



The Misses Françoise and Helene McNichols, Penguin Ski Club  
Winners of the Garmisch Cup for 1939

## Canadian Women's Closed Championship

By Hilda Turner

**E**N ROUTE this bright February morning to the Seigniory Club between Montreal and Ottawa for the Dominion Women's Championships. The train pauses briefly at picturesque little villages with names like St. Scholastique, St. Hermas, and finally we reach Montebello (where the Seigniory Club lives) around noon.

The ski crowd mills excitedly about the platform, clutching armfuls of skis, ruck-sacks and other luggage. There is Dorothy Michaels of the Ski Club of Montreal who finished so creditably at the Lake Placid Meet the week before; attractive Mrs. Stirling Maxwell already planning her ski tour to the Canadian Rockies in March, little Yvonne Godmer, Laurentian born and bred star of the St. Sauveur Ski Club. Interesting to speculate who will carry away the Holt-Wilson Trophy and infinitely more so when we met the formidable looking Toronto and Ottawa skiers and the only entrant from the Canadian West.

Our greeting at the log station house is the yelping of the dog teams, hitched to the most intriguing two-runner sleighs heaped with robes. Into the high, horse-drawn sleigh we climb and go jingling off in the sub-zero air to the Log Chateau, about ten minutes' drive. Through massive gates, past a uniformed officer, up a winding drive and my first view of the vast star-

shaped log pile that miraculously does not blot the landscape. When I saw the Log Chateau, the frozen sweep of the Ottawa river, enormous snow weighted fir trees, fantastically shaped icicles hanging from log eaves, felt the keen air and the sunlight, I was completely lost to winter in Quebec province.

There is nothing rustic about the Seigniory Club interior except the log walls and they are curried and well manicured. The circular lounge has what is surely the biggest stone fireplace in the world with fires crackling on all six sides. Bedrooms are as warm as toast and the dining room, where all the cheery skiers sit down together, has a fountain in the middle.

But to get on to the ski championships. Right after lunch today, Saturday, February 19, to be exact, we all piled into taxis and open sleighs and drove the five miles to Valley Farm where the downhill race was held. The hill isn't long but it is tricky, the turns are sharp and the sudden steep schusses take all you've got in the way of skill. There were a good many spills and several broken skis but thank goodness no bones broken, though Peggy Johansen of McGill gave her ankle a jolt that put her out of the running and kept her limping for a while. We were all excited at the end of our second runs, hurried figuring of running times gave us a pretty good idea that Pat Paré of the Montreal Penguins was the winner. When the official times were posted during the evening, there was great rejoicing, Pat had won in 2 minutes, 0.4 seconds, and Françoise McNichols of the same club and Dot Michaels of the Ski Club of Montreal were just three and four seconds behind her, respectively.

Sunday morning and snowing hard, piling into sleighs we drove in the storm to the new slalom hill three miles away and used today for the first time in competition. During the past couple of years the competitors in the Seigniory Club's Annual Women's Inter-City Ski Meet have felt the usual slalom hill at Valley Farm was a bit sissy, but just let me hear anyone say sissy about this new hill—it's a real one and takes all your skill and technique to say nothing of what it took of my breath and nerve.

The slalom race was grand to watch and I was lucky enough to be among the first to run

it which gave me a chance to see the real skiers show how it should be done. Gertrude Wepsala, the champion from Vancouver and the only Westerner to compete, who had had bad luck after a spill in the downhill races, gave a performance which took the breath of the assembled crowd. She simply flew down that hill, taking the flags just as close as possible and making the first run in 48.1/5 seconds, six and three fifths better than her nearest rival, little Yvonne Godmer of St. Sauveur, P.Q. For the second run the course was changed and made somewhat easier and again Gertie ran it beautifully in thirty-nine seconds. Vera Freudenberg, the only FIS entry, who hails from Vienna and has an enviable record among women skiers in Europe, had a perfect second run, beat-

Trophy for the third consecutive year with their number one team composed of Pat Paré, Lorna Meagher, Francoise McNichols and Gertrude Mann. Their second team took second position with McGill University girls in third place. The Garmisch Trophy which was held last year by Gladys and Janet Atkin, sisters of Banff, Alberta, also went to the Penguins. It is for a team of two with the best combined times in slalom and downhill races. It is still in the hands of sisters, but Easterners now, for this year Helene and Francoise McNichols won it with their club mates, Pat Paré and Gertrude Mann, running them a close second. The trophy was donated for team competition by the Canadian Ladies' 1936 Olympic Team.



Gertrude Wepsala, winning the Holt-Wilson Trophy

ing the champion by three-fifths of a second with a time of 38.2/5 seconds.

There was much speculation during the drive back to the Log Chateau, as to what the final results would show—would Gertie's slalom running put her in the lead or would our own Dot Michaels, who had run well both days, beat her out? We hadn't long to wait before the official times were posted. Gertrude Wepsala, Vancouver, first, the winner of the Women's Dominion Ski Championship and the Holt-Wilson trophy for the second consecutive year with a total combined time ratio of 213.5 and Dorothy Michaels of the Ski Club of Montreal just 2.4 seconds behind.

Prizes were presented in the main lounge of the Log Chateau. The Penguin Club of Montreal was well represented at the trophy giving, winning the Seignior Club Inter-City Team

The meet was a huge success from beginning to end and though as an Easterner I had hoped to see the coveted Holt-Wilson Trophy and the Canadian Combined title come East for a change, still I was glad that the diminutive defender from Vancouver won it. She had tremendous staying power and pluck, skiing with a badly frozen toe during the two days with never a complaint. Montreal skiers certainly took their share of the honours and the Penguin Ski Club, McGill Ski Club, Ski Club of Montreal and Park Toboggan and Ski Club can feel great pride in the ski-ing ability of the members who took part.

The Toronto Ski Club, the Ottawa Ski Club and the Norland Ski Club of Ottawa were all represented and though their numbers were small compared to the turnout from Montreal they placed well up in both downhill and slalom.

It was fun—the whole thing, and I for one am looking forward not only to next year's Dominion meet but also to a return to the beautiful Seignior Club for the annual Women's Inter-City Ski Meet.

## DOWNHILL

1 P. Paré, <i>Penguins</i> .....	2:00.4
2 F. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	2:05.4
3 D. Michaels, <i>Ski Club of Montreal</i> .....	2:04.4
4 G. Mann, <i>Penguins</i> .....	2:05.0
5 H. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	2:05.2
6 A. MacFarlane, <i>Ski Club of Montreal</i> .....	2:07.1

## SLALOM

1 G. Wepsala, <i>Vancouver</i> .....	1:27.1
2 V. Freudenfeld, <i>Park Toboggan and Ski</i> .....	1:55.2
3 Y. Godmer, <i>St. Sauveur</i> .....	1:40.0
4 D. Michaels, <i>Ski Club of Montreal</i> .....	1:41.1
5 F. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	1:46.1
6 H. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	1:51.5

## COMBINED OPEN

1 G. Wepsala, <i>Vancouver</i> .....	215.5
2 D. Michaels, <i>Ski Club of Montreal</i> .....	215.9
3 V. Freudenfeld, <i>Park Toboggan and Ski</i> .....	218.1
4 F. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	219.0
5 P. Paré, <i>Penguins</i> .....	225.2
6 H. McNichols, <i>Penguins</i> .....	225.8

## GARMISCH TROPHY

Teams of three, best two to count.

1 H. McNichols, F. McNichols, Mrs. N. C. D. Mactaggart, <i>Penguins</i> .....	401.7
2 P. Paré, G. Mann, L. Meagher, <i>Penguins</i> ..	405.8
3 Mrs. J. Westman, G. Parr, B. Carter, <i>Ottawa</i> ..	467.6
4 Mrs. H. S. Maxwell, H. Davis, <i>Penguins</i> ..	524.2
5 J. Scrimger, B. Smith, <i>McGill</i> .....	613.1
6 B. Brooks, B. Burland, <i>Ski Club of Montreal</i> ..	668.1
7 J. Wright, B. Norsworthy, B. Lamb, <i>McGill</i> ..	800.9

## INTER-CITY TROPHY

Teams of four

1 Penguins No. 1., P. Paré, L. Meagher, F. McNichols, G. Mann, downhill—100; slalom—100; combined—200.	
2 Penguins No. 2., H. Davis, Mrs. Mactaggart, H. McNichols, Mrs. Maxwell, downhill—88.75; slalom—79.69; combined—168.44.	
3 McGill, F. McLeod, B. Norsworthy, B. Smith, J. Scrimger, downhill—90.99; slalom—56.25. combined—147.24.	

## Sixth Annual Interscholastic Meet

By Jim Houghton

THE Sixth Annual Interscholastic Ski Meet was held on February 3 and 4, 1939, by the Red Birds Ski Club of Montreal. There was an entry of 124 boys representing fifteen of the schools of Montreal. Westmount No. 1 team repeated its performance of former years to capture the Interscholastic trophy, taking first places in all events but the cross-country.

The jumping event, which was held on the Alec Olsen Jump in Montreal, was won by the Westmount team of K. Porter, A. Riddell, J. Foster and Jo Moore, with the individual honours going to K. Porter of that team.

On Saturday, the remaining events were held at St. Sauveur, a special train being run for the occasion by the Canadian National Railways; some three hundred school children made the trip.

The cross-country race, about three and one-half miles in length, was run in the morning under excellent conditions. Although the event was won by R. Olsen of West Hill High School, the Westmount team again managed to win the team event, the team consisting of D. Dougherty, K. Porter, J. Moore and D. Staniforth.

Immediately after lunch, the downhill race was held on the St. Sauveur trail. In this event, Westmount High again captured the honours, with K. Porter making his second victory of the meet.

Porter scored his third victory in a stiff slalom, set by Jim Houghton, to lead his team to a victory in the final event, thus completing the clean sweep made by the Westmount team.

The individual combined honours also went to K. Porter of Westmount, with three first places to his credit.

All credit for the success of the meet is due to those members of the Red Birds Ski Club, who so willingly gave their time and energy to promote a further interest in skiing among the schools.

## TEAM STANDING

	Points
1 Westmount No. 1 .....	582.1
2 Westhill .....	565.0
3 Westmount No. 2 .....	562.1
4 Lower Canada No. 2 .....	552.5
5 Lower Canada No. 1 .....	558.8

## INDIVIDUAL COMBINED RESULTS

1 K. Porter, <i>Westmount</i> .....	586.1
2 R. Olsen, <i>Westhill</i> .....	564.0
3 D. Staniforth, <i>Westmount</i> .....	557.6
4 P. Pare, <i>St. Leo's</i> .....	557.5
5 J. Moore, <i>Westmount</i> .....	292.4

## Penguin Ski Club

DURING the year there were nine major events, four of which were women's events. They were:—

1—St. Sauveur Ski Club at St. Sauveur, January 1 and 2. Won by Peggy Johannsen, McGill Ski Club.

2—St. Jovite Ski Club on Taschereau Trail, Mont Tremblant, February 12. Winners of Women's event, Class B—Peggy Johannsen, McGill Ski Club; Class C—Pamela Kemp, Penguin Ski Club.

3—Red Birds Ski Club on Kandahar Trail, Mont Tremblant, March 5. Winner of Women's event, Gertrude Mann, Penguin Ski Club.

4—St. Sauveur Ski Club, Red Birds Trail, March 12. Winner of Women's event—Lorna Meagher, Penguin Ski Club.