

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE Canadian Amateur Ski Association is making rapid progress under the energetic leadership of W. B. Thompson, and many new Clubs have joined as regular and associate members. The Zone idea is working out splendidly and the member clubs are benefitting directly by the help and guidance of the Zone Committees. It pleases me particularly that the old Revelstoke Ski Club is now back in the fold again and pledges its loyal support. On the Coast the situation is still unsettled. Nels Nelsen, as President of the Western-Canada Amateur Ski Association, heads a group of some fourteen clubs, while R. J. Verne presides over the Amateur Ski Federation of Western Canada, numbering some seven clubs. It is quite obvious that a situation such as this is unsatisfactory to all concerned, and the only solution is for all the Western Ski Clubs to get together, reorganize and join the C.A.S.A. in the fine work they are doing for organized amateur skiing in Canada. We are hopeful of bringing this about and are ready to co-operate in all reasonable ways, but the next move must come from the West; we can do no more.

THROUGH its recent alliance with the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada (A.A.U.) the C.A.S.A. has greatly strengthened its prestige and authority in Canada; while its membership in Federation Internationale de Ski (F.I.S.) gives it sole recognition abroad as the governing amateur ski body in Canada. From the articles of Alliance between A.A.U. and C.A.S.A. I quote as follows:—

1. The Canadian Amateur Ski Association shall be recognized as the governing body for amateur skiing in the Dominion of Canada. It shall, in regard to this sport, have full control, and be the arbiter of all disputes, differences or questions arising in connection with it.
2. The Canadian Amateur Ski Association shall accept and abide by the definition of an amateur as defined by the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.
3. The Canadian Amateur Ski Association shall notify the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada of all suspensions or disqualifications made by it.
4. Reinstatements for violation of Clauses "A" and "B" of the Amateur definition of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada shall only be made by the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada and not by the Canadian Amateur Ski Association.
5. The Canadian Amateur Ski Association shall require that all competitors under its jurisdiction in Provincial and Dominion Championships, and all competitions where gate receipts or a collection is taken, be registered as amateurs with the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.

THE 1936 Olympic Winter Games will be held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, February 7 to 16. The Executive of the C.A.S.A. are already organizing, well in advance, to assure the sending to these Olympic Games the best possible ski team from Canada. Of first importance is the question of money, and based on our experience in 1928 each competitor must be financed to the extent of at least six hundred dollars, and, in addition, funds will be required for training and general expenses in Canada. It is hoped to send abroad a team of not less than six men, also a capable manager. To raise this money, we are now starting "The Olympic Trust Fund," subscriptions to be obtained through the Ski Clubs, Zone Committees, and the interested public throughout Canada. The Technical Board, under whose sole jurisdiction the selecting and training of the team comes, will soon send out to all clubs information as to the selection of candidates for the 1936 Canadian Olympic Ski Team.

MY GOOD friend Sydney Dawes has earned the sincere thanks of all Montreal skiers by his splendid work in connection with the new downhill trails and ski hills in the Laurentians described in this issue. Not only did he personally collect a large sum of money for the work, but also spent many week-ends personally looking after the construction. Harry Pangman, Herman Johannsen, and others, also gave a large amount of their time to this work last summer. To Mr. Dawes in particular, and to the generous friends who made this development possible, we extend our congratulations and hearty thanks. As a result the new Quebec-Kandahar course on Mont Tremblant gives us an International Downhill racing course that compares favourably with any in the world.

ONE of the outstanding performers last year in Europe was young Peter Robinson of the Toronto Ski Club. Robinson ran second to Willi Steuri of the F.I.S. Swiss Team in the Kandahar Decenary Meet, at Murren, both men breaking the course record; Robinson beating the famous Zogg, whose wins this year include the F.I.S. Downhill, the Swiss Downhill and the Parsenn Derby. His jumping was also remarkable as he holds the record for the New Adelboden hill—one of the largest in Europe—and was second to Kaufmann, one of the best jumpers in Central Europe. In the Arlberg-Kandahar, Robinson was thirteenth in a field of 116. A wonderful season for a boy of eighteen.

Young Percy Bott, a lad of sixteen, winning the Canadian Jumping Championship this year at Three Rivers, was also a magnificent achievement, and it would appear that in skiing, as in other sports, the young generation is rapidly taking the laurels from the older men, and that we are developing in Canada a crowd of youngsters that will show up well in future international competitions.

THE C.P.R. and C.N.R. announce that effective December 1 ski may be checked throughout Canada, without surcharge, as regular baggage. A single pair of ski being taken as 15 pounds on regular baggage allowance, the railways reserving the right, whenever traffic conditions demand, to have passengers handle their own ski as hand baggage. This is good news indeed as it does away with the extra charge on ski that has been in effect up to now, and this action will be greatly appreciated by all.

WE PUBLISH a letter from Major A. C. Snively on the C.A.S.A. Tests. I personally agree with him, and at the several meetings of the Committee appointed by the C.A.S.A. to draw up the new official tests, Captain A. H. d'Egville and myself objected strongly to any jumping test being included, but we were overruled by the majority members. I ask that this important matter be again considered by the Technical Board.

WE CANNOT hope or expect much improvement in the technique of ski-ing, especially among beginners, until ski schools in charge of competent instructors are established. The ski classes now held in all European ski centres are attended by thousands of beginners and many experts. There has been worked out and adopted a standard curriculum and I understand that practically all the important schools are conducted along the same lines. In Montreal we have been fortunate in having the Duke of Leuchtenberg, a graduate of Hans Schnider's famous school, a delightful man and a fine instructor, conduct a series of ski classes. The results have been really remarkable, his pupils, young and old, at the end of their course showing thorough knowledge of running, turns, etc., and the ability to put them into practical use. If we could only get properly qualified instructors over here, they would be able to make a good income from their winter ski classes.

I HAVE been reading with great pleasure, three splendidly edited and illustrated 1934 Ski Year Books. "The British Ski Year Book"—Arnold Lunn, Editor—is, as usual, a publication full of interesting articles and illustrations embracing all branches of the sport everywhere. The Equipment section, edited by Gerald Seligman, is most comprehensive, describing all the new ski equipment, clothing, waxes, etc. The quarterly "Ski Notes & Queries" also edited by Mr. Seligman and published by The Ski Club of Great Britain, is a delightful booklet and keeps one fully advised as to what goes on in the ski world.

"The Australian and New Zealand Ski Year Book"—Stewart Jamieson, Editor—improves year by year and after reading the last copy one is really amazed that in those far away Southern countries skiing is so well organized and making such rapid advances.

"The U.S. Eastern Amateur Ski Association Annual" again appears, after an absence of five years, under the editorship of Nathaniel L. Goodrich, who is to be congratulated on his excellent

production. Certainly down around Boston and throughout their adjacent mountains Downhill and Slalom racing is tremendously popular and firmly established, and as we so well know by experience, they are developing experts who will show well in any company. Of particular interest is Mr. Dudley's article "The Coming Winter Olympics"; and the capable American General Olympic Committee now functioning assures a representative U.S. team.

AS ONE of the representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, I again solicit memberships to that great organization. To those living in Canada, the principal incentive is a copy of Mr. Lunn's wonderful annual publication, the "British Ski Year Book," and their quarterly "Ski Notes & Queries," edited by Mr. Seligman, a booklet that should be read by all interested in the sport. The subscription is ten shillings and anyone wishing to join may communicate with me at 1209 Aldred Building, Montreal.

TO BRIAN MEREDITH, Associate Editor, the greater part of the success of this publication is due, as while I furnished the copy, he, with his practical experience, designed and superintended the make-up. We are all greatly disappointed that more advertising was not sold as on this depends directly the life of the Year Book. In looking over the publications of Great Britain, Australian-New Zealand and the United States, I am struck with the great support they enjoy through the large amount of general advertising they publish, in marked contrast with the situation in Canada. The publishers, John Lovell & Son, Limited, have taken unusually keen interest in this Year Book and I thank them for their co-operation, also all our contributors and advertisers.

H. P. DOUGLAS

Associate Editorial Comment

THE EDITOR'S potentialities as a liar are well illustrated in the first couple of lines of the above paragraph. Still, he's a damn pleasant liar, and though as his associate and editorial devil I deserve little credit, I have earned my quota of blame. I have butchered whole paragraphs of peroration in the interests of space. Photographs not likely to reproduce properly were condemned. And though I introduced "British Ski Year Book" orthography, using "ski" in both singular and plural, and "ski-ing," hyphenated, every variation is represented. Mr. Putnam even writes Kristy.

The C.A.S.A. have appointed me chairman of the education and promotion committee, and Mr. Douglas asks me to explain what I am going to do about it. In the few lines remaining I can only reveal that I shall attempt to facilitate the press relations of the association and its member clubs and later initiate other forms of educational work in the interests of the sport. Newspapers are genuinely interested and will help if given the news, when it is news, and in proper news form. In this way much promotional and instructional material can be kept before the public.

BRIAN MEREDITH