

GROUSE MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB

THE SEASON just concluded has proven a rather trying one for our executive, chiefly owing to employment conditions making it necessary for so many members to discontinue their membership. In this regard, however, we were not alone, as practically every ski club on the Coast experienced the same trouble. The weather conditions, too, were against us, the unusually heavy snow-fall necessitating the closing of the Grouse Mountain Highway for two months. However, the committees worked hard and a very successful season resulted.

Members of the executive committee were: D. Holten, President; Miss D. Bridgett and Mr. T. Loutet, Vice-Presidents; Jack Thomas, Secretary; Bill Grant, Treasurer; Doug. Manley, Press Correspondent; Miss F. McCreery, Mr. L. Harrington, R. Nield and G. Harrington, Directors.

Perhaps the greatest step in the progress of our club was its incorporation under the Societies Act of British Columbia in January. With the advise of a legal firm a totally new and up-to-date constitution was drawn up. Our club is proud to be the first ski club in Vancouver to be incorporated.

Ski-ing activities, managed by Louis Harrington, as chairman of sports committee, and Harry Brown, club captain, were a great success. Early in the season, Bob Nield and Gordon Harrington conducted ski-ing classes for beginners. These were seriously attended not only by the novice but by the older skiers. The first competition took place on New Year's Day, when jumping for A and B classes was held on the Big Hill. On New Year's Eve a new departure was attempted, night ski jumping, and met with remarkable success. The hill was lit with flares, and seven jumpers skilfully negotiated it. Numerous races and jumping contests were conducted during the winter, including the annual downhill race from the Peak of Dam Mountain, the Grouse Peak Slalom, and winding up with the Club Championships in April. During the Easter week-end a very successful open tournament was held.

At outside tournaments this season our club skiers did remarkably well. Chiefly among these was Nip Stone, who brought honour to our club by being chosen a member of the Canadian Olympic Ski Team. In the Quebec championships, Nip placed third, jumping 152 feet and only three feet short of the winner. At Lake Placid he had the misfortune of falling on his second jump, which was 201 feet. At East Port, Idaho, Stone placed second, jumping on the most unique hill in the world. This hill starts in the United States and ends in Canada.

At the Pacific Northwest championships at Cle Elum, Wash., O. Swedahl jumped 158 feet and 175 feet to place second. A Watn was sixth in Class A cross-country and E. Wintemute fourth in Class B jumping.

At the Seattle tournament, Ernie Wintemute proved a surprise by winning the Class B jumping, with leaps of 167 feet and 173 feet, probably the longest jumps made by a Class B jumper on the Coast; O. Swedahl placing eighth in Class A jumping, against past and present national champions and members of the last United States Olympic team. Detailed results follow:—

Class A:—Cross-Country, first, A. Watn; second, G. Harrington; jumping, first, N. Stone; second, A. Watn; third, O. Swedahl; combined, first, A. Watn; second, G. Harrington.

Class B:—Cross-Country, first, B. Nield; second, C. Souter; third, Joe Wepsala; jumping, first, J. Wepsala; second, B. Nield; third, J. Taurillard; combined, first, B. Nield; second, J. Wepsala.

Class C:—Cross-Country, first, T. Wintemute; second, S. Body; third, M. Steel; jumping, first, H. Brown; second, S. Body; third, U. Poulter; combined, first, S. Body; second, M. Steel.

Juniors:—Cross-Country, first, G. Loutet; second, J. Cornborough; third, H. Andrews; jumping, first, H. Andrews; second, J. Arbuckle; third, J. Cornborough; combined, first, G. Loutet; second, J. Cornborough.

Ladies:—Cross-Country, first, M. Loutet; second, D. Bridgett; third, E. Pebbles.

WINNIPEG SKI CLUB

BEFORE the start of the season the club was faced by the necessity of making extensive repairs to its two jumping hills at River Park. Though the number of active skiers in Winnipeg has increased tremendously in recent years, the financial fortunes of the club have shown no tendency to rise in proportion and throughout the season the committee had a hard struggle to meet the cost of these

repairs, little enough as they were. A pathetic incident was the placing of two collection boxes among the spectators during the progress of one of the two jumping competitions. These yielded a gross return of forty cents. Jumping received a further setback owing to the insufficiency of snow until the middle of January. On the other hand, the activities of the club were widened

in other directions. Early in the winter a series of picnics was arranged, each of which provided members with a hike of several miles followed by an opportunity of trying out downhill turns and swings on the bank of the Red River.

The enthusiasm of our president, Major H. Westmorland, was again responsible for a slalom, held in February, and appropriately won by the chief instigator. Owing to the discouraging lack of vertical relief, the race consisted of two runs over each of three short courses. A 5-kilometre and a long distance race were also held. A feature of the competitive season was a series of ladies' events.

Nels Jorstad again competed in the Western Canada championship, which he so narrowly missed winning the previous year. His hard luck continued, as indisposition prevented him from showing his best form.

In March three members, including our president, made a trip to the Rockies, where

they skied in the Yoho Valley and in the neighbourhood of Lake Louise. At the beginning of May two of this party, A. A. McCoubrey and Roger Neave, together with Ferris Neave and Campbell Secord, made a second expedition to the upper Yoho Valley, whence they left the first ski tracks on the magnificent peaks and glaciers of this district. This party was favoured by excellent weather conditions and were able to make the first ski ascents of four peaks over 10,000 feet (Mounts Vice-President, Collie, Gordon and Olive) and one of 9,000 feet (Yoho Peak). They returned greatly impressed by the potentialities of the district for the ski-runner.

Winners of the competitive events:—*Jumping*—Dr. Bruce Hill Cup, H. Eddy; Bungalow Cup, K. Stene; *5-Kilometre Race*—N. Jorstad; *Long Distance Race*—N. Jorstad; *Slalom Race*—H. Westmorland; *Ladies' Jumping*—M. Metcalfe; *Ladies' Slalom Race*—P. Jackson; *Ladies' Flat Race*—L. Kirk.

VANCOUVER WINTER SPORTS CLUB

THE PAST SEASON has been the most successful this Club has enjoyed since it was organized during the winter of 1927-28. During the whole of last season, December 1 to May 15, there was plenty of snow, so much so that the road to our ski-ing grounds on Grouse Mountain, 4,000 feet above sea level and one hour's drive from the heart of the city, was blocked for several weeks, the quality of snow being better than in the past two years.

From the time this Club was started the members have been interested in downhill and slalom racing and the principal event of the season as far as this Club was concerned was the running of the first slalom race to be held in British Columbia.

The Hudson Bay Company presented a cup for this race which was open to members of Vancouver ski clubs. The organization of the event was entrusted to our Club. The course chosen was a rather difficult one and, on account of the nature of the ground, about the only one available. The first part of the race was over fairly steep ground, thickly wooded, and the flagging took full advantage of this combination. The vertical drop from start to finish was approximately 560 feet with a gradient, in parts, of about thirty-two degrees, and the writer, who has seen several courses in Switzerland, considers that for its distance the race was run over a very difficult piece of ground.

The entry was not large, most of the competitors being members of our Club and of the Grouse Mountain Ski Club with one entrant from the Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club. The results were as follows:—First, H. M. Davidson, V.W.S.C., 1 min., 6 sec.; second,

K. H. S. Hague, V.W.S.C., 1 min., 8 sec.; third, R. Neild, Grouse Mountain Ski Club, 1 min., 59 sec.

The times given are the average of twice over the course and the three best times were made by members of our Club, one of whom lost a ski and was disqualified.

During the season several impromptu downhill races were held and the enthusiasm shown for this type of ski-ing and the improvement in efficiency of many of our members were most gratifying. It is interesting to note that the pioneering work in downhill and slalom racing in these parts, during the past three years, has been done by H. M. Davidson with one or two others in our Club and last season's activities proved that it is fast becoming generally popular in Vancouver's ski-ing haunts.

As regards equipment, the best times in the race were made by competitors using skis locally manufactured by H. M. Davidson, which are laminated and somewhat broader than the ordinary racing ski. In practice they turn out to be very light and springy and appear to be ideal for this type of country where proficiency in the art of turning adds materially to the enjoyment of negotiating our rather steep and thickly wooded slopes.

We are looking forward to a very good season during the coming winter and are building an addition to the Club House to accommodate our growing membership.

It is sincerely hoped that any members of Eastern clubs visiting Vancouver will look us up as it would be a pleasure to show them the ski-ing up on Grouse Mountain.