

OTTAWA SKI CLUB NEWS

Is the ski-ing over?—During the last few days, the Officers of the Ottawa Ski Club and your editor in particular have been besieged by people, long faced and frantic people, calling by phone or otherwise, wanting to know if it was true that the winter was over. Do we have to nail this foolish rumour once more, after all these years? No the winter is not over; the best part of it is still coming, the long sunny days of March, with their honey combed or "Sugary" Snow, extending well into the middle of April, at least in the hills. There is a spot where the snow lasts longer than anywhere else, and that is around Camp Fortune. You may have to leave some of your sweaters at home, but not your skis.

A Dinner-Dance on April 16th.—And when you do lay your skis away on Thursday April 16th., four days after Easter, we want every one of you to attend a Dinner-Dance arranged by the Ottawa Ski Club for the purpose of distributing the prizes won during the season and celebrating the best winter we ever had. The Ottawa Ski Club Dinner-Dance will take place in the Quebec suite of the Chateau Laurier on Thursday April 16th at 7 p.m. The price of the single ticket is \$2.00. Reserve your tickets now from the President of the Ladies Executive, Freda Runge, or any of the Club Directors.

A Downhill Race on the Trail "Sans Nom".—We are going to have a look at that unbaptized child of Geo. Brittain's, and see how it behaves, next Sunday (Feb. 29th) when a downhill race will be staged on it immediately after lunch, probably because plenty of ballast is required to stand up. The trail "Sans nom" starts from the up slope of the Hum Dinger Ravine and proceeds at a fast clip "vite, vite et encore plus vite" in the general direction of Meach Lake, ending in a hole in the ice. The trail may not be quite so wicked as first reports would have it. That remains to be seen. Our auditor, A. D. Watson, who has so far steadfastly refused to authorise the payment of the bill, went over the "Sans nom" trail himself and in person, accompanied by two adventurous members of his family, last Sunday, and he was all smiles when he came up, in fact he said it was "a dream." Few people however are as steady on their skis as A. D. Watson and the Watson family.

The huge success of the Easy Way trail, (that turn off to the left from the foot of the last hill leading to the top of the Canyon) suggests that not all people are fond of bumps, tumbles and thrills, and that the trail Committee would probably fill a long felt want, and would please most of the rank and file of our members, by opening up more new trails of the same description. It has been suggested that the name "Easy Way" acts as a deterrent to many people,—for instance those who would rather "walk down" the Canyon, just to be able to say that "they took it" rather than admit that they came by an easier way—and that a name like "Pleasant Valley Trail" should attract more visitors. One could say "I took the Pleasant Valley Trail on account of the beautiful scenery, you know", and get away with it. The Geographical Committee who takes human nature in consideration when naming trails, will decide.

A Trip to Tupper Lake—Nestling in the shadow of mountains over 5000 feet high, 129 miles from Ottawa by rail, the little city of Tupper Lake, N.Y., in the heart of the Adirondacks district, boasts of ski conditions almost if not quite as good as those of the Swiss Alps, and invites the members of the Ottawa Ski Club to come and see by themselves the trails that have been laid at great expense over those mountains. A special snow train (New York Central) will leave Ottawa for Tupper Lake at 2 p.m. on **Saturday Feb. 29th.**, returning on Sunday evening (March 1st) at 11.45 p.m. Round trip fare, \$3.00. Bed and four meals in first class hotel, \$3.25; Total expense of the trip, \$6.25.

Guides will be in readiness to take charge of parties, small or large, and buses going to the Ski grounds will be at the disposal of the visitors, free of charge. If you are coming to Tupper Lake please advise at once Bob McGiffin (Q. 760). Try to make a party.

The following letter was received from the Secretary of the Seigniori Club.

"For your information, during the Winter months we are happy to extend to members of your Club the following rates:

Ten and over.....	\$6.00 per day, American Plan.
Twenty and over.....	\$5.50 per day, American Plan.
Forty and over.....	\$5.00 per day, American Plan.

This accommodation provides for two in a room, each room having its own private bath, and meals served at one table from a set menu.

Miss Mary Davis, (Q. 8673W.) will be pleased to take the names of people desiring to go to the Log Chateau, so that the lowest rates may be available.

The Spongers—The long and sunny days of March bring an ever increasing quota of visitors to our trails, always lavish with their praise, of course, but rather stingy with their money. In fact some have been coming all winter—week in and week out—without ever stopping at any lodge, not so much perhaps because they do not want to intrude but because they are too poor to pay fees. Most of them can afford to run a motor car, but they cannot afford to join the Club.—Do these people realize that if the Ottawa Ski Club ceased to exist, the trails would at once disappear? Do they know that these trails are maintained, brushed and cleaned every year by members who pay fees, or who give money for the purpose in addition to their fees. Do they know that we pay taxes, rights of ways, rent, interest, and assume the responsibility for any damage done to fences, etc? The trails are just as much a part of our institution as the lodges. Surely if they knew these things, they would at once remit the small fee that we are charging. Signs to that effect have been placed on our trails.

Learn to jump, to acquire proper balance—Good balance, including proper crouch and flexing of the knees, is the main requisite for our trails. Nothing will teach you balance quicker than the practice of jumping. Small snow jumps have been built on Traveller's hill, back of Camp Fortune, under the direction of Fred Brown and Saxon Cole. Practise on them, and after a few trials you will be able to sail over any bumps.

The Western Lodge—Enthusiastic reports as to the condition of the trail leading to the Western Lodge have been received from the few who went over last Sunday. The Western Lodge stands in the prettiest spot in the whole Gatineau Country. The look-out there is unrivalled. There is now a caretaker in charge every Sunday. The distance from Camp Fortune to the Western Lodge can be covered easily in an hour. Geo. Brittain and Ted Burpee will be ready to take a party there next Sunday. See them at the lodge.

The Buckingham Ski Club—Returning a visit made by a delegation from the Ottawa Ski Club a week ago, thirty three members of the Buckingham Ski Club, led by their genial President W. P. McLean, were guests at Camp Fortune last week-end. They took every hill in sight and enjoyed the day thoroughly. We hope they will make another visit before the season is over.

The Ottawa Ski Club acknowledges with thanks the donation by the General Motors of Canada (Manufacturers of the Chevrolet and other cars) of three beautiful Ronson Cigaret lighters as prizes for races.

Lost and found—Pair of spectacles lost on P.B. Hill (Canyon). Phone C. 1167 (Dr. Guiou)