

## Review of the Year

Once more the year has rolled around and the successful ski-ing season of 1930-1931 is but a pleasant memory. Our sport is rapidly gaining popularity and the ski-ing country from Quebec to Vancouver's Grouse Mountain was thronged throughout the winter with happy skiers. There are now twenty-three clubs who are members of the Association, twelve in the East and eleven in the West. The sport is developing so rapidly in the West that the East will soon have to look to its laurels.

For the first time in the history of the Association the Dominion Championships were held in the West at Revelstoke, B.C. On account of snow conditions in B.C. the dates of the tournaments had to be advanced to the beginning of February. Unfortunately, this period, the climax of the Western season, is the opening of that in the East and there was on this account no representation from the East at the meet. This is much to be regretted.

The jumping competition was to be held on the famous big hill at Revelstoke, but on account of bad snow conditions on the date of the meet, the judges declared the hill unsafe and ordered the competition to be held on a smaller hill. A protest against this decision was considered at the Annual Meeting of the Association, but after careful consideration the action of the judges was upheld.

The inauguration of ski-ing at Lucerne-in-Quebec took place early in the season when a most successful invitation tournament was held. The country around Lucerne is ideal for cross-country ski-ing and the new jump which has been erected there is easily the finest artificial jump in Canada. Lucerne-in-Quebec is a most welcome addition to ski-ing facilities in Canada.

At the Annual Meeting a protest was lodged by some of the jumpers at the Eastern Canadian tournaments against some of the judges who were at the same time members of the Technical Board. Upon subsequent investigation there appeared to be no justification for this protest, but three members of the Board nevertheless considered it their duty to resign.

The retiring members of the old Board are deserving of the very highest tribute from the Association. Working early and late they successfully carried out their many years of difficult and often thankless tasks and to them is due in a large degree the high standing of the Association to-day. Their withdrawal at this time after such long and faithful service is a matter of the greatest personal regret to me.

Again the Toronto Ski Club leads in the interest taken in the Efficiency Tests. Interest in this most essential part of ski-ing is continually increasing in the East and we again urge our large contingent of Western clubs to emulate their brethren down here by organizing classes for instructions and encouraging their members to qualify for the Test Badges which are presented by the Association.

The season of 1931-32 will be the most important one in the history

of the Association, as in February of the next year the Olympic Winter games are being held at Lake Placid. Members of our various clubs are already in training and steps are being taken to see Canada's contingent will be in the very best condition for this event.

We once more recommend that keen skiers secure a copy of the British Ski Year Book. This publication is easily the leading ski publication of the world. The accounts of ski-ing in Switzerland, Austria, India, Japan, China and Australia make fascinating reading and the pictures alone are worth the \$2.50 charged for the book. Copies can be secured by writing the undersigned.

The famous Kandahar Ski Club, of Mürren, Switzerland, originators of downhill racing, has offered the Association a cup, to be called The Quebec-Kandahar Cup, for an Annual Downhill Ski Race and Slalom, to be held somewhere in the Province of Quebec. The cup will be won outright and a new cup will be presented each year by the Kandahar Ski Club. This is a magnificent gesture of friendliness on the part of our compatriots who ski in Switzerland, and we are most grateful for this very tangible evidence of their interest in Canadian Ski-ing. In time to come the Quebec-Kandahar Race may be the blue ribbon event of the year.

We have also received the Australian Ski Book for the year 1931. It is difficult for us to realize that there is excellent ski-ing in Australia from May to November and that ski-ing is becoming one of the major winter sports out there.

We welcome to Canada Capt. A. D. d'Egville, a world famous skier, now settled at Lucerne-in-Quebec. He has already given us the benefit of his unrivaled knowledge and experience and will prove a tower of strength to the Association.

After having successfully edited this Annual and its predecessors for some thirteen years, Mr. H. P. Douglas, our Honorary President, has laid down his pen and his duties have devolved upon the undersigned. Mr. Douglas is a difficult man to follow in any undertaking and the new editor craves the indulgence of his readers. The editing of this one edition makes us realize the extraordinary amount of time and energy which have been so ungrudgingly expended by Mr. Douglas in the past. The Clubs are not always prompt in sending in their reports and this adds to the difficulty of getting the book published before the season opens. Our good friend, Mr. Walter Lovell, was the publisher of this Annual for many years, often at a loss, and his net contribution to ski-ing has in this way alone been very considerable. It was felt that it was unfair to expect Mr. Lovell to continue to bear these losses indefinitely. The publication this year is being undertaken by the Ontario Press.

The Editor's thanks are due to Mr. H. T. Cliff, who is responsible for the advertisements and who cheerfully assumed a large share of the labor of publication; and also to Messrs. F. A. Hall, R. F. Gunn and G. C. Temple, who prepared many drawings and read the proofs.

C. ALLEN SNOWDON.