Norway will be presented to the respective winners by King Haakon VII. The seventeen-kilometer cross-country meet, equivalent to about ten and one-half miles, will be staged on the opening day. Many entrants will use this test as a means of getting points for the combined title.—The jumping event, which provides the high light of the three-day competition, will be held on March 4. Among those expected to compete are the Ruud brothers, Sigmund and Birger, and Hans Beck. Birger is the Olympic champion.—The championship competition will conclude the next day when the grueling fifty-kilometer cross-country race will be contested.

SKI BOOTS REPAIRED AND ALTERED

# HACKETT'S

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60 METCALFE ST.

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**Be fair and pay fees.**—There are a great many well-to-do people using our trails, without stopping at any lodge, who would, doubtless, offer to pay fees at once if they had the least idea of the time and money that have been spent over the building of these trails and that are spent on their maintenance from year to year. Do they know that in addition to many rights-of-ways, we have purchased 400 acres of land which are only partly paid for? Do they realize that if the Ottawa Ski Club ceased to exist, their skiing would be limited to Rockcliffe Park? Unfortunately these people do not receive the Ski News; they do not know that they are sponging on the Club. This is a work of propoganda which could best be done by our members. Whenever you see any one without a badge, go to him and tell him about these things, and get a new member for the Ottawa Ski Club.

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The Ontario Championships are being held in Toronto by the Toronto Ski Club, on Jan. 10th and 11th. A new Jumping Tower, suitable for jumps of 150 feet, has been erected, we are told, just outside the City limits, adjacent to the Thorncliffe Race track. The race and Slalom will be held at Caledon, some 35 miles north of Toronto, accessible by bus. These championships are part of a program of festivities celebrating the 100th anniversary of Queen City. Those of our members desiring to go to Toronto for the occasion are requested to get in touch with Louis Grimes (Q. 1443) as a reduction in fares may be obtained if a sufficient number are going.

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The following message was received from Mr. W. S. Rennie, Secretary of the Ruapehu Ski Club, New Zealand. We wish to thank Mr. Rennie for his bright message, and extend to him and his confreres of the Ruapehu Ski Club a cordial invitation to visit Ottawa—in February.

"On behalf of the members of the Ruapehu Ski Club, New Zealand, I wish to convey a hearty message of goodwill to our Canadian friends of the Ottawa Ski Club. Up till the present there are not the facilities in New Zealand for ski jumping on a scale similar to that existing in Canada and oversea skiing countries, but we nevertheless assure you that we will, at all times, be very glad indeed to extend a cordial welcome to any members who may visit New Zealand in the future, either during the winter or summer. It is perhaps with regret that the Ottawa Ski Club approaches the close of another skiing season, (not yet, by a long shot!), whilst we in New Zealand are keenly anticipating the good times to come, especially during July, August and September. These months are the best of our winter season, although excellent spring skiing is obtained in October and November, and during good seasons in December also. Kia Ora (Good Luck). Ski-Heil!"

**Past Events.**—The first jumping competition of the season was held on Saturday, Jan. 20th, J. Landry was first in the Senior Class with 150.40 point, followed by E. Fillman (144.10) and Billy Burke (143.20). Brian Burke was first of the Juniors with 125.10 points, K. Davidson second with 114.90 and J. Therien third with 110.60.—Two teams competed in the Wrightville-Dome hill relay race, with the following results: J. Taylor, F. Laflamme, B. Heggveit and P. O'Connor. Time, 1 hr., 9 min., 12 secs.—H. Heggveit, J. Currie, P. Lochnan and C. Bond. Time, 1 hr., 13 min., 45 secs.

The first Slalom race of the season was held at Camp Fortune on Sunday, Jan. 21st—Bud Clark turned all the flags in the remarkable time of one minute 53 4-5 seconds. Jack Taylor came second (2.04 4-5), E. Ryan third (2.09 4-5), J. Currie fourth (2.12 3-5), P. O'Connor fifth (2.16), D. Cruickshank, H. Douglas, H. Bagguley, B. Burke, P. Lochnan were among the first ten.

**A chance to go to Lake Placid.**—The New York Central R.R. is trying to arrange for a special train to go to Lake Placid where some fifty of the Minto Follies are expected for a big show. Train leaves Ottawa at 6.30 p.m., Feb. 19th, arr., 11 p.m.—Return, leave Lake Placid, 3 a.m., Feb. 22nd, arr., Ottawa, 8.30 a.m. Fare \$8.85, return.—Please notify Louis Grimes (Q. 1443).

**Lost at Pink Lake**—a haversack with two cups and 2 spoons. Please call C. 6540.

## OTTAWA SKI CLUB INN

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The following letter was mailed to a couple of hundred "visitors" to the Dome Hill Lodge:

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your name was found on the list of visitors to the Dome Hill Lodge during the week-end of Jan. 20-21st.

A good many of these visitors expressed astonishment over the fact that they were asked to purchase a membership in the Ottawa Ski Club. The reason of this request is that we cannot carry on without money. We have in the Dome Hill Lodge and in the hill itself a capital investment of over \$6,000, on part of which we are still paying interest at 7 p.c. On the other hand, the maintenance of the lodge, the maintenance of the right of way from Wrightville to Pine Hill and to Dome Hill through eight farms, the cost of removing and setting up the fences at the bottom of Dome Hill every year, cost us well over \$200 a year. If some kind benefactor gave us the money to carry on, we would not begrudge the expenditure, as the object of our club is to promote skiing, but the money must come from the skiers.

The Ottawa Ski Club maintains other lodges at various points in the Gatineau hills, and has opened up some fifty miles of trails connecting with these lodges. Our fees are very moderate: \$5 for men, (Seniors); \$4 for Ladies, \$2 for Intermediates (under 17), \$1 for Juniors (14 to 17).

If, however, you are willing to help us this year to the extent of purchasing a book of membership tickets in the Ottawa Ski Club Forestry Preservation Society, you will receive a free pass to the Dome Hill Lodge, for the balance of the season. The object of this Society is to raise funds to save our trails. There are five tickets in a book, worth 25c each. The book sells for one dollar. A Ford eight is offered as first prize, and there are 18 other prizes. The book may be purchased at the Dome Hill Lodge, or at McGiffin's (102 Sparks St.). Bring this letter with you, buy a book and you will get a pass.

Yours for a long season of skiing,

C. E. MORTUREUX, President.

HERBERT MARSHALL, Secretary-Treasurer.

**One more club house to go to.**—We are informed by the management of the Chaudiere Golf Club that the members of the Ottawa Ski Club will be welcome at any time at their Club house, whether singly or in parties, during the day or in the evening.

"Carried along by the sublime poetry of the snow clad world, freed from himself and dissolved in the flow of his motion, the ski-runner becomes part of one of the sublimest expressions of nature."—No, this was not made up by your Editor, it is signed "Joseph Dahinden"—and was found on the letter-head of a Ski Club in India. Rather nice, isn't it?—Don't suppose they have any crust over there, though.

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**Coming Events.**—On Saturday, Feb. 3rd, at Camp Fortune, **Southam Race**. No entry fee, but all competitors must have the 1934 badge.—Same date, 3 p.m. **Club Championship Jumping**, Rockliffe Park, Entry, 25c.—Sunday, Feb., 4th, Camp Fortune, **Club Championship race**, for Seniors and Juniors. Entry 25c.—On Sunday, Feb. 11th, at 1.30 p.m., **Slalom race** for Ladies at Camp Fortune.—On Sunday, Feb. 18th, **Downhill race** for Ladies and Gentlemen at Camp Fortune. Successful competitors in championship events barred.

*This little magazine is published solely in the interests of ski-ing in general and of the Ottawa Ski Club in particular. Contributions in the shape of articles, stories, etc., will be gladly received by the Editor. One line notices about articles, lost or found, ski-ing equipment for sale or exchange will be published free of charge for our members. Address all communications to "THE EDITOR OTTAWA SKI CLUB NEWS, 37 MARLBOROUGH AVE., OTTAWA."*

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