

Ottawa Ski Club News

PUBLISHED BY THE OTTAWA SKI CLUB
CIRCULATION 2500 COPIES

I AM THE MASTER OF MY SKIS!

"Why should I practise for your ski tests" writes a correspondent, "I ski for pleasure only, and I find that sufficiently absorbing without taking in all the complications like stemming, Christianias, jerked or otherwise, Telemarks or jump-turns. I have got along very well without them so far."

The above represents fairly well the attitude of some sixty per cent of our members. They fasten their feet to their skis and follow their skis wherever a blind fate or a tortuous track takes them. In other words, they are the slaves of their blades. So long as the conditions are good, the snow not too fast and the bumps only moderately high, they manage to get through successfully. When conditions are not good, when there is a crust hidden under the snow as there was last Sunday for instance, and they wander off the beaten trail because they cannot control their blades, then they come to grief, and blame the conditions while they have only themselves to blame.

Almost any one, after a little practice, can take a steep hill at full speed; only the trained skier can take it leisurely, checking his speed as he goes by a succession of stemming turns or half Christianias, watching for obstacles, and releasing his skis only when the danger zone is past, and when his speed has been sufficiently moderated to allow him to take the "billows" at the bottom. Almost any one can shoot down a hill and go straight on, but if the unusual speed on that day carries him a bit further than usual, and he comes to a ditch, a tree or a bump which he wishes to avoid, the only thing he can do, the only thing he knows how to do, is to sit down. He may do it nine times out of ten without getting more than a bad shake up, but the next time he will sit on a stump or on a stone and get badly injured. Your trained skier on the other hand, who is doing the thinking for his skis, who knows just what to do in such an emergency because he has practised it hundreds of times, simply turns and stops at the bottom of the hill, or steers his course in another direction.

It must be acknowledged that there has been a marvelous development of proficiency among the members of our Club, during the last few years, and if the Editor has helped ever so little in this development by his repeated urgings, he feels amply repaid for his efforts, but there are still too many of us who look upon the acquirement of skill in swings and turns, or in jumping, as an interesting but useless pastime. They look upon it much as a skater looks upon fancy skating, a graceful but useless accomplishment. Nothing could be farther from the truth; the ability to check, turn or stop should be part and parcel of every skier's equipment, and it is nowhere more necessary than on our Gatineau hills where so many dangers lurk. It has been argued that our narrow trails do not lend themselves to the practice of these things. Surely this can no longer be said of the present descent of the Canyon, the Dippers or the Great Divide, and it never applied in any case to the rolling country between Wrightville and Dome Hill.

Let us not be misunderstood:—We do not wish to see our skiers forever checking their speed and denying themselves the thrill and pleasure of a fast descent as though sure death was waiting for them at the bottom. We simply want them to learn to control their skis, so as to be ready for any emergency; so that every one in this Club can truthfully say "I am the master of my skis."

The Week-end of Jan. 18-19. Whatever may have been the shortcomings of January, it must be acknowledged that it has acted splendidly during the week-ends and after all, it is the week-ends that matter. There is a class of people, we understand, who find time to go out during the week, but your Editor does not belong to that fortunate class, and there are a good many like him. On Friday it looked as though the ice age had come to visit us once more, but all fears of a stay-at-home week were dispelled when an East wind brought in a fresh supply of snow in the early hours of Saturday, and the whole ski-ing population of the Capital came out. The crust was there, though, not far from the surface, and a few of those who, in an endeavour to check their speed, wandered off the beaten and packed trail, found it to their sorrow. There were a good many scratched faces at all the lodges, and quite a call for first aid supplies, which ran short before the end of the day. We would again remind our members that their week-end equipment should always include a first-aid kit. They may never need it—in fact, those who have it never get hurt somehow, but those who have not got it are more likely to come to grief,—simply because those who carry a first aid kit are generally experienced skiers, and are not likely to do the foolish things that inexperienced men do, such as your Editor for instance, who tried to find out by poking with his head how many layers of crust lay under the snow, and who bears the marks of his indiscretion on his forehead and skull. He did not fare quite so badly as some others however, whose skull was not quite so thick. The hard packed trails were in magnificent shape everywhere, and there were quite as many daring ski-riders on the slopes of the Canyon, the Dippers, the Great Divide, the Little Switzerland trail as there used to be on the slopes of Rockliffe Park ten years ago. The Ottawa Ski Club, and the Chairman of the Trails Committee in particular, Captain T. J. Morin, feel well repaid for the time and money they have spent on the hills and trails around Camp Fortune.

The Western Lodge—Progress Report—A strong party under the leadership of Secretary Herbert Marshall ventured out on Sunday as far as the district where it is proposed to establish a Western lodge. It appears that there was a difference of opinion between Secretary Marshall and President Mortureux; they were both talking about "the Look-out" but the look-out they had in view was not the same; so the viewpoints were different. Both sites were carefully gone over, and two ladies in the party unanimously decided in favour of the President's look-out, inasmuch as there is running water there while there is none at the other look-out. The water, apparently, did not appeal much to Herbert, but the ladies seemed to think it was necessary. It is evident however that a good deal of scouting and reconnoitring will be necessary before a final decision is made; the suitability of the country for trails must be looked into. In order to provide the necessary facilities for the work, arrangements have been made to rent the Ormond's house (the old McClosky's farm house) for the remainder of the winter. The owner will be there and have the house heated every Sunday. The facilities for cooking are restricted however, and members going to McClosky's are strongly advised to take sandwiches with them; they can always get a cup of hot tea. Steps towards the construction of the new lodge will be taken as soon as the site is finally decided upon, and the money is all in. Please send in your subscription to Secretary Herbert Marchall, P.O. box 65, City.

More about visitors and checking.—Some of our members—not many fortunately—are apparently under the impression that visitors' permits are for the purpose of enabling them to dodge paying their fees. Those who go out only two or three times during the season, think they can save money by purchasing visitors' permits rather than pay fees. Let it be well understood, once for all, that we are a club, not a hotel, and that visitors must at all times be accompanied and introduced by members. Let it be understood also that permits may not be issued twice to the same person. **A visitor who wants to come back must therefore join the Club and pay the full fees.** Last year's members cannot in any sense be considered as visitors, and must rejoin the Club and pay their fees.



The Great Fur and
Specialty Shop of Eastern Canada
DEVILINS
The R. J. Devlin Co. Limited

DISTINCTIVE SKI TOGS

for
GIRLS
and
MEN!

Results of competitions.—Preliminary race held on Saturday, Jan. 18.
Ladies—1. Veronica Charette, 48.30; 2. Phyllis McCormick, 52.00. **Senior**—
1. H. Worden, 34.25; 2. J. Veit, 34.35; C. Dorch, 34.35; 3. O. Boulay, 35.00.
Junior—1. G. deTache, 36.20; 2. J. Edwards, 37.20; 3. G. Bissette, 42.25.
Novice—1. O. Barnes, 36.00; 2. M. Mahoney, 39.25; 3. P. Major, 42.10; 4. E.
O'Meara, 44.13; 5. B. MacCallum 54.00; 6. W. Kealey, 47.10; 7. F. Bisson, 50.00.

Starter—Louis Grimes. Timer—Jim Niningger.

Preliminary Ski Jumping Meet, at Rockcliffe Park, Saturday, Jan. 18.—

Seniors—1. Olav Tellefsen, Grouse Mountain; 2. H. Bagguley, O.; 3. W. Poitras, O.; 4. G. Dupuis, C.; 5. E. Fillman, O.; 6. R. Vincent, O.; 7. H. Johannsen, O.; 8. J. Landry, O.; 9. B. Clark, O.; 10. C. Clark, O.; 11. M. Clark, O.; 12. L. Cousineau, O. **Intermediates**—1. P. Lefebvre, O.; 2. K. Williams, O.; 3. S. Tremblay, O.; 4. A. Belanger, O.; 5. J. Ewart, O.
Juniors—1. J. Tache, O.; 2. E. Arial, O.; 3. J. Rolley, O.; 4. B. Burke, O.; 5. C. Reinburg, O.; 6. G. Fillman, O.; 7. B. Ritchie, O.

In the Exhibition Jump, on Sunday, for which prizes were donated by our friend G. Dupuis, W. Poitras and E. Fillman won the prizes, while G. Dupuis scored first.—Our W. G. Clark came first in the Cliffside race on Sunday, and J. Currie, second. Our J. Veit came second of the juniors.

Coming Events. **Club championship race** at Camp Fortune on Sunday Jan. 26. A sleigh will be in attendance at Old Chelsea to take the competitors up at the arrival of the 9 a.m. bus.—**Club Championship Ski Jumping** at Rockcliffe Park on Saturday, Jan. 25, 3 p.m. The Tower and landing are now in splendid shape.—**Third Class Ski Proficiency Tests** at Camp Fortune on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2 p.m.

Night hike to Glen Lea on Thursday, Jan. 23. Leave Wrightville at 8 p.m. Lights will be put on the trail.

General Information and Tid Bits.—C. Allen Snowdon, Vice-President of the Ottawa Ski Club, has not been seen on the trail yet. No, we don't mean Allen Jr.; the kid has a good alibi, he is only two weeks old. We mean the old man.—And Frank Semple, the Chairman of the Lodge Committee has become very modest and retiring of late. We would like to see his print on the snow and his cheerful smile in the lodges once in a while.—“You make fun of snowshoes” says Mabel “and all the same when someone gets hurt at Camp Fortune you have to use snowshoes to go and bring him in.” (Right you are Mabel, but skis might be used for the same purpose simply by tying a bit of sheep-skin under them. As to making fun of snowshoers, nothing was further from our mind. We know that this country was built on snowshoes, but it is now being developed on skis.)—No, sarcastic inquisitor, we will not supply chewing gum to repair the pails at Pink Lake, but we will supply new pails. We know too well what chewing gum would be used for.—We do not mind our Norwegian friends teaching us a few tricks at ski-ing once in a while, but we draw the line at them teaching us the Norwegian language. We positively refuse to say “shee” for “ski”, “ski-kjoring” for ski-joring or “yumping” for jumping. Their Norwegian is old fashioned. We use the simplified spelling here.—Jack Melville from Lake Traverse, Algonquin Park came up all the way to Camp Fortune with a yard stick to measure our hills and compare them with those of Algonquin Park. He had a lot to say about the ski trails through the pine forests of Algonquin Park, a magnificent camp with all modern comforts at Lake Traverse, to which all our members who have got the time and the “dough” are invited. In the meantime Jack Melville is coming back to Ottawa with a longer yard-stick.—A very interesting visitor at the President's office on Monday was Olav Tellefsen, originally from Norway and now a member of the Grouse Mountain Ski Club, Vancouver, who stopped for a day in the Capital on his way back to Vancouver after an extended trip East. The general impression among Canadians is that Norway is a land of snow and ice, where ski-ing may be enjoyed fully eight months of the year; as a matter of fact there are only two months of good ski-ing around Oslow, but such is the enthusiasm of the population that everyone turns out at the first snow and practically stays out until the snow disappears. They live on their skis there. Women may be seen ski-ing with infants in their arms. Just imagine a woman shooting George's trail with a three months' old baby in her arms! You can't, neither can we, but it is done in Norway. Out of a population of 135,000 Oslow sends 65,000 on the trails every week-end. Ottawa has a long way to go yet to equal Oslow. As to the standing required of the competitors, it is of the very highest. Mr. Tellefsen is looked upon as an outstanding ski-jumper at Revelstoke and Banff, and he gave, on our Rockliffe ski-tower on Sunday, an exhibition that was worth going a long way to see, but he modestly admitted “that he would be nowhere at all in Norway.” To be classed among the first two hundred at the famous meet of Holmen Kollen is a great distinction. Mr. Tellefsen also spoke of the Grouse Mountain Ski Club at Vancouver, where ski-ing is enjoyed in June on a mountain 5000 feet high, and a swim in the sea after an hour's descent by bus. Of course we told him that we had enjoyed dips in Lake Fortune creek in March.—Would like to publish your letter about the East-Side lodge F.W.B. but the Directors have practically decided to dismantle it. What do you say to that?

Third Class Tests—Ski Proficiency.—The third class tests of the Canadian Ski Association will be held at Camp Fortune on Sunday, January 26, soon after the finish of the Club Championship race. Judges will be appointed by the Canadian Ski Association. Please phone your entries to Bryce Gillis (C. 4144-W.) The tests are as follows:

1. Four continuous pure Stemming Turns on hard snow.
2. A Right and Left Telemark from a direct descent at a fair speed on soft snow.
3. A Right and Left Christiania from a traverse at fair speed on hard snow.
4. A Right and Left jump turn at fair speed.
5. A descent of not less than 300 feet, mainly on soft snow.

BLUENOSE **SKIS** PETERBORO

POLES FITTINGS WAX

PALMER'S AND SWISS MODEL SKI BOOTS

Charles Ogilvy
— Limited —
SPORTING GOODS

LEATHER AND MACKINAW JACKETS

NAVY SLACKS AND SHIRTS

SKI MITTS, SOCKS AND HELMETS

OTTAWA WINTER CARNIVAL . . . FEB. 1ST TO 11TH

THE WESTERN LODGE.

"What's all this talk about a western lodge, anyway?" asked the Pert Young Thing. "By the time you've done the Canyon and Dippers, who wants to go 'way over there?" She waved a hand vaguely in the direction of Little Switzerland. Was there ever a feminine creature yet who could point east or west or south or north with accuracy?

"It's all bush back there" agreed her pal. "No trails at all, just underbush slapping you in the face and swamps and precipices and you're liable to meet a bear or a wolf any time. Why, up at the President's shack they say they heard wolves howling all last night and Old Man Joe went out to tell 'em to keep quiet and he's been missing ever since. Hope the wolves didn't get him, but you never know." The speaker's tone had an air of finality that showed plainly he had no intention of disturbing the denizens of the impenetrable forest beyond the Great Divide. What with wolves and bears and irate landowners, what chance would a poor skier have?

I couldn't help overhearing the conversation as I sat in a nearby corner puffing the ancient and reflective pipe which has been by boon companion for many trails. I marvelled at the ignorance of these accomplished skiers who evidently had no idea of the splendid resources of that western territory, until suddenly it occurred to me that their attitude was the natural viewpoint of the present day skier who jumped into the game after the pioneering days were past. He has no knowledge of trails that are not as broad as the King's highway or lodges that are not heated and equipped; these things are accepted as a matter of course and it would be unthinkable to go off the beaten track into country which has not yet felt the gentle ministrations of the Brigands of the Machete. His experience does not dip back into the good old times B.C. (Before the Canyon) when the day's run started at Kingsmere and ended at Cascades or Wakefield, taking in the hair-raising descents of McCloskey's or Alexander's en route; or, reversing the procedure, from Kirk's Ferry, Cascades or Farm Point to circle round Creeley's the Black Lake Slopes and Lariat's, before hitting the home trail to

Wrightville. Camp Fortune then was merely an abandoned woodsmen's hut situated on the top of the hill where the Presidential Lodge now stands. It would comfortably accommodate perhaps twenty and on banner days when forty or fifty turned out, the enormous crowd caused its sides to bulge perilously. There was no caretaker to have roaring fires and steaming cauldrons ready for the first arrival. Instead, the speedy skiers were rewarded by the privilege of chopping wood, fetching water and getting the kettle on for the benefit of the laggards. There was not much attempt at culinary art under those conditions. A community tea pot and a saucepan or two were about the extent of cooking facilities. No time was wasted in preparing the luxurious banquets of steak, hors d'oeuvres and whatnot that grace the board at Fortune Lodge today. The trail was the thing, and our ambition was to explore as much ground as possible between two given points.

Later recruits, whose initiation into the noble art of ski-ing took place on the broad slopes of the Canyon or the rollicking curves of George's, probably would find little charm in the labyrinthine trails of those days. "Bushwackers!" is the contemptuous term applied to anyone who attempted to lead them into *terra incognita*. Yet the development of our trails and lodges to their present state of excellence is entirely due to the foresight and energy of the leaders of those early bushwacking expeditions. By constant exploration they discovered the possibilities of apparently impassable hills and ravines, and evolved therefrom the stately avenues by which we now approach Camp Fortune. What has been done in the immediate vicinity of Camp Fortune can be extended and this is where a western lodge will play an important part. With headquarters at a proper strategic point there is no reason why the splendid old trails which have fallen into disuse of late should not be revived and improved until they will equal, if indeed they may not surpass, anything we now have. A lodge at Point Lookout, near the top of McCloskey's, would provide a nice run from Camp Fortune, taking in the first half of the Merry-Go-Round and continuing through pleasant park country. From Point Lookout a magnificent panoramic view is unrolled of the Ottawa River and the Eardley plains. It is not too much to say that this outlook is unrivalled for scenic beauty by any point for miles around.

Energetic persons who find the trip in from Old Chelsea too short to fill the interval between breakfast and luncheon might continue to the western lodge, thus getting a longer trip and at the same time relieving the congestion of the noon hour at Camp Fortune. One could then come back to Fortune, completing the Merry-Go-Round with the Mile-a-Minute run down Traveller's Hill; or instead of doubling back the whole way, make "la grande descente" via Creeley's, around the famous horseshoe curve where many veteran racers have won their laurels. This is also a marvellous scenic route, winding down the brow of the mountain, and it has this advantage for the timorous skier—if you should employ the "sitting stop" too freely, you can always say that you paused to enjoy the view. Continuing by the Black Lake slopes where tricky ravines and winding runs challenge your skill, you emerge at the foot of George's, where you can either strike down to the Mica Mine or cut across by the meadow and the golf links to Kingsmere Heights and Excelsior. Or the route can be varied by striking north from the Western Lodge, getting the breath-taking descent of McCloskey's and through to Cascades to catch the evening train. An infinite variety of trails can be devised, using the western lodge as a base. New territory can be converted to our use which is at present inaccessible, so that in time we may boast of a ski area covering the whole range of hills between the Gatineau and the Ottawa and second to none in the Dominion for interest and beauty.

The establishment of a western lodge is a significant step in club progress and every member would do well to give the project his loyal and tangible support.

—Old Timer.

Ski Exchange—Left at Pink Lake Lodge on Sat., Jan 11, a haversack, containing a change purse, initial "M" and several ski-ing necessities. Kindly call C. 5759-W.—To sell, or to trade, a pair of Palmers Ski-boots size 9. Phone R. 6784-J, between 6 and 7.—Will the person who took the wrong pair of skis at Wrightville, Call R. 3246.

WE HAVE SOME BARGAINS !
ESSEX 1928 and 1929 CLOSED CARS
\$550.00 to \$750.00

TERMS IF DESIRED.

FREE STORAGE UNTIL SPRING

Legare Automobile & Supply Co., Ltd.
245 QUEEN ST. PHONE QUEEN 7801

Shoes of the Hour!

LA GIOCONDA SHOES
FOR WOMEN

CHURCH'S BRITISH SHOES
FOR MEN

GALES & Co.

77-79 SPARKS ST.

BLACKBURN BLDG.

DRINK KEALEY'S
SPARKLING DRY GINGER ALE

8 OSGOODE STREET
PHONE - RIDEAU 6300

MOWAT & MACGILLIVRAY

Queen
***2800**
INDUSTRIAL
STOCKS

New York, Montreal and Toronto Stocks
Members Montreal Curb Market
Standard Stock and Mining Exchange
Vancouver Stock Exchange

128 Sparks St., OTTAWA

MINING
STOCKS
Private
Wires

Branches: Belleville, Brockville, Cornwall, Pembroke, Perth, Ont.
Hull, Que., and Halifax, N.S., and Saint John, N.B.

ORDERS EXECUTED ON ALL EXCHANGES.

G CANADA R POSTAGE PAID
1c.
Permit No. 284 OTTAWA

Edition No. 4

Ottawa Ski Club News

*Membership fees are paid at Ottawa Ski Club Office,
McGiffin's, Sparks St. (Phone Q. 2501).*

**Night hike to
Glen Lea Club House
from Wrightville
Thursday
Jan. 23,
8 p.m.**

*All communications regarding this Circular to be addressed to
"The Editor O.S.C. News, P.O. Box 65."*

REGENT

NOW PLAYING!
The Cockeyed World

A MIRTHQUAKE OF
LAUGHTER

IMPERIAL

NOW PLAYING!
So This Is College!

THE COLLEGIATE
COMEDY RIOT

SKI SPECIALS!

SKIS TO RENT

We rent complete outfits, less clothing, ----- **\$1.00 day**

SKIS REFINISHED

You'd be surprised what an improvement we can make in the appearance of your old skis. We use special waterproof wood dyes. Price about ----- **\$2.50**

REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS

This work is done by our Norwegian ski fitter who turns out very careful, clever work. Charges are reasonable too.

ODD SKIS

We have always on hand a large assortment for matching broken skis.

SPECIAL TERMS AND PRICES on all winter goods.

Ottawa's
Ski Centre

BYSHE'S

223 Bank St.
Near Lisgar