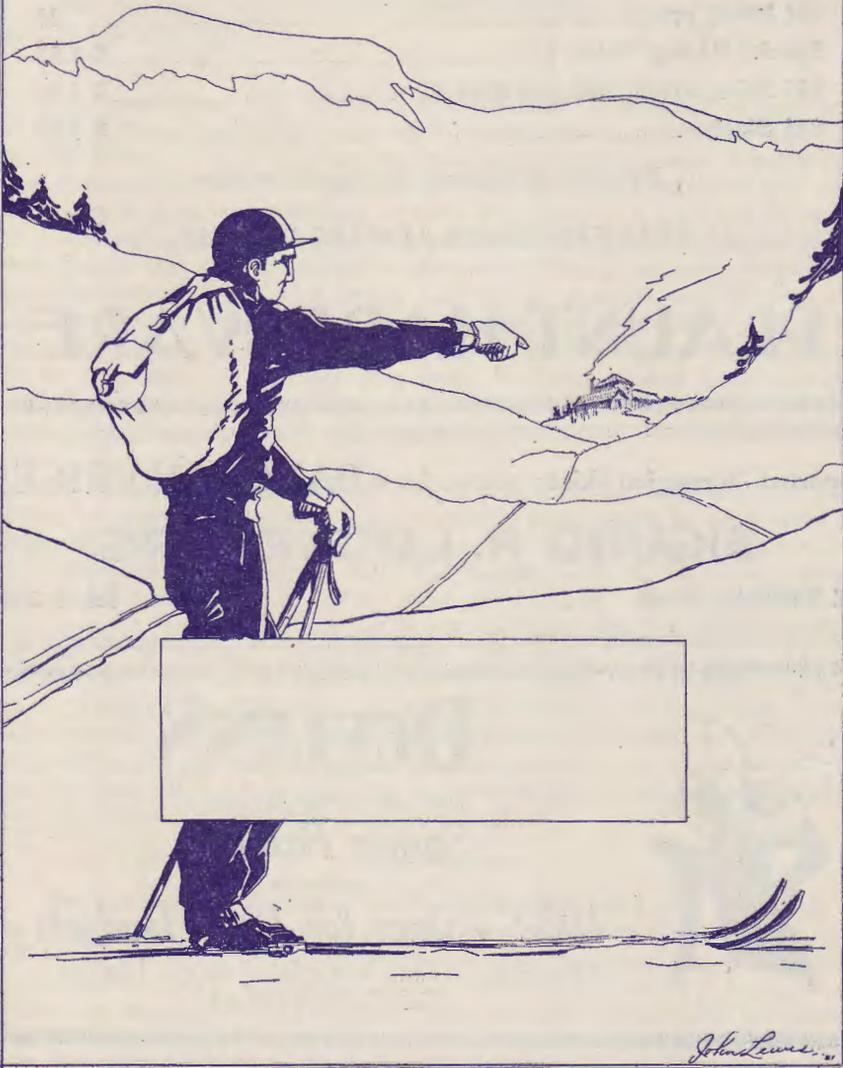


OTTAWA SKI CLUB NEWS

1931

1932



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Ottawa Ski Club News

PUBLISHED BY THE OTTAWA SKI CLUB

This week-end: THE ONTARIO SKI-JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS, Rockcliffe Park, 3 p.m. Saturday, February 27th. Admission 25 cents.

THE ONTARIO SKI-RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS, Camp Fortune, 11 a.m. Sunday, February 28th.

Snow conditions.—The very best. Paradisiacal! Six inches of loose snow over six inches of hard crust! Do not forget to write in your diary under the date of Sunday, Feb. 21st, "First real snow storm of the season, brought back from Montreal by the Editor of the O.S.C. News." And you might as well, while you are at it, open up your diary at the 1st of April and enter the following: "Still snowing and 10 above" because **it will be snowing** and it will be **ten degrees above zero** on that day. Does anyone want to bet? Let us hope also that between those two dates, the 21st of February and the 1st of April—and not long after the 21st—your diary will show another entry like this "Purchased a 1932 O.S.C. badge at McGiffin's, Sparks St. Should have done this long ago"—. Come, be fair to your poor club and pay your fees. We have suffered from poor snow conditions far more than you have.

The Ontario Championships.—Boys and girls, ladies and gentlemen and fellow skiers: we want your presence and enthusiastic co-operation at the Ontario Ski Championships, which will be held by your Club this week-end. There will be three events on the programme: (1) **Ski jumping** from the Rockcliffe Tower at 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 27th. Admission 25 cents. (2) **A banquet** for the entertainment of our competitors and guests at "Chez Henri" in Hull at 6.30 p.m. Saturday, \$1.00 a plate. **Dance at 9 p.m.** No charge for the Dance. You can reserve your tickets at McGiffin's, Sparks St. (Q. 2298). (3) **Eighteen kilometer race** at Camp Fortune, starting at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday, February 28th. Practically every ski center in Canada will be represented at this competition on Saturday and Sunday, and it would be an everlasting shame if every one of our members was not there. It is a long time since we have seen real good ski jumping on the Rockcliffe Tower, and the whole city should be there.

The Gatineau Bus Service.—Snow conditions not being quite favourable last week, the special 9.30 bus service that had been announced was postponed, but it will be run this week, starting on Wednesday, and its continuation will depend on the extent to which it is patronized. Now that there is a bus at 9.30, there is no longer any excuse for using airplanes, taxis or any of these weird contrivances. The Gatineau Bus Co., by the splendid service that it has provided in the past, has done more perhaps than any other agency to promote ski-ing, your Editor included. Let us patronize the grand old buses of the Gatineau Bus Company! Going 9.30 a.m. on week days, returning 6 p.m. from Old Chelsea.

Lost, on Kingsmere road, February 14th, green gold watch and bracelet. Phone R. 203.—Will the person who took the wrong pair of poles at Fortune 2 weeks ago please call Q. 2298. **Found** jack knife and leather cap, call C. 4827.

Your Editor's little jaunt.—Your Editor was in Montreal over the week-end to attend the two outstanding events of the year in the ski world—the Dominion Ski Championships and the Canadian Ski Association meeting. He went by train instead of by skis, and did not regret it when he saw the huge distances that lay between the small patches of snow in the fields, on both sides of the track, and the enormous number of wire fences that would have to be vaulted over on the way. The only spot that was found fairly well covered with the white stuff was the landing of the Montreal Ski Club jumping hill at Cote-des-Neiges, which spoke volumes for the scratching ability of the club, the whole countryside, over a distance of a couple of square miles, having been raked clean in preparation for the event. The jumping was of a high order, quite thrilling and lively for those who stood, as they still had to run the gauntlet through the shivering and restless spectators and skip around the buildings at the end of the run. Those who fell on landing were spared all these worries. Our men jumped in splendid style. The only reason why they did not get first place was because your Editor was not on the judges' stand. Judging still appears to be the weak part of our competitions, and the ideal judge, i.e., he who would satisfy everybody and the competitors as well, has yet to be found. However, your Editor happened to be with a group of good, fair-minded, unprejudiced Ottawa people, and there was not the slightest doubt in their minds as to who were the better jumpers.—The meetings of the Canadian Ski Association, which started at 8 p.m. on Friday and kept up until a late hour of the night, to be resumed almost at dawn on Saturday and continued until well past the lunch hour, and out of which came a new President for the Association and a new Honorary President, took the rest of our time. Weakened by the lack of sleep and the lack of food, your Editor did not attempt to go to the icy fields of Shawbridge, where the Championship race was to be staged, but he came back to God's own country on Sunday, managing on the way to hook a snow storm which was still undecided whether it should strike east or west, and he brought it back triumphantly with him in the hope that it might help the slackers of the Club to come across with their long delayed fees.—Amen.

The Olympics.—Pitted against men who had outjumped Holmenkollen in Norway or defeated the world's swiftest on the ski trails of Finland, and who, themselves, came from generations of ski-jumpers and ski-runners, what could our competitors do? Be it said to their everlasting credit that they never gave up in any gruelling race or contest in spite of heart-rending conditions,—soft snow, slush or no snow at all. Clark, Taylor and Currie figured well up in the list among 44 competitors in the 18 kilometer race; Landry was classed twentieth with a jump of 54 meters in the jumping; Bagguley came 24th in the combined while Douglas, on finishing the 30 mile race, missed the checker and went once more over the course or nearly! We are proud of them all, just as we are proud of their manager, Sigurd Lockeberg, and his able assistant, Louis Grimes. Sigurd, in addition to his managing the team, had the honour of being appointed a judge at the Olympic Jumping Meet!

The Dominion Championships.—Jack Landry, Ottawa Ski Club, came second in the jumping, being only a couple of points behind Finsberg of the Viking Ski Club. Nordmoe of Camrose was third.—In the race, at Shawbridge, Bud Clark, J. Currie and H. Douglas came in 6th, 8th and 11th respectively. Our Bud Clark was third in the Combined.

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Starving in the midst of plenty?—The trouble with us is that we have been spoiled. If any ski club, anywhere else in the world, had enjoyed ski conditions, indifferent as they were, that we have had every week-end since the middle of December, they would have been well satisfied. A bit hard and crusty at times perhaps, but always providing fair ski-ing, if not in the hills, at least in the rolling fields at the foot of the hills. For instance two weeks ago, when no one dared to go out, there was marvelous ski-ing over the rolling fields to the right of Meach Lake Road between Old Chelsea and the foot of Dunlop's hill, leading to Camp Fortune. Choose your ski-ing grounds according to the snow and do not complain! Less thrills perhaps but after all what are most of us after? The opportunity to wander over the country, enjoying the fresh air and the sunshine. This, we had as much as ever this year.

Skis and Ski Clothes at bargain prices. There will never again be a time like the present to purchase ski-ing outfits and we would strongly urge our members to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Everywhere prices have been slashed down from 30 to 60 per cent. Do not wait until next year if you want a new pair of skis or a new ski suit. Buy now! You cannot go wrong by purchasing from any of our advertisers. They are all reliable.

The **Canadian Ski Annual** which was supposed to be enclosed with the last issue of the "Ski News" was not distributed because it was found at the last minute that the postage on it would have cost four cents, and we did not have the money. It will be sent as soon as the contents of our treasury go up a bit.

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Health and Jumping.—Jumping and jumpers came in for a good deal of discussion at the meeting of the Canadian Ski Association in Montreal. Alarmed by the statement of Captain D'Eggville (see Canadian Association Year Book, page 35) "that ski-jumpers always look an extremely unhealthy lot," (little runts and dope fiends, you know), delegates of some of the clubs, strongly supported by the Chairman of the meeting (C. Allan Snowdon), who looked particularly healthy, wanted to do away with the 20 foot jump prescribed for the third class Proficiency Test. "We can 'yump' as well as the best of them," they said, "but do not want to undermine our health, or spoil our physical appearance. We claim that any form of ski-ing that tends to the degeneration of the species should be scrupulously avoided. In any event, we maintain that a 20 foot jump is too long by far for beginners." Unfortunately the "evil Scandinavian influence" (see Year Book, page 34) prevailed once more. That bad man Johansen, the President of the Montreal Ski Club, who is never so happy as when he can soar through mid air at a height of fifty feet, and who is now such a wreck after a misspent "yumping youth" that he cannot cover more than forty miles a day without feeling tired,—that bad man Johansen, we said, fought like a tiger for the retention of the twenty foot clause, claiming that the ability to lift one's skis clear of the snow is an essential accomplishment of the skier, especially on our bumpy trails, that he who remains glued to the snow at all times, never makes a good cross country skier. His opponents retorted that it would be far better to learn to avoid obstacles by scientific turns, (they are strong on turns in Toronto) than by "yumping" over them at the risk of one's physical deterioration. Your Editor, who always wanted to learn to jump and who never did because he did not have to, sided with Johansen who was for compulsory "yumping" and who seemed to be quite sure of what he wanted. Finally, Percy Douglas, pointing to the width of the meeting room, asked "Would this be too big a 'yump' for a beginner?" Everybody, including that bad man Johansen, agreed that it would. The room was measured and found to be only fifteen feet wide. Thereupon the meeting, at the bright suggestion of your Editor, agreed to reduce to ten feet the jumping requirements for the third class test. This is really no hardship. Anyone passing over the bumps of George's on a fast day covers a good many ten foot jumps. But what will be the effect on the health of the future generation of skiers? Too appalling to contemplate! Will Captain D'Eggville answer?

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