

petitions at Banff and Jasper in these events did not get a chance to demonstrate their endurance at home. Below are names of the winners at this year's tournament:—

CLASS A

1st, J. Nordmoe, Camrose, Alta.; 2nd, O. Ronning, Edgerton, Alta.; 3rd, M. Liheim, Edgerton, Alta.; 4th, H. Kyseth, Camrose, Alta.; 5th, R. Sanders, Camrose, Alta.; 6th, L. Gravrock, Bawlf, Alta.; 7th, S. Haakonstad, Edmonton, Alta.; 8th, T. Larson, Camrose, Alta.

CLASS B

1st, Ed. Maloney, Camrose, Alta.; 2nd, F. Manning, Camrose, Alta.

CLASS C

1st, B. Olsen, Camrose, Alta.; 2nd, Rod Burgar, Camrose, Alta.; 3rd, L. Miles, Edgerton, Alta.; 4th, Chas. Smith, Camrose, Alta.

I. A. CHRISTENSON, *Secretary*,

THE OMINECA SKI CLUB

EARLY in December, 1927, an impromptu gathering of timber cruisers and trappers settled down for a comfortable evening in the cozy sitting room of the Omineca Hotel. The personnel of the party was decidedly cosmopolitan, with a slight Scandinavian majority, and in the course of the evening the matter of forming a Ski Club was discussed, decided on, and a general meeting called for October 15 in the Community Hall at Burn's Lake.

On that occasion ski enthusiasts arrived from all points in the Lakes District. The election of officers and the usual routine work was speedily disposed of, followed by a most enjoyable dance.

The officers for the season 1927-28 were as follows: *Honorary President*, Olof Hanson; *President*, Lyster Mulvany; *First Vice-President*, John Berg; *Second Vice-President*, Pit Sandnes; *Secretary*, Ken Warner; *Treasurer*, A. M. Ruddy.

The day following the meeting, Pit Sandnes, chairman of the Grounds Committee, located the site for the jump half a mile from the centre of the town of Burns Lake, where a crescent shaped bridge forms an admirable stand for the spectators.

The following day-break showed Sandnes and Espelin, with axe and saw, clearing the ground and topping the trees gradually to the crest of the hill, carrying up their tower to the very tops of the loftiest spruce and pine, and after a week's strenuous work the jump was in readiness for a snow-fall.

A smaller jump was cleared for the junior members, but quickly earned their contempt, and they sought a natural hill that was steeper and of their own choosing. A new and speedier jump is contemplated for the Fall season of 1928, as the present one is too short and slow.

The initial Ski Tournament was a purely local affair, but brought a crowd that taxed the accommodation of the embryo city to the limit.

St. Valentine's Day will be perpetuated by the Omineca Ski Club for their annual jumping events, with two additional days of ski sports, hockey matches, snow shoe and dog team races, although the ski is surely superseding the snow shoe, except in the early part of the winter, not only in sport, but with both timber cruiser and trapper.

We were fortunate in having ideal weather on February 14. Snow conditions were perfect, with fifteen degrees of frost. The program was too

long for a one-day tournament, and the sun had sunk behind the ski hill before the last bugle sounded and Sandnes had taken off for his beautiful exhibition jump.

Everything went with a swing, and the onlookers, many of whom had never seen a ski jump before, were enthralled.

The principal trophies were as follows: The Olof Hanson Cup, to be won twice in the Class A combined event before becoming the property of the successful competitor at the annual events, and the name of each year's winner to be engraved on the cup. The J. C. Brady Cup, for the Class D



HANSON CHALLENGE CUP.
Omineca Ski Club, Burns Lake, B.C

Cross-Country Run; the Birks Cup for the Class C Cross-Country Run, to be won on the same terms as the Olof Hanson Cup; and the McLennan-McFeely Cup to be won by the club member holding the best record in combined events for the 1927-28 season, with Omineca Ski Club medals for first and second in all events, and a good list of other prizes.

The Class A Cross-Country Run was flagged out by V. Schjelderup the day before the meet. Being a B.C.L.S. and also a Norwegian, when he stated

that the distance was nine miles, one may depend that they were all there and the going not too easy. Ivor Fosland finished first in 1 hour 4 minutes 30 seconds, with his old schoolmate Emil Skarland finishing 1 minute 45 seconds behind him. Knute Nysven came third just 18 seconds later with Pit Sandnes touching his ski at the finish line. The last half mile was through a rolling, open country, with two creek crossings through willow, in plain view of the spectators.

There were no entries for the Class B event, but the Class C Cross-Country run brought a good field to face the starters. It was run over the Class A course and won by Haaken Maydol in 1 hour 15 minutes 45 seconds with Schjelderup second in 1 hour 18 minutes 25 seconds, and John Berg third 2 minutes later.

The Class D Cross-Country Run (five miles) was won by Oke Stanyer in 1 hour 4 minutes 20 seconds; T. Julseth was second, 1 hour 9 minutes 15 seconds; Bud Brunell and Dan Trousdell tying for third place.

Class E Cross-Country Run for boys under fourteen was won by John Gerow in 1 hour 7 minutes; Maynard Nourse was second and Walter Smith third.

The afternoon sports commenced with the Ladies Cross-Country Run, the three miles being made by Gertrude Wahman, in 19 minutes, 5 seconds, with Kathleen Godwin second in 19 minutes 45 seconds, Ella Sorli and Hulda Statterstrom tying for third.

And then the crowd got all the thrills they wanted. The Club was fortunate in having amongst its members Messrs. Fosland and Skarland, both of whom had made a special study of judging ski events in Oslo. The clarion notes of a bugle, and Pit Sandnes led off. A perfect take-off, with the air absolutely still. His form was good, but weakened by a week's sojourn in the local hospital, whence he had practically broken out in order to compete. He was unable to make a standing jump, but won the Ruddy Special Prize for the longest exhibition jump at the finish. This after competing in the Class A Cross-Country Run and the Class A Jump.

Knute Nysven had only his running skis, but all his jumps were good and his landings perfect, the judges giving him 18.50, his form being excellent, and his standing jump of 97 feet the best of the day. O. Moen drew second prize as he stood at his 95 feet jump.

Knute Nysven was adjudged the winner of the Hanson Cup for 1928, Moen second and Sandnes third.

No records were kept of the novice and junior jumps, as being our initial tournament the performance was mediocre, although it certainly lost no entertainment value from the spectators' view-point on that account.

The thanks of the Omineca Ski Club are due to Mr. Rudolph J. Verne of the Hollyburn Ski Club for his helpful advice to our infant organization, and the West are honoured indeed by his selection as a Vice-President of the C.A.S.A. We hope to be with him in his efforts to bring the East and West closer by the development of the king of winter sports. We are aiming high for we intend bringing the Sir Henry Thornton Perpetual Trophy to Burns Lake for a twelve months' visit.

Speaking of Sir Henry, I might mention that he may almost be called a Burns Laker as at an Indian Potlatch held here during one of his visits, a quorum of prominent chiefs of the Babine tribe constituted him a full chief of all the tribes of the Lakes Districts.

The ski season in the Lakes District may almost be said to be perpetual to the enthusiast, and even in the town the small boys may start in with their barrel staves in November, and be demanding an improved pair of skis monthly till the end of March.

But in the Lakes Country to the south lies the true ski man's paradise, with great open slopes on the cariboo ranges, clear to the glacial summits. Skis will undoubtedly form part of the impedimenta of the summer tourist, and the sport has taken a sure grip on the local inhabitants of Burns Lake, Babine, Cheslatta, Decker, Francois, Ootsa, Tchesinkut and the hundred and

one lakes that help to comprise the Lakes District of which we are so justly proud. In the village of Burns Lake the toddling infants start in on crude skis, the girls are experts, the school-ma'ams sacrifice some of their dignity by going to school on skis, and the octogenarian prospector, who in his time has snowshoed from the Big Bend to the Cariboo, thence to the Cassiar and finally back to the Omineca, now shuffles his daily way on skis to the beer emporium from his little log cabin in a straight line as compared with the wavering uncertainty of his return tracks.

The latest convert to the ski is the Oriental laundryman who makes his trips to and from the suburbs delivering "washee" on skis, balancing two huge bundles of clothes on a bamboo pole in the favorite Chinese manner. But he says: "Walkee allite, jumpee no good." The Omineca Ski Club wishes the eastern members of the C.A.S.A. every success and hopes to have their representatives meet the eastern at Banff or Jasper next season, and should we be able to develop ski-men of exceptional talent will send them east, where we hope you will treat them gently. As it is, even, we have men that we are proud of in any company.

LYSTER MULVANY

GROUSE MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB VANCOUVER, B.C.

By J. MELVILLE, Press Correspondent

JUST about a year ago a number of enthusiastic skiers in Vancouver got together, one weekend, and decided that they would organize a Ski Club, with activities to centre on Grouse Mountain.

Therefore the Grouse Mountain Ski Club came into being, and within two months the membership mark at which the organizers had aimed was passed, and it was found necessary to close the membership owing chiefly to limited accommodation.

We have been fortunate enough to include in our organization a number of experienced skiers and though their numbers have been small, their enthusiasm and willingness to teach the more or less novices among their fellow members has more than made up for their numerical minority. Chiefly owing to the good efforts of these gentlemen, the majority of the Club received a very fair grounding in the art of ski-ing.

For this season we have been able to increase our accommodation considerably and correspondingly our membership, and we are looking forward to a very successful year.

At the Club's First Annual Meeting on October 15, the meeting unanimously voted to form a junior organization to act as an auxiliary to the Grouse Mountain Ski Club. This will admit promising young skiers of school age to a junior membership in the Club at a reduced membership fee, and steps will be taken to give these members all possible assistance towards perfecting style and skill.

Regular readers of this Annual are doubtless familiar with the Hollyburn Plateau, mecca of the Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club. Grouse Mountain Plateau lies about ten miles as the crow flies from Hollyburn, and is directly north of the cities of Vancouver and North Vancouver. In our estimation it is truly wonderful that we can leave our office and within a period of two hours be at our Club headquarters. Most of our members leave Vancouver on Saturday night, and taking ferry and street car as far as possible, hit the trail for Grouse Cabin. Grouse Mountain is four thousand feet high, and the cabin is just about three hundred feet below the peak. No matter how heavy the rain is pouring down in the city, the skier knows that it is only a matter of a thousand or fifteen hundred feet before he will reach the snowline, then the glorious trip up the trail through a veritable fairyland of snow quietened forest. Upon