

OMINECA SKI CLUB

By LYSTER MULVANY

THE holding of the British Columbia Championship Ski Tournament at Burns Lake was, of course, the main event of interest for the 1929-30 season of the Omineca Ski Club.

Skiers of international reputation competed keenly, and the Club Captain, Pete Sandnes, was fortunate in successfully defending his title and winning the Hanson Cup for the second time, thus becoming its owner.

The 50-Kilometre Cross-Country Race was over a fair course starting from the Bostrom Ranch at Grassy Plains, crossing Francois Lake and over the Bald Hill to the finish at Burns Lake. In this event nearly all the ski clubs of the West had entered their best.

Snow conditions were fair, with an occasional snow flurry, making the coffee stands—scattered at six mile intervals along the course—doubly welcome.

Eric Sandstrom, of the Viking Club of Vancouver, won the race in 4 hours 35 minutes, with Paul Gotaas of Camrose, second, in 4 hours 44 minutes, Axel Sneis of Hollyburn, third, in 4 hours 49 minutes, Pete Sandnes, Omineca Club, fourth, in 4 hours 52 minutes, O. Fiskum, Omineca Ski Club, fifth, in 5 hours flat, with Ivor Knudsen of Princeton, 50 seconds behind. Karl Lindaas, Omineca Ski Club, 5 hours 5 minutes, Halvor Petterson, Grouse Mountain, 5 hours 15 minutes, this being his first entry in adult company.

In the Class B race over the same course, Einar Fiskum first, in 5 hours 43 minutes; Bill Schjelderup second, in 5 hours 45 minutes; and R. J. Verne, Vice-President of the C.A.S.A., third in 5 hours 47 minutes.

In the Class A Combined event, Pete Sandnes won by a fraction, annexing the Hanson Cup, the Malkin Cup and the Birks Medal with Axel Sneiss second, Ivor Knudsen third, Tommy Tapping fourth, and Halvor Petterson fifth.

In the Free-for-all (11 kilometres) Cross-Country Race, Axel Sneiss took first place, Pete Sandnes second place.

In the Class B Combined event, Dan Trousdell of the Omineca Ski Club won the Club Cup and first place, with Jack Abramson of Grouse Mountain Ski Club, second, and Bud Brunell of Omineca Ski Club, third.

First in the Class B Jumping went to Bobby Linbourne of Revelstoke, with his running mate Tommy Tapping second.

The Ladies Cross-Country Race was won by Miss Gertrude Wahman, who handles her skis as carefully as she does the finances of the Omineca Ski Club of which she is the treasurer; second, Miss I. Marshall; third, Ella Sorli; Miss Irene Smith unfortunately mistook the course and was disqualified although finishing among the winners.

The Club Secretary and Carnival Queen, Gerty Wahman, also won the Ladies Jumping Contest with Jean Linton, second.

In the Class A Novice, Taylor Jensen led the field with Tommy Jeffrey second.

The Class B Novice Race was won by Bun Smith with Bob Reid a close second.

The entertainment of the visiting skiers was supposed to be the office of the Ski Club, but the "Lorelei Club," composed of the ladies of the Lakes District, the Merchants Association and the Board of Trade came to their assistance, and every visitor from outside clubs congratulated the management, and expressed a keen appreciation of the hospitable manner in which they were welcomed.

The most arduous duties were probably those of the Housing Committee, and it is to their credit that a crowd far exceeding the expectations of the the Omineca Ski Club was so well taken care of.

To the Rev. Hinchcliffe of the Church of England, and to the Rev. Ashford of the Union Church, many thanks are due, both rectory and parsonage being opened to those unable to procure accommodation.

We, of the West find that the Ski Annual has been of great help, and in one of the articles of that splendid sportsman, the late Mr. J. B. Marden, he remarked regarding the rough going in his Eastern ski experiences.

In the southern part of our Lakes District principally Ootsa, White Sail and Eulsuk Lakes, where the hills attain a modest 6,000 feet, are many long slopes, carrying for miles, utterly devoid of timber or brush, where any choice of grade may be made and where the snow lingers to sufficient depth until late June, and for the more intrepid skier are ranges where the snow is perpetual.

The caribou feeding range is the playground of some of our most enthusiastic club members, such as Schjelderup, Pete Sandnes, Nysven, Trousdell and Brunell of Burns Lake and Norman Schreiber or Bill McNeil of Ootsa Lake, British Columbia.

Anyone wishing a trip where they may slalom to their heart's content may arrange dates by corresponding with the Omineca Ski Club, the itinerary being as follows:—Canadian National Railway to Burns Lake, British Columbia; motor to Ootsa Lake, 42 miles; motor boat to any adjacent range, 10 to 200 miles; trails innumerable to the land of June snow (3 to 5 miles.)

CAMROSE SKI CLUB

THE ski-ing season 1929-30 was a very successful one for the Camrose Ski Club. Our ski hill has no scaffold so the boys have had no training in jumping for the past three years, but in spite of that they have been doing very well. The snow conditions throughout the whole season were also very poor.

The Club have not held a tournament for the last three years on account of insufficient funds for the erection of a new tower, but we fully understand that the Club cannot exist without a ski hill, and are hoping for a good year soon to enable us to get an up-to-date tower.

In spite of this drawback our boys did remarkably well last season at the different tournaments. The Western Canadian champion long distance ski runner, P. Gotaas, came second in Burns Lake, B.C. 50-kilometre race; he also got the cup for the third time in the Jasper Park 30-mile race. J. Nordmoe, the Canadian all-round champion, gave a good account of himself by finishing third in the Western Canadian Championship at Revelstoke, close behind first and second; in Banff he captured first in jumping and combined, and also the prize for best style. At Ottawa he again won the Canadian all-round championship for the second successive time for his Club and the West. He was also awarded the first-class gold test badge of the Association due to his performances at the last two Dominion Championship meets.

APRIL AT MOUNT ASSINIBOINE

By G. CAMERON STOCKAND

THE last mile of the steep climb up the pass had been sweaty, strenuous ski-ing in a fall of fresh spring snow, but at that, it was far more pleasant than the raging blizzard that stung our faces and momentarily caught our breaths as we rounded the final high shoulder and attained the summit. We stood resting on our sticks, panting for breath, and looked out on a veritable sea of dead white—the white of deep, wind-smoothed drifts, and the opaque whiteness of swirling, snow-filled air which effectually hid from view all landmarks save a few scattered timberline larches close at hand. Our location was a total mystery to me until Cliff spoke:—