

who was a spectator, 70,000 people lined the hill. On Sunday rain fell in torrents, and the competitors ran ten miles through slushy snow over the heights of Camp Fortune. Never had so much care been bestowed on the preparation of a course as on that occasion, and Captain T. J. Morin, who was in charge, deserves the greatest praise. Practically every tree was marked with bunting, every shrub had been cut and the course was measured to an inch, a large printed sign indicating every mile.

A new Dormitory Lodge, offered by the Honourable William Phillips, United States Minister to Canada, on the eve of his leaving the country and as a graceful gesture towards the Club of which he had been a member and towards a sport which he had learnt to love, now stands alongside the Plant and Southam Lodges. There is now no lack of sleeping accommodation for the junior members of the Club.

Although the season was not of the best, perhaps, as regards skiing activities, it was one of the most constructive in the annals of the Ottawa Ski Club, and one that will certainly bear much fruit.

CLIFFSIDE SKI CLUB



MARCH of this year witnessed the close of one of the best years in the Cliffside Ski Club's history. Not since the Club lost most of its armchair membership quite a few years ago has there been such a large list of members. Snow early in the season, a big improvement in our lodges, and hard work on the part of a few were the main reasons why our membership doubled during the 1929-30 season.

The snow which came so early, and gave such fine prospects, did not last very long, however, and by the end of January had developed into a hard crust which lasted right up to the end of skiing in March.

At the beginning of the year we installed quite a lot of new equipment in the lodges, mostly in Keogan's, as it has to take care of the greatest number of skiers. New bunks were built upstairs in the dormitory for the accommodation of the week-end skiers. The old lodge which we had erected in 1923 was demolished and the lumber brought over to our new home, where it has found a useful place in the many additions and improvements.

We held our Farmers' Dance at the end of October in the Birch Valley Lodge, and played host to about one hundred and fifty guests from all over the country where we do our skiing. This dance has become an annual affair with us, and has done a lot to breed good feeling between our members and the owners of the land which we cross in our weekly travels.

All the old trails were cleaned out and kept in good skiing condition, an operation very necessary in the closely wooded country in which we travel. Frank Amyot, in charge of trails, put in a good winter's work, and kept his little band of faithful helpers hard at it. A new trail was scouted out from Old Chelsea to Keogan's, a great part of it being cleared and marked. It is just about the shortest way from Old Chelsea to the higher levels as was proven by the large number of skiers who forsook the older trails and every Sunday found their way in via the new one.

Several new trails circling about Keogan's clearing were made. These are in the nature of stunt trails, leading nowhere in particular, but taking in all the difficult hills and turns. They provide great practice grounds for the better skiers and those wishing to become better.

Fred Taeger worked out a new trail from Dunlop's to Lake Fortune, keeping away from the old bush road which we travelled for so long, and providing a very fast run out from Keogan's should any one desire to go that way.

Our athletes did very well in all the competitions in which they were entered. Gerald Dupuis jumped at Murray Bay, twice in Montreal, twice at Ottawa, once at Three Rivers and once at Fairy Lake. In every competition he placed in the first four jumpers, and won out in two long standing events. He was not charged with one fall all season. Quite a good record.

Lucien Lafleur stepped right out into the limelight and was jumping with the winners all season. In the Dominion Championship meet here he got the longest jump during competition, 124 feet. Our other jumpers—McMartin, Phil Wright and Galarneau—were in every event, did well, and had very few falls charged against them.

Of the runners, Clarence Wright was our most consistent performer, finishing well up in every race. His best effort was in the 50-kilometre race at Shawbridge when he came in second out of a field of eleven starters. Phil Wright, Galarneau, and Lief Gran were in every race and acquitted themselves with honors. Donald Beresford and George Hamilton ran in one each, the former coming in sixth in the Dominion Championship event here, and George finished seventh in an invitation race at Murray Bay late in December.

Our Club held the Ontario Championships the second week in February and ran off two very good competitions. The race was held at the Birch Valley Lodge on Saturday afternoon. George Hamilton laid out an excellent trail of about ten or eleven miles, and the runners made excellent time. Errki Penttila, of the Montreal Ski Club, did his stuff well, finishing several minutes ahead of his nearest competitor.

On Sunday afternoon, on the Fairy Lake Jump, Rolf Sivertsen, also from the Montreal Ski Club, carried off premier honors, beating a field of over thirty jumpers. A drop in the temperature coupled with a high wind kept down the attendance to a very few hundred people.

The "regular attendants" at Keogan's improved that lodge considerably both inside and out. Upstairs in the dormitory bunks were built and accommodation provided for a large number of our members who use the place over the week-end. New approaches to the lodge were cut and most of the alders and other scrub trees which have been growing up around the creek for the last few years were cut down. It is surprising what a difference a few years have made in the appearance of Keogan's Clearing. When we erected our first lodge there in 1923, the old farm was practically clear, and the lodge was visible immediately upon entering the clearing. Now the trees have grown up so high that even though the new lodge is a two-storey one a person can get to within a hundred yards or so and still be unable to see it.

Our old Ski Tower at Fairy Lake, erected about 1922 and on which so many good competitions and titles were won and lost, finally gave up the ghost one stormy day in May. Some of the guy wires had become loosened and during an extra heavy gust she just quietly lay down and died. The flat spot at the top of the big hill looks rather lonesome now without the familiar structure which for so long had reared itself high above the surrounding country, visible for a long distance. Whether the Club will build a new one or not just now is a question we will have to decide. Ski jumping does not seem to be the attraction it used to be, especially in a city where the kids are jumping off every hill and bump they can find on the winter landscape.

Our annual dance was held at the Chateau Laurier in April just around Easter time. It was the "best yet," a large crowd attending, and everyone was forced to admit they had enjoyed themselves to the utmost.

The prospects this year are good. The "faithfuls" have been hard at work ever since midsummer on the trails and lodges. Provided we have the one great necessity of ski-ing—snow—we are sure to go over the top again this year. At the time of writing it looks more like September than November but we can only hope for the best.