

THE 1930 BANFF TOURNAMENT

THE official annual tournament of the Banff Ski Club was held on Friday and Saturday, February 7 and 8, in conjunction with the Banff Winter Carnival and under the auspices of the C.A.S.A. (Western Branch).

Owing to the unfortunate chapter of accidents in the West which resulted in conflicting dates being awarded for the respective tournaments of the Banff and Revelstoke Clubs, we were compelled to postpone our events from the scheduled dates, Tuesday and Wednesday of Carnival Week, until Friday and Saturday. This postponement was necessary to allow competitors to appear at both meets, and rendered it impossible for our Club to hold again the 40-mile Lake Louise to Banff mountain ski race which created so much interest in ski-ing circles with its inception last year. It had also a very adverse effect on the attendance for Wednesday, the scheduled date for the jumping tournament, is Calgary Day of Carnival Week and the huge crowds from the Foot-hills city usually turn out en masse to witness this gala event. This year they were disappointed, although some of our C, D, and E Class boys put up a very creditable exhibition for them on our smaller hill, the Grizzly Street jump.

However, in the major events we were fortunate in all other respects; weather and snow conditions held uniformly good, the contests were keenly fought and the somewhat sparse galleries of spectators were treated to some marvellous exhibitions of all-round skimanship. We trust that the coming tournaments will be more satisfactory to competitors and spectators alike.

The ski race for the Combined Event was run on Friday over a course which in its ten miles tested to the utmost the skill and stamina of the entrants under varying conditions of flat racing, fast downhill running and tricky short climbs. Remarkably good time was made on the crisp, frosty snow. The results are summarized below:—

CLASS A

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1st | Nils Jorstad | Norge Ski Club, Winnipeg | 1.01.20 |
| 2nd | T. Jacobson | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose | 1.04.20 |
| 3rd | J. Nordmoe | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose | 1.05.25 |
| 4th | F. Fladmark | Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club, Vancouver | 1.06.00 |
| 5th | H. Larsen | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose | 1.24.22 |

CLASS B (Race only, no combined event)

| | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1st | Abramson | Grouse Mountain Ski Club, Vancouver | 1.20.30 |
| 2nd | Cyril Paris | Banff Ski Club, Banff | 1.21.50 |
| 3rd | Norman Knight | Banff Ski Club, Banff | 1.29.00 |
| 4th | W. H. Walkinshaw | Grouse Mountain Ski Club, Vancouver | 1.34.00 |

Everything dawned brightly for the jumping tournament on the following day, Saturday, a stiff breeze from the west being the only fault in an otherwise perfect day. The Buffalo Park Hill, one of Canada's finest and most consistently reliable contest hills, was in fine order, the landing firm and unscarred, while substantial improvements had been made to the take-off and upper run. This, combined with the sharp, fast snow should have resulted in some exceedingly long jumps being recorded, but alas, the breeze turned into a nasty head wind which blew steadily all during the tournament. To say nothing of the bad psychological effect such a wind has on the jumpers, the bodily resistance as they whistled through the air against its force shortened their leaps considerably. While practicing on the morning of the tournament Nordmoe of Camrose, the Dominion all-round champion, was upset by the gale while at the height of a long jump (his first fall, incidentally, on the Banff Hill) and sustained a badly wrenched knee, but was able to compete successfully during the afternoon. Fladmark of the Hollyburn contingent was similarly turned over in the air and hurled off the landing hill into a clump of lodgepole pines, escaping miraculously with only a shaking up, and jumped as gamely in the competition as though nothing had ever happened to him. They're a tough race, these ski jumpers! Jacobson, a clubmate of Nordmoe's, was another unlucky one, although he managed to remain upright. On both of his contest

jumps the wind seemed to slap him down on the knoll immediately he left the take-off, and instead of his usual good performances on our hill he leaped only 80 and 100 feet. This was unfortunate, for with his good performance in the race he might have stood higher in the Combined.

The performances put up by Nordmoe of Camrose and Nelsen of Revelstoke were in a class by themselves from the combined standpoints of distance attained under adverse conditions, sheer daring, supreme self-confidence and orthodox style. Andrew Sokvitne of Lomond, Alberta, is a newcomer in western ski jumping circles, being newly out from Norway, and although he was outclassed in distance by the two former jumpers his style was very pleasing to the judges. Leaping in the modern Norwegian manner, jack-knifed sharply at the hips, with very little arm motion, his landings were steady and confident.

Nordmoe's two jumps of 147 and 142 feet were beautifully executed despite his strained knee, and proved sufficient to edge out on points Nelsen's twin leaps of 146 feet each for first place. A rather unsteady and doubtful landing on his first attempt from which he did not recover until well down the hill cost Nels the contest, so closely were they matched, and his second leap was perfection itself. To some of us who can remember Nelsen's jumping of a few years ago, when he was all too prone to sacrifice everything for long distance, it came as a distinct surprise to witness the steadiness and compact form he demonstrated during this tournament.

A remarkable feature of the competition was that despite the difficulty caused by the wind there was not a single fall registered during the afternoon. Every entrant stood his trial jump and two contest jumps.

W. H. Walkinshaw, president of the Grouse Mountain Ski Club, Vancouver, and secretary of the Western Branch, C.A.S.A., together with G. Cameron Stockand, secretary of the Banff Ski Club, acted as judges. Drinnen Holten, president of the Revelstoke Ski Club officiated on the tape and assisted in the checking. Clifford White, president of the Banff Ski Club was starter and Francois Vernon, announcer.

The results of the Class A Jumping and the Combined Event are listed below:—

| | Name | Club | 1st Jump | 2nd Jump | Points |
|-----|--------------------|---|----------|----------|--------|
| 1st | J. Nordmoe - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - | 147 | 142 | 17.925 |
| 2nd | Nels Nelsen - - - | Revelstoke Ski Club, Revelstoke - - - | 146 | 146 | 17.525 |
| 3rd | A. Sokvitne - - - | Lomond, Alberta - - - - - | 130 | 131 | 16.000 |
| 4th | Nils Jorstad - - - | Norge Ski Club, Winnipeg - - - - - | 119 | 116 | 15.750 |
| 5th | F. Fladmark - - - | Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club, Vancouver - - - - - | 114 | 116 | 16.625 |
| 6th | H. Larsen - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - - - | 109 | 110 | 14.400 |
| 7th | T. Jacobsen - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - - - | 80 | 100 | 12.582 |
| 8th | I. Engh - - - - - | Banff Ski Club, Banff - - - - - | 86 | 88 | 11.928 |

CLASS A—COMBINED EVENT

| | | | |
|-----|---------------------|---|--------|
| 1st | J. Nordmoe - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - - - | 17.962 |
| 2nd | Nils Jorstad - - - | Norge Ski Club, Winnipeg - - - - - | 17.875 |
| 3rd | F. Fladmark - - - | Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club, Vancouver - - - - - | 16.456 |
| 4th | T. Jacobsen - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - - - | 15.441 |
| 5th | H. Larsen - - - - - | Camrose Ski Club, Camrose - - - - - | 11.450 |

Owing to lack of entries there was no Class B jumping competition, although the one lone jumper in this class, Francis McCallum of Banff made two very pleasing exhibition jumps.

All of the visiting ski-ing fraternity were invited to the Farewell Carnival Dance, where they were guests of honor at the coronation of Miss Doris Parkes of Vancouver, who was the candidate of the Banff Ski Club, as 1931 Carnival Queen, and following this event they were entertained for a short time at the residence of our President, Mr. Clifford White. The Banff Ski Club were then their hosts at a very enjoyable midnight banquet, during which the newly crowned Queen Doris bestowed the prizes with a few tastefully chosen remarks for each fortunate winner. A few short and interesting speeches were made by Drinnen Holten, Queen Doris, J. Nordmoe and others, after which the gathering dispersed in the early hours, having voted the entire affair an unqualified success.