

through thick forest and on winding trails will live long in the memory of all who took part. It has been said that the course was much too hazardous and that it would be impossible for even a super ski-man to go down without falling. I believe Mr. Johannsen can refute this last statement, but I agree that the present course is more productive of acrobatic than ski-ing tactics in places, and that it should be cleared so that a man could at least crouch without being knocked over by low branches. At one point near the top, on a slope as steep as a jumping hill, I found the only thing to do was to lie back and toboggan, keeping the ski points in contact to obviate the possibility of going both sides of a tree. Tremblant is essentially a wooded course and I would like to see it remain as such. It could be tremendously improved, however, by clearing out the trails near the bottom so that it would be possible to run at a sustained speed.

It is a peculiar fact that the only accident involving an injury of any consequence occurred in the Slalom Race when Durley broke a rib. The course down the mountain was strewn with the wreckage of skis and poles, but produced no more serious bodily harm than a couple of twisted ankles.

The Mont Tremblant race and the Mount Baldy run, to a lesser degree, bring up very forcibly the much discussed question of pole riding. We all agree that this practice in the open, except under exceptional circumstances, is to be discouraged. In Switzerland, where wood running is not common, pole riding has rightly fallen into disrepute and Arnold Lunn in his book, "The Complete Ski Runner," devotes half a chapter to telling why you should not ride your "sticks" and in the remaining half he instructs you how to ride them.

Even in Switzerland it is admitted that under certain conditions stick riding is permissible. There are places in Canada where pole riding is the one and only solution. The Toronto skiers who competed in the Mont Tremblant run were severely handicapped from lack of experience with this technique and if we can believe their publication, "The Ski Runner," they are now taking correspondence courses on this subject.

Downhill racing has come to stay, and, judging from its popularity last winter, we may expect to see an increased interest in this branch of ski-ing from year to year. This is indeed a healthy sign and should go a long way towards improving the standard of ski-ing in Canada.

"CANADIAN CLIMBER"

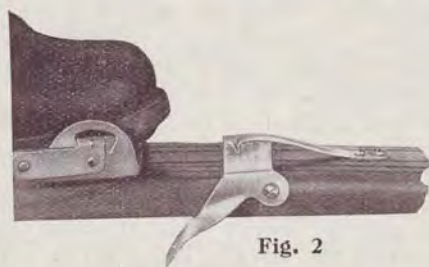


Fig. 2



Fig. 1

THIS ingenious device, Canadian in origin, does away with that "bug-bear" of ski-ing, back slipping when climbing up a hill. This simple, small attachment is screwed to the ski just in front of the foot and when not in use is held level with the top of the ski not interfering with the sliding surface. When required for climbing a latch spring is released, the climber drops and acts in

the same capacity as the old-fashioned creeper allowing the ski to move freely forward but retarding the backward slip. If the climber is as efficient and practical as the distributors claim, it should be a necessary addition to present ski equipment. The Climber may be purchased at any of the sporting goods stores.