

# Ottawa Ski Club News

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*Facts about the Great Rockcliffe Tower where the Dominion Ski Jumping Championships will be staged by the Ottawa Ski Club on Saturday, Feb. 22nd at 3 p.m.*

Elevation from river level to top of tower, 190 feet.

Length of slide, from top to take-off, 243 feet.

Length of landing hill, 212 feet.

Longest standing jump recorded, 142 feet.

**The week-end** of Feb. 8-9 will assuredly go down in history as one of the very best ever recorded in the annals of the Ottawa Ski Club, as regards the number of skiers out. As to ski-ing conditions, they were not perhaps of the very best, the trails were a bit hard packed and devilishly fast, and quite a few minor accidents were recorded,—in fact a small sleigh load of “cripples” were taken out of Camp Fortune, including one broken rib, due to the fact that the owner was not dragging his poles behind him as he should have, a twisted ankle and a strained ligament. Others who had looked for the crust under the snow and found it, got their faces scratched. Some day when the whole bush is cleared out of shrubs and dead wood on the Northern slopes of the Camp, and a hundred avenues are offered the skier instead of one, ski-ing will be much safer and much more enjoyable than it is now! It would not take very much money to do so. The City of Ottawa spent, we are told, \$7000 on a dog derby. What could we not do with \$7000 to improve this wonderful play ground of ours!

**The Merry-Go-Round.**—“I would not take \$500 for my morning’s work” said Captain T. J. Morin as he returned from a little exploring trip in the vicinity of Mud lake on Sunday noon. “I have found a more wonderful finish than I ever

dreamt of for the Merry-Go-Round. We can laugh at the Ogotogo, now." It will be remembered that the trail bearing that name starts from Camp Fortune and takes in Traveler's, the Horse Race, the Dipper, the Kicking Horse Pass, Fairy Land, Desolation Valley and the Curve of Destiny. From the latter point it was supposed to come back to the Camp by way of Mud Lake, but since a half dozen skiers were dragged into the depths of the lake by the vicious Ogotogo that inhabits there, somehow the trail ceased to be merry from the Curve of Destiny on, and those who got as far as that point came home by the hard sleigh road. Now Joe has found on the heights of land north of Mud Lake, a wonderful series, of long, gradual, easy, soft descents, through clear bush, going almost as far as Journey's End, and from which the antics of the Ogotogo and its muddy dwelling can be watched at a safe distance. Journey's End is just a few ski lengths from the top of Traveler's hill. The whole of the Merry-Go-Round trail is only about four miles long and can be covered in less than an hour's easy ski-ing, and it is real merry now, all the way. It will be marked with bunting for next week-end, and those of our members who feel they can afford an hour before lunch at Camp Fortune are strongly advised to try it. All aboard for the Merry-Go-Round!—But your Editor feels like adding:—Look twice before you shoot the Big Dipper and the Kicking Horse Pass. They are practically the only spots where one is apt to get a spill.

**Their Excellencies**, the Governor General and Lady Willingdon, accompanied by Captain Fiennes, Colonel and Mrs. Hill and Mrs. (Dr.) Gunn, paid their annual visit to Camp Fortune on Sunday and had lunch at the President's Lodge. It had been planned to take their Excellencies by sleigh from Old Chelsea to Kingsmere, and then make Camp Fortune on ski by Kingsmere Heights and Little Switzerland, but Lady Willingdon scorned the sleigh and covered the whole round trip to the Camp and back to Old Chelsea on skis. Her Excellency's body-guard included Alex. J. Thomas, Bruce MacCallum, John Sutherland and Ronald White. There were many cooks—Sec. Marshall, Vice-President Snowdon, Mildred Ashfield and Muriel Whalley—but they showed wonderful team work and the gravy was not spoiled. Her Excellency pleaded with Captain T. J. Morin for a general widening of the trails, especially on the upper part of Little Switzerland, where the trees are a bit thick, and Joe promised to do what he could in the way of improvement. Your Editor knows a few, besides Her Excellency, who would be mighty glad if the axeman could let in a little sunlight here and there on the Little Switzerland trail. The snowshoers of the party, who, strange to say, had their snowshoes with them, going one better in this respect than the delegates to the recent convention, asked separat trails for themselves, but not much hope was handed out to them. After lunch, Lady Willingdon's body guard, including Captain Fiennes, gave a wonderful exhibition of skill on the Great Divide.

**The Ridge-view, the Chelsea Rapids and the Scare-crow.**—Many comments, some of them flattering and others not so flattering, about the three new hills with the above names, recently discovered and blazed by Captain T. J. Morin on the lower part of the Canyon Trail, between the Meach Lake Road and the Chelsea Ridge, have been received, but your Editor will reserve his judgment until all the evidence has been sifted out. Please let him know what you think of them. To take the Ridge-View and the Chelsea Rapids, enter the Canyon Trail at the point where it begins on the Meach Lake Road, and go until you see the sign on your left "The Ridge-View", then bid farewell to your friends, specify the kind of flowers you like, and climb up the Ridge-View to shoot the Rapids. Your immortal soul will then climb up the Chelsea Ridge, as far as a sign on the right, reading "The Scare-Crow Lane". Have a look in and report to the Editor, by means of a medium if you can't do it in person. We have every reason to believe it is a real good hill. Its originator, Joe Morin, climbed up it several times. But Joe can climb like a little goat!

**The Dome Hill Cafeteria.**—What on earth is the matter with the people coming to Dome Hill this year? Are they overfed at home? Have they got no money, or are they all on a reducing diet? Never has the Dome Hill been so crowded as

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it has been during the past few weeks, never have the refreshments offered at the Cafeteria been as tempting, and yet no one appears to be hungry or thirsty. Soft drinks, hot dogs, most delicious sandwiches, chocolate bars are spread on the counter; milk, hot tea and coffee are available, but no one eats, and no one drinks. Could any one tell us the reason why? If this sort of hunger strike continues, the cafeteria will be closed; we shall certainly not resort to forced feeding. Please patronise the institutions of your club!

**Our members in arrears** are once more reminded that a cheque, even at the late date, will be quite acceptable. Please address it to "Ottawa Ski Club Office, McGiffin's, Sparks St." All those who receive this circular and who have not paid their fees or resigned may consider themselves in arrears. Please pay your fees!

**Correction.**—The name of L. Lagimodière was somehow left out of the list of those who successfully passed the Third Class Proficiency Test on Sunday Feb. 2nd. Our apologies are extended.

**Results of competitions.**—At the International Ski Jumping Meet at Rockcliffe on Thursday Feb. 6, Jon Kile of the Norsemen Ski Club, New York came first, J. Landry O.S.C., second; G. Dupuis C., third; B. Klonteig fourth and R. Vincent, O., fifth. The Meet was one of the very best ever held by the Ottawa Ski Club, and does the greatest credit to the officer in charge, Keith Saunders, and his able assistant, Fred Wrangell.

At Three Rivers on Saturday our **Howard Bagguley** won the all round Championship of the Three Rivers Valley, coming 4th in the race and 12th in the jumping.—H. Heggtveit managed to come 2nd in the race although he lost the trail on the way. Taylor lost the trail completely. Bunting must be expensive in Three Rivers.—**J. Landry** came fifth in the jumping and R. Vincent 8th.—At **Camp Fortune** on Sunday, **Grace Heggtveit** won the Ladies Club Championship in 34'35"; Sophy Amyott came second and Veronica Charette third.—The following were successful in the **Second Class Proficiency Ski-test** held at Camp Fortune on Sunday: Edwin Connolly, Charlie Connolly, Donald Fluker, Gordon Fairbairn, Jerry Webber, John Viet, H. Halliday, Bryce Gillis. The judges were Hans Lockeberg and Ken West.—At Ironsides on Saturday, the Lisgar Collegiate Team, composed

of J. Currie, H. Worden C. Darch and J. Edwards again won the Southam Trophy, with an average time per man of 44'55", compared with an average time of 46.27 for Ottawa U. No. 1 Team, 49.49½ for Glebe Col. No. 1 Team, 53.18 for Glebe No. 3 Team, 55.46 for Glebe No. 4, and 57.59 for Ottawa U. No. 2. **E. Connolly**, Ottawa U. No. 1, made the fastest time of all, viz.: 39.26, J. Currie was second with 40' and H. Worden third, 42. Trace laid by Lucien Brault; Judges, Keith Saunders and Louis Grimes.

**Coming Events.** To-day, Thursday, Feb. 13, Night-hike to the Glen Lea Club-house. Start from Wrightville at 8 p.m.—On Saturday, Feb. 15, in Montreal, **Quebec Championship** Ski Jumping, by Montreal Ski Club. On Sunday Feb. 16, at Shawbridge, Quebec Championship Ski race.

## SKIING AT QUEENS

Every young and ardent ski enthusiast dreads the time he will go to college; that is, when he thinks of the wonderful skiing opportunities he is going to miss. Of course, skiing at McGill—well!, and at Toronto, this time **not** so well, but at Queen's . . . . .

Having been told all sorts of wild tales of what a wretched place Kingston is in winter: full of penitentiaries, miles of flat country, underbrush and stubble that had never known the formidable combination of a machette and a Certain Joe, and howling winds from the icy Lake Ontario to chill you to the marrow and freeze you inside out—well, I say, Well!

About the only hill of any repute is that on which the famous Fort Henry stands,—and that could perhaps compare with Pine Hill at its crustiest, Dome at its swiftest, Grime's Orchard at its "hole-iest", or George's without the bumps. "Why you are crazy to bring your skis to Kingston. Don't you know there's never any snow there, and when you get up against that wind . . . !" I smiled, a Spinx-like smile, for how curiously these "unbelievers" parallel the newsboys and uninitiated who pop their eyes out at a group of skiers heading across the Plaza in the middle of April, when the snow is a dim and distant memory, and the sun grows warmer every moment.

**But**, a curious thing,—the very first time a fair-sized snowfall came—enough to cover all but the largest rocks and to fill all but the largest holes,—I found a least two dozen Columbuses rather shame-facedly exercising a secret longing and heading for "the hill". And, Mr. Editor, seventeen out of these two dozen are well-known Ottawa Ski Club Members, hardy recruits at R.M.C. or oppressed Freshmen at Queen's. Quite a "Fortune-ate" reunion for all of us.

And, Mr. Editor, you may wonder at the skiing we did. Certainly it was nothing we would dream of doing in the Gatineau, but here,—where men are College Boys and women are too many,—it was the "real thing." You can hardly imagine the "kick" one got from practising Stemming, Christianias, and Telemarks everywhere, to the general amazement of Kingston, which has only reached the skating stage; or the thrill of a home-made jump and a feverish descent of the hill, the many rocks one had to avoid defying Old Man Joe's one claim to fame,—the Corner Canyon and Hospital Corner.

Anyone who skied in his bathing suit at 20 below, took the Speedway of yore "on high", or poled down the Big Dipper, was after a thrill, but you can't imagine the thrill one gets out of beating old man Superstition at his own game!

W. H. ALFORD,

A 3 year Night Rider, now at Queen's University.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From a New York visitor:—

Physically I am back at my desk, but my mind is on the trails near Camp Fortune, and reflecting on the very generous hospitality which you and your members extended to my niece and I during our short visit. Everything was so interesting, and I was very disappointed not to have more time to slide on those very attractive hills.

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I was particularly impressed with the sunshine which you and your club are giving so many people by introducing the healthy out-door ski life to them. It is most assuredly real preparedness for peace or war in the best sense of the word.

I also enjoyed seeing the youngsters of all ages, sizes and forms, sliding on the hills on my way over to the Dome Hill Lodge. You and your club have much to your credit and a very wonderful future ahead of you. I do hope it will be my good fortune to make contact with you again and help you to enjoy some of our country.

Cordially yours,  
J. S. APPERSON.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The following extract from a letter from Miss Nancy Baird attached to the Canadian Legation at Tokyo, Japan, addressed to some friends in the office of the Tariff Board might make interesting reading for the Members if placed in the "News": Miss Baird was a member of the Club for years before proceeding to Japan last May.

"I left on New Year's eve with another girl for the mountains and skiing. The skiing in Japan is simply marvellous and I completely forgot my homesickness for the dear old Gatineau. Conditions were on the whole, fairly like those in Canada, but the scenery was incomparable. Range on range of beautiful mountains whose winter dressing of snow made the place a fairyland. But—we were unfortunate in getting a very poor room at the Japanese inn. Usually they are very comfortable. Heated of course solely by "Hibachi's" or large earthenware bowls with a few pieces of charcoal burning in them—but one depends for warmth on the baths. At a Japanese inn you must accustom yourself to the lack of privacy. The baths are large affairs accommodating about ten people at a time—oh yes, they had a separate one for the men: One soaps and washes oneself from a small bucket first, then gets into the bath which is hot enough to almost burn you alive. Guests are supplied with thick quilted Kimonos by the inn, and the hours indoor are passed in this garb. You sleep of course on futons or quilts with

the hibachi at your feet for warmth and little round hard pillows for your head."

If you friend "Mabel" kicks about the comforts provided at Camp Fortune, you better suggest she get a "Hibachi".

J. E.

Dear Editor:—

Your recent articles on the art of mastering skis are full of common sense. Let me tell you of one of my experiences and you will see why I am in sympathy with your idea. I am very fond of skiing, having skied quite a lot but only for the fun of it and while I am not "scared" of anything in the form of hills or bumps, etc. once while skiing in the Laurentians down a thriller I felt the need of stopping pronto. Of course, I did not know enough about the technique of skiing, so I sat down, and I went boum because I happened to connect with a rock just like a golfer would qualify as "perfectly". It was pure luck that I was not crippled let alone the doctor's bill I had to pay. If I only had known how to stop on my feet I would have been a lot more happy and less sore.

But, Mr. Editor, I admit those who know about these things called Telemarks or Christianias or stemming turns, etc. may have a good opportunity to perfect their technique and I hope they get along well, but the others who do not know even what those things are. How are they to learn? Would you mind saying if exhibitions or demonstrations to beginners might be given which would be of valuable assistance to these members.

I would like to hear from you on this matter. Suggestions should be always welcome and hoping that this will be of some help in your campaigns.

I am only a new member for the good reason I have only been a resident of Ottawa a couple of months but during the few hikes I have taken in this "Gatineau Back Yard" I am convinced of one thing and that's there is no place like this in America. I was not in Switzerland nor Norway but I was in the States and I don't think any place on the continent can boast of such a country within sight of the skyline of any city.

Yours truly,

E. LABERGE,

(Would there not be a chance for one of our expert members to make a little pin money by teaching the tricks of the trade to beginners? The Club cannot afford to pay a special instructor for the season, but a good instructor could certainly find lots of pupils. Our friend Merritt Putman is now acting as honorary instructor to the Toronto Club and giving lessons at \$1 an hour.—The Editor.)

Dear Sir:—

The President and officers of the Renfrew Ski Club extend to the Officers and Members of the Ottawa Ski Club a cordial invitation to attend our Annual Dance to be held in Simpson & Elliott's Hall, Friday, February 14th, 9 p.m.

Our Dance last year was a real success and we expect this one to be even better. We hope to have the pleasure of seeing some of your members present.

Yours very truly,

K. GANNON,

Sec'y Treasurer.

**Members of other Ski Clubs Excepted.**—The rule regarding visitors during week-ends does not apply to members of outside Ski Clubs, but these must wear the badge of their Clubs. If you are expecting any out-of-town friends kindly advise them to this effect.

**About poles**—Our members, at all doges, especially at Camp Fortune, are very reckless with their poles, and a good many panes of glass have been broken by poles being flung across the tables, hence the order "Only pole-less skiers admitted." **Poles will be allowed in next week-end**, but if any damage occurs, the order will be put in force again.

Please come prepared, next week-end, to buy a ticket to the Dominion Ski Jumping Meet (Saturday, Feb. 22) and in the meantime, volunteer your services for the race if you have any time available. Phone Louis Grimes, Q. 1443.

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Edition No. 7

# 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  
Feb. 13,  
8 p.m.

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

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