

Ottawa Ski Club News

PUBLISHED BY THE OTTAWA SKI CLUB

Enters March—Long days of glorious sunshine! Honeycombed, lightning fast, snows! Skiing in bathing suits! Rivers of water in the streets perhaps, and even dust on the roads, but delightful conditions for the enjoyment of our sport in the higher Gatineau hills, well into April and possibly until May. Remember this, this year, and do not make the mistake of putting your skis away because the snow has gone off your door steps. An hour's skiing on the sugary snows of sunny March is worth ten in the cold and dark months of December or even January.

Many thanks!—To the members and friends of the Ottawa Ski Club who have helped in distributing and selling tickets, the O.S.C. and the Forestry Preservation Society of the O.S.C. wish to tender their very best thanks. A substantial sum of money has been raised, which will enable us to pay off a good part of our debt. Again, many, many thanks.

Delays explained.—High snow drifts and intense cold played havoc with the Gatineau Bus Company lately. Several buses were put out of commission we are told, and not all of them could be repaired before Sunday. This is the reason why only two or three small buses were available on Sunday morning instead of the ten or twelve that should have been necessary to shoot the huge crowd over to the hills. Other buses came only at long intervals, and those among the ski fraternity who had skipped breakfast in order to be the first out and who could not muster sufficient strength and aggressiveness to fight their way through the crowd and into the buses were kept waiting until 10.30 a.m. This, we understand, could not be helped, but these long and tedious waits at both ends of the line come too often and are much to be regretted as they rob skiing of a great deal of its pleasure and spoil the day. This is, after all, the biggest problem we have had to contend with during the last two years: adequate transportation. Shall we have to go back to the iron horse and trudge our way into Camp Fortune over Cooper's Trail?

The result of the draw.—Some twenty thousand people were bitterly disappointed when Controller Stanley Lewis drew the winning ticket out of a churn on Saturday, Feb. 17, one was very happy; eighteen others only moderately so. It was just a case of luck, and luck is blind.

They all want to know and we want to know who the winner is, so that we may inform on the wretch and get his car.

This much we were able to draw out of our reticent Secretary:

He (the car winner) belongs to the male sex; in other words, he is not a woman.

He was not a wealthy man.

He lives in Greater Ottawa and not far from here, either.

He is not a tonsorial artist (This having reference to the fact that the winner of the 5,000,000 francs lottery in France, was a barber).

He never had a car before.

He had only one ticket (Your Editor had twenty-seven!).

He is still smiling.

If you can guess who he is from the above indications, you will get a prize.

The winners of the eighteen other prizes—donated by various firms in the City and outside of the City were as follows: Rene Goyette; P. Fisher; J. J. Scott; Mrs. Percy Marjerrison; N. H. McDonald; Irene E. Guppy; S. G. McClenahan; Mrs. C. B. Reilly; Mrs. A. Ponting; Eilene Morgan; Alex Bedek; Mrs. A. E. Malhard; E. V. Wilson; Chas. W. Allen; G. A. Hoare, P. J. Scully, L. Rooney; J. W. York.

Hail to Halvor Heggveit, Champion Ski Runner of Canada.

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THE C.A.S.A. ANNUAL MEETING.—Various interesting suggestions were made at the meeting of the Canadian Amateur Ski Association which took place on the 23rd inst., in Montreal. There was a proposal, sponsored by the Ottawa Ski Club, that the country be divided into self-governing ski-districts, or ski centers, all under the C.A.S.A. of course, these districts to bear the names of their respective hills. Starting from Quebec City, these districts would be as follows: Montmorency (including Quebec City and surroundings), St. Maurice Valley (Three Rivers and Shawinigan), Laurentian (Montreal and the North Country), Gatineau (Upper Ottawa Valley and Gatineau), Northern Ontario (including Toronto), Banff, Revelstoke and Vancouver. Other districts may be formed from time to time as other ski clubs come into being. A championship meet would in the future be allotted to a district, and the clubs within the district would meet and decide which one of them would hold the meet. This proposal was unanimously approved by the Association. A suggestion was also made that the privilege of competing in championship meets be reserved in the future to members of Club affiliated with the Association, with the provision, however, that junior clubs, such as St. Pat's, Lisgar and Glebe might come in as Associate members, for a nominal fee of \$5.00—H. P. Douglas, Editor of the Annual suggested, that the price of the Annual be raised from nothing to \$1 next year, in order to increase the distribution and sale of the same, and the meeting did not know just how to take this suggestion.—Just before adjournment, C. Tollefsen, the "enfant terrible" of the Association, rose and proposed an altogether new Constitution for the Association, embodying some drastic changes, such as the abolition of the Technical Board, an all-Montreal Board of Directors, the creation of Ski Boards all over the country, and the meeting being unable to agree it was decided to postpone the election of officers until this project of constitution had been looked into by a special committee. To our mind, the fact that anyone can hold off the election of officers by proposing a new constitution without any notice, shows that there is something radically wrong with the present Constitution of the Association.

Wanted—A wax that is cheap, easy to apply, that will prevent our skis from slipping back on the treacherous snows of March and yet accelerate our speed down hill—in other words, a wax that has both gripping and sliding power, this is what we all want, and this is what we do not seem to be able to get. The wax that came the nearest to fulfilling this ideal was one that we made ourselves one day out of a tin of pine tar, part of a cake of paraffin, a rubber band and a little bit of rosin, the whole melted together. (The rubber band was ignited with a match). Somehow we never were able to strike the exact proportions since, but you might have better luck. The more tar there is in the mixture, the more grip the ski has, until it becomes sticky; the more paraffine, the better it slides. Would advise you strongly to stay near the mixture while it is on the stove as it has a habit of boiling over, flaring up, sometimes setting the ceiling on fire, which, somehow, gets on the nerves of the family. You know how easily upset they are at home! By the way, on page 27 of the Canadian Ski Annual there is a splendid article on wax and waxing by Thor Tangwald. It will pay you to read it. Get your copy at McGiffin's if you have not got it yet; if you are not a member, you can get a copy for 25c. That article alone is worth many dollars to any skier.

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The Seignior Club.—Do not forget that you are invited to attend the Ladies' Slalom and the Inter-City Jumping Championship at the Seignior Club this week-end (March 3rd and 4th). Any bona fide member of the Club can get a guest card, entitling him to a \$5 rate, European plan, two in a room. Apply to Miss Mary Davis (Q. 8673-W) or Louis Grimes (Q. 1443).

The Birch Valley lodge, now owned by our friend Mr. Radmore, who is kind enough to allow us to pass through his clearing, has been broken into lately, and Mr. Radmore suspects that this was done by members of the Ottawa Ski Club. We cannot understand how this could be, seeing that our own lodge is only half a mile away. Possibly they were people wearing an old badge, and who find it cheaper to break into other people's property than to pay their fees. This is very annoying in any case, and we trust that it will not be repeated. It is a shame that two or three thoughtless people should, by their indiscretion, endanger the privileges of the other members of the club. Pay your fees, and respect others' property.

The genial Mr. Bilodeau who runs an inn at the bus terminus at Old Chelsea and dispenses refreshments to the members of the Ottawa Ski Club while they are waiting for the bus, with the comforting assurance that "It won't be long now," had so much hard work removing the snow around his place to provide parking space for the cars, that he has decided to make a small parking charge of 25c in the future. "By Gosh," he said on Sunday morning to your Editor, "when I promised free parking at the beginning of the season I was not expecting such a bloomin' lot of snow. I have been shovelling without a stop since 4 a.m. on Saturday and my back is aching something terrible; 25c please." We reckon he will get it.

In the old days, people who went out after a snow storm always had to break trail, but of recent years one always found the trail broken, no matter how early one got up. Who was doing it? People talked about the "phantom skier" a selfish man, it seems, who dodged his share of trail breaking during his lifetime and who, having departed from this earth, was condemned, as a penance, before entering the skiers' paradise, to go over all the trails of the Ottawa Ski Club after a snow storm, alone and unaided, for a hundred years. Your Editor met the phantom skier the other day; it was none other than Bud Clark who "just runs up to Camp Fortune from Wrightville after 4.30 p.m. to get a cup of coffee at the cafeteria and for a practice run, you know." This explains the mystery of the phantom skier, the running ability of Bud, and speaks a lot for the coffee grown and made at Camp Fortune.

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Past events.—At Shawbridge, on Feb. 18th, our Halvor Heggteit came first of 30 skiers in the Quebec Championship race. His time was 1.05.17. Close on his heels were J. P. Taylor (2nd) 1.07.07; E. Laflamme (3rd) 1.10.13; John Veit (6th) 1.10.18; H. Bagguley (7th) 1.12.09.—H. Bagguley was second in the Combined Championship and J. Veit 5th in the slalom.

In the jumping, H. Bagguley placed 6th and Roger Vincent 10th. J. Landry would easily have been first if he had held his jumps but he fell on one of them.

While the Quebec Championships were being fought in Montreal and Shawbridge, Downhill and Slalom races for men and women were held at Camp Fortune with the following results:

Class "A," men's downhill race.—Ernie Ryan, 2.50 2-5; Joe Oliver, 2.56 3-5; P. Lochnan, 3.02; C. Clarke, 3.01 2-5; J. Currie, 3.01 2-5; B. Burke, 3.15 1-5; J. Garland, 3.22 4-5; G. Brittain, 3.45 3-5; T. Ellis, 3.59; C. Bond, 4.00.

Class "B," men's downhill race.—B. McGiffin, 3.12 2-5; S. Ryan, 3.12 2-5; P. Blais, 3.15 2-5; H. Coleman, 3.21 2-5; H. Ryan, 3.22; E. Cooper, 3.24 3-5; J. Leslie, 3.41 1-5; G. Silver, 3.44 2-5; O. Bouley, 4.12 3-5; P. Major, 4.19 2-5; M. Grant, 4.20 4-5; J. T. Dymont, 4.21 1-5; D. Farley, 4.29 3-5; D. McGee, 5.07 1-5.

Girls' downhill race (Côte du Nord)—D. Charbonneau, 4.33; Peggy Silver, 4.58; Jackie Larocque, 5.01 1-5; K. O'Callaghan, 5.03 2-5; Gwen Barnes, 5.12 1-5; C. Farley, 5.55 1-5; Ruth O'Halloran, 6.24 1-5; P. Wetzel, 8.34 3-5.

Girls' slalom race—Gwen Barnes, 1.49; Jackie Larocque, 2.20 3-5; Peggy Silver, 2.39; Ruth O'Halloran, 2.43; D. Charbonneau, 2.59 1-5; K. O'Callaghan, 3.08 2-5; P. Wetzel.

Starter, J. Currie; timers, Ken Tupper and H. Douglas.

On the windy heights of Shawinigan, by 18 below zero, and in spite of a sprained thumb and a strained shoulder, the legacy of a fall on the Highland Trail, Halvor Heggteit won the Championship of Canada by covering the eleven mile course in 1.19.52. John Pringle Taylor was only 24 seconds behind (1.20.16) while Bud Clark (St. Pat's) came third, in 1.22.43. F. Laflamme lost his way and was tenth (1.32.02).

In the jumping, Landry lost the championship by one fall but made the longest standing jump, thereby creating a record for the hill (133 feet). Landry and Bagguley motored to Three Rivers from Lake Placid where they had been competing. They were 32 hours in making 10 miles among snow drifts, and arrived at 4.30 on Sunday morning, having had only 3 hours sleep in two days.

Our new Canadian Champion Halvor Heggteit, is of Norwegian stock, born in the United States, and a resident of Canada since the age of five years. He is now 27 years of age. He attributes his successes to one thing:—training, hard and constant training.

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(On Looking Down Casse cou hill)

To ski, or not to ski,—that is the question;—
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and crutches of temporary lameness,
Or to carry arms, legs, skis down safely,
And thus, by walking get there.—To ski, to crash,
No more, and by a walk to say we miss
The bone-breaks and the thousand jagged rocks
That flesh may tear on:—'tis a healthy descent,
Carefully to be tried. To ski, to speed,
To stem, perchance to fall;—ay, there's the rub;
For in that dash of death what turns must come,
When we have shuffled off this icy ledge,
Must make us pause; there's the respect
That makes calamity of poor technique.

—(The Ski Bulletin, Boston).

"When the Meach Lake road is open to motor cars," writes a correspondent, "I would much rather go to Camp Fortune by Dunlop hill than by any other way. In twenty-five minutes of easy climbing I am at the lodge, where I leave my haversack and anything else I don't want. Then I go leisurely, without the encumbrance of a pack, over the Highland trail and Little Switzerland, enjoying every inch of the way. Sometimes, when I am very energetic, I may even take the Chapman cut, although I don't approve of it. Sometimes also, when starting early, I may go over the Merry-Go-Round before taking the Highland. I am generally back at the lodge before one o'clock, where I have a good lunch, an hour's rest, and then I am ready for another little jaunt, or an hour's practice with turns, after which I climb the hill-across-the-creek, shoot down the Côte-du-Nord and the Long Ravine (not in 3 minutes though) and I am at my car again. When I feel lazy, I just go down Dunlop's again, and I have not a bit of climbing to do to get to my car." The only trouble with this way of approach is that the drifts of snow are about 50 feet high on the Meach Lake Road, but this is the first time in five years that the road has been closed to traffic.

Lost, between Keogan's and Grime's hill, a gold self-winding wrist watch. Finder please call C. 6189 (R. Elliott, 450 Riverdale).—**Lost**, on Saturday afternoon by Pine Hill Ski Trail, or Wrightville car the sum of thirty-one or thirty-two dollars (\$32.00). Reward is offered if finder will please communicate with Carling 3908.—Will the skier who took a pole from Camp Fortune on Sunday, Feb. 24, and left his own, marked "J. M." in its place, kindly notify C. E. Mortureux, R. 4263, and an exchange will be made.

Hail to Herbert Marshall and Jim Leslie who, alone, placed and sold enough books of tickets to more than cover the cost of the car!

OTTAWA SKI CLUB INN

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Coming events.—At the Seignior Club, on Saturday, March 3rd, 3 p.m., Ladies' Cross-country race, in which the Ottawa Ski Club will be represented by a team of four.—On Sunday morning, March 4th, Slalom race for same teams of Ladies. On Sunday afternoon Inter-city Jumping by teams of four, between Montreal and Ottawa.—Members of the Ottawa Ski Club visiting the Seignior Club on this occasion will be accorded a rate of \$5. a day per person, meals included. Please apply to Miss Davis, 41 MacLaren St., or Louis Grimes, 550 Gilmour St. for guest cards.

On March 10th and 11th. City Championships—Jumping at Rockcliffe on Saturday for the Devonshire Trophy and Race at Camp Fortune on Sunday for Lady Willingdon Trophy. Entry fee, 25c.

On March 4th at St. Laurent des Monts, dedication of Hill 70 to the memory of General Sir Arthur Currie, by the Red Birds Ski Club. Train leaves Montreal (C.N.R.) at 8.40 and 9 a.m.

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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