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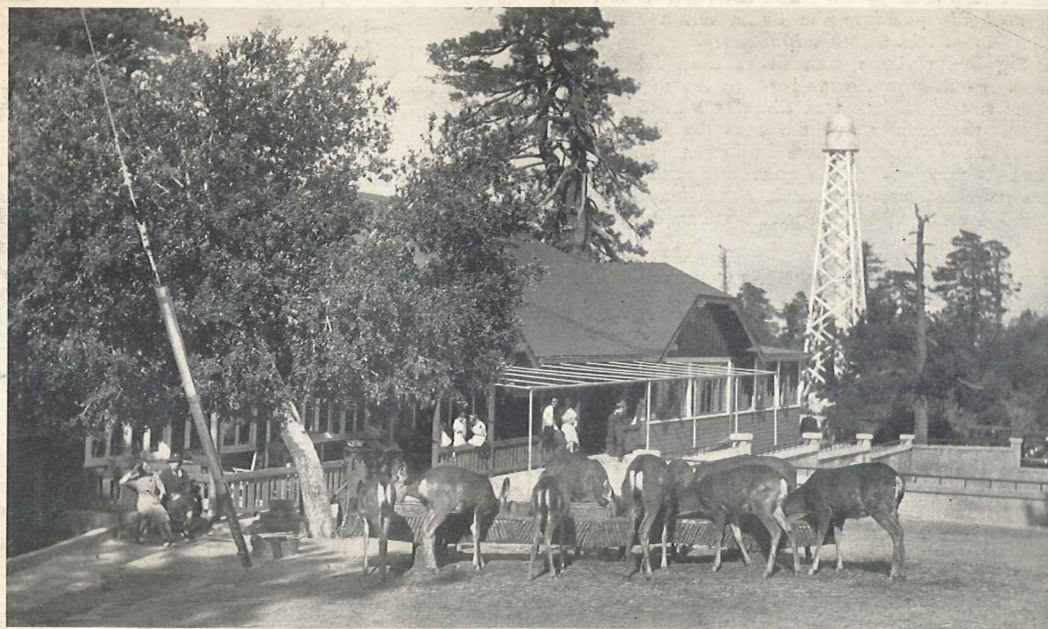
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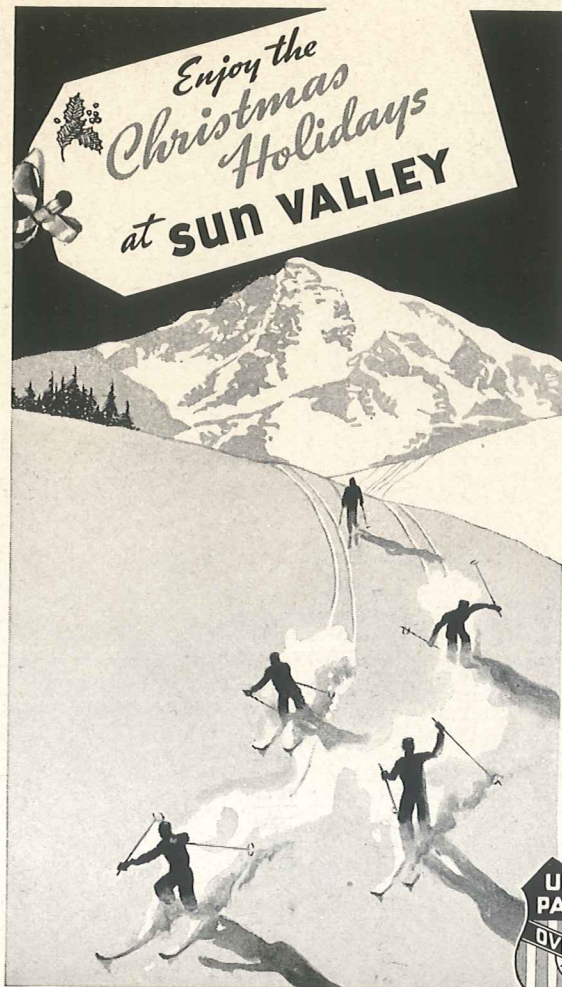
TRAILS MAGAZINE

18 1937

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NUMBER

AUTUMN
1937

PRICE 10 CENTS



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BIG PINES SKI CLUB YEAR BOOK

Introduction by HARLOW DORMER, Secretary

The Big Pines Ski Club was organized January 2, 1932, by a group of ski enthusiasts at Big Pines Recreation Camp at Swartout, California, and now holds a prominent place among such organizations of the Pacific Coast. Its purpose is to promote a healthy interest in outdoor recreation and particularly snow sports for all Southern California.

To keep a record of club membership and accomplishments and to place this record in the hands of every member, we have taken advantage of an offer to use TRAILS MAGA-

ZINE for our annual publication.

Also in this Year Book we will include, as far as space will permit, articles by leading authorities on skiing, skiing equipment and ski contests throughout the west.

TRAILS MAGAZINE is published quarterly by the Los Angeles County Department of Recreation Camps and Playgrounds in the interest of outdoor recreation in the Southwest, particularly in Los Angeles County, and will be sent throughout the year to all of our members.

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Photo by Harlow Dormer

BIG PINES PLAYGROUND

WEST BLUE RIDGE



Trails Magazine

VOL. 4

AUTUMN, 1937

NO. 4

Published Quarterly by
THE MOUNTAIN LEAGUE
of Southern California

A non-profit organization of representatives of Public Departments and Outing Clubs, formed for the purpose of stimulating the development and use of mountain trails and other facilities for outdoor recreation in Los Angeles County.

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ANOTHER DREAM COMES TRUE

The world has been told how the snow in far places furnishes the water to make Southern California green and the clean, convenient power for illumination, refrigeration, transportation and manufacturing but, until very lately, snow sports in Southern California were a forbidden subject in tourist lures.

Many of those same tourists have looked with longing eyes at our sparkling high country for the one thing missing to make this a real all-year playground, an opportunity to enjoy the snow sports so dear to their hearts while living in this land of sunshine.

Gradually those tourists, and we who were once tourists, created the demand and snow sports facilities and snow sports consciousness grew, until the Winter of 1936 all Southern California suddenly became aware that Snow Sports had become a major attraction, something to be heralded to the world.

On week-ends the highways leading to the mountains carried a continuous procession of autos loaded with eager youth in snow sports garb and bristling with snow sports equipment. Dealers in that apparel and equipment were soon sold out and frantically telegraphing repeat orders.

There is nothing strange about all of this; the strange part is that it was held back so long. In the ranges immediately surrounding the population centers of Southern California there are 1,000 square miles above a mile high, for three months of every year, and usually from Christmas to Memorial Day, buried deep in snow and much like the scene pictured on the opposite page.

In that great area of snow-filled forest are innumerable open spaces suitable for all kind of snow sports, great hills for sled and bobsled, long flat ridges with wonderful views for snow-shoeing and ski-touring, open sweeping ski slopes to match the best anywhere. To this we add the grandeur of towering cliffs, the beauty of bordering forests and an almost unbelievable combination of high temperature and dry snow found at few other places in the world.

To the many roads now kept open into the snowbound high country of the San Jacinto, San Bernardino and San Gabriel ranges, will soon be added another, much closer to Los Angeles and which may well prove superior to them all. The opening next spring, of a new section of the Angeles Crest Highway to Barley Flat, Charlton Flat, and Chilao, will bring within 25 to 40 miles of Los Angeles some of the most beautiful snow sports areas in Southern California.

So in this number we will attempt to show, by story and picture, as far as our limited space will permit, why it is unnecessary to leave Southern California for snow sports and how, by working together, we may have the best of them all.

For we who love our out-of-doors the whole year through another dream is coming true.

Behold a city born of dreams come true,
Its domes and turrets glistening in the sun,
A mighty tapestry of light and shade
Woven of the cob-web threads of men's ideals.

And, as the story of our play unfolds,
Lighting the past of men who dreamed fair dreams
And dared the deeds that made their dreams come true,
We, who are the puppets of these dreams agone,
Will trace the slender threads of destiny
Until they tie into our own ideals
To weave upon the ceaseless loom of fate
The future of our City, yours and mine.

For as we dream so will our City stand,
A living monument to those who dared
To work and fight if need be for their dreams.
—GLENN E. PALMER.



—Photo by Bennett Cee Godfrey, New York.
The Author at Sun Valley, Idaho

SKIING HAS COME TO STAY

By ETHEL SEVERSON

Member Sierra Club, and Ski Mountaineers

Skiing has come here to stay. To anyone who has known the giddy delight of gliding down even the smallest hill, this is merely a statement of an accepted and unalterable fact. Only those dubious ones who have not as yet exposed themselves to the divine madness will shake their heads and mutter: "It's only a fad. The young fry will have their fling at it and then it will die out."

Let's take an impartial look about the country.

Skiing has been gaining in popularity in the East for a number of years, and intense effort on the part of a few has placed them on a par with European competitors who have generations of skiers behind them. Instead of remaining with those few outstanding ones, interest has grown and spread to a degree that can only be described as phenomenal. Snow trains have brought skiing within reach of everyone—or rather have brought everyone within reach of the snowfields. The magazines, newspapers and department stores of the East feature ski news, ski instruction, clothing and equipment strongly throughout

the season. Far from palling or showing evidence of being merely a passing fancy, the sport has become a definite part of their lives—and this in spite of a lack of high mountains and the frequent shortage of snow. Membership in the ski clubs of the U. S. Eastern Amateur Ski Association has more than doubled in the last two years.

Similarly, in the Pacific Northwest, skiing was confined a few years ago to the advance guard, that small group of pioneers who were too unselfish to keep a good thing to themselves and finally imbued the entire Northwest with a ski madness so encompassing that within a few seasons Washington and Oregon have become universally ski-minded. Mount Rainier, Mount Baker and Mount Hood draw their thousands throughout a long, satisfying winter season. The huge new Timberline Lodge, 6000 feet up on the side of Mount Hood, and the Midsummer Ski Tournament on Mount Hood are the latest evidences of the importance of skiing in the Pacific Northwest.

Yosemite woke up to its glorious possibil-

ities only three or four years ago, built a ski tow and a ski house at Badger Pass, imported Austrian experts, and has been playing to a full house ever since. And bigger dreams are being dreamed in Yosemite, dreams which seem certain to find fulfillment in the building of something approximating a funicular to the summit of Mount Hoffman, and a ski hotel there. But lack of funiculars and ski hotels has not kept the real skiers out of the back country of Yosemite. Last winter a party of Sierra Club men from San Francisco, including Lewis Clark and Bestor Robinson, made a strenuous ski ascent of Mount Lyell, climaxing a series of gallant attempts.

The Lake Tahoe and Truckee region is an established skiing center. At Norden, near Donner Pass, the Sierra Club built a ski lodge in 1934 which was so popular that a large annex had to be added the following season.

Everyone knows about Sun Valley, one year ago unknown and unsung—now a byword in the country, and known in every country where the word "skiing" has any meaning. Here, in one season, sprang up a St. Moritz American-style. Here the skier's wildest dreams come true. It would be amusing to

take an unsuspecting ski-minded mortal there in his sleep and let him wake up and discover for himself, one by one, the luxuries that the Union Pacific has added to the munificence of nature. He might be convinced that he was still dreaming or that in his sleep he had passed into that heaven which is reserved for skiers.

Any skier will gladly climb a hill of any size for that breathtaking minute or two of ecstasy that is the descent. But is there one who won't feel as he sits him down in a comfortable chair suspended from a cable, with skis on his feet, and lets the power of the ski-lift take him to the top of the world, that "this were paradise enow?" His first ride to the top of Mount Proctor is certain to be an interval of supreme happiness. Coupled with a wonderful feeling of being detached from the earth and yet able to see its beauty in a strange new light, is a wish that everyone might have that particular experience. It is like flying, and yet different, because the snow is never very far below, and with the gradual ascent the magnificent spread of white valley and mountains expands in a crescendo of haunting beauty.



Ski Slopes and Headwall from San Antonio Ski Hut —Photo by Ethel Severson



Ski Mountaineers nearing summit of Mt. San Antonio

—Photo by Ethel Severson

Now we hear exciting whispers of an entire ski village which is coming into being at Aspen Valley, Colorado—another St. Moritz or perhaps a St. Anton, in a country where 14,000-foot peaks are the rule rather than the exception.

And, back to our own California, McGee Creek, thirty miles north of Bishop, on the main highway to Mammoth Lakes, made its first tentative steps toward development last season. A ski tow which pulls you up on your skis to an elevation 1400 feet above the ski house gives you a downhill run of great sweeping curves in a magnificent setting.

Sequoia, only two hundred and fifty miles north, has a winter charm all its own, and the skiing at Wolverton Meadow, with its encircling snow-covered peaks, is an experience well worth the drive. San Jacinto is beginning to discover itself as a skiing center, and it will be interesting to see what happens there this season.

Now we are coming very close to Los Angeles. Keller Peak, only eighty-five miles away, on the Rim-of-the-World Highway, became known last season and swept at once into popularity. Previously, only a few expert Lake Arrowhead skiers knew of the existence of this gorgeous and very accessible area, and the rest of the world passed by it, unseeing, on their way to the well-known winter playground surrounding Big Bear Lake. Now

there is a ski house at Keller Peak, and there are murmurs, too, of a ski tow.

Lake Arrowhead itself last season had such an abundance of snow that the problem was not to get the skiers to come there, but to persuade them to stay away until the roads could be made passable. Ferrying across the lake through blocks of ice to the North Shore for skiing was part of the fun at Arrowhead last winter.

Big Pines drew its usual large numbers of winter sports lovers, and more of the skiers discovered the slopes of Table Mountain and the Blue Ridge. The slalom course and the ski jump were the scenes of performances that must have convinced spectators that Southern California skiers are on their way. The annual Winter Carnival brought its throngs, and the clubhouse of the Big Pines Ski Club was filled to capacity every weekend.

Beloved among those skiers who are mountaineers as well, are the upper slopes of Mount San Antonio and of San Geronio. With the patience and industry of beavers, the ardent Ski Mountaineers of the Sierra Club rebuilt the San Antonio Ski Hut, which had been destroyed by fire after only one season of existence. This hut, at 9,000 feet, was the mecca of the more hardy of young Southern Californians, and being little more than fifty miles from Los Angeles, seemed well worth the toil of carrying skis and supplies up two miles

of mountain trail. And one could not help but note the increasing numbers of those who dared to negotiate the hair-raising descent of the big "headwall" beyond the ski hut. The more expert ones took delight in timing themselves in swift descents from the top of the mountain to the ski hut, a drop of more than a thousand feet, which included the descent of the headwall. Wolfgang Lert's hilarious "Mugelhupf Movies" were filmed here for the edification of the Ski Mountaineers and their cohorts.

The Edelweiss ski hut, in a similar location at about 9,000 feet on the side of Mount San Geronio, was shared generously by the Edelweiss Ski Club, and those who could not sleep indoors camped at the foot of the trail or in the snow in the Valley of a Thousand Springs. Late in May the devotees of San Geronio were still bringing back glowing stories of their last run down "the big draw" just below the summit.

As these ski fields become popular and populated, there remains the whole unexplored winter world of the High Sierra. This is where the true ski mountaineer, experienced in the ways of the high mountains, will find his challenge and his fulfillment. Otto Steiner, a Bavarian with the intrepid courage and confidence of a master of the sport, made a five-day solo ski trip from Sequoia to Mount Whitney. This winter he intends to make a similar trip,

and later to take with him a group of boys whom he considers equal to the venture.

But for the rest of us there remains plenty of pioneering in the ski fields close and fairly accessible. There are still people who ask, "But where do you ski in Southern California?", and people who think it is a sport in its milder forms only for socialites, and in its more violent forms only for daredevils.

However, there is no need to worry about the future of skiing in the Southland. Rather you may view with alarm and wonder where it will stop. One doesn't need an ear to the ground to gather that for every skier on southern slopes last winter there will be three or four or five this season. Ski fever is as contagious as the measles and as incurable as the gout. And the skier has no compunctions about spreading it.

Audible on every side are comments that indicate what "I Met Him in Paris" and "Thin Ice" are doing to the public. "That must be fun—let's try it!" is the usual reaction. And when you see individuals spending their summers climbing mountains and doing exercises learned from ski exercise books, just to keep their muscles in trim for skiing, you know that here is a sport that has something for you. It is bound to pay dividends in health and zestful living.

Another thing about skiing, it develops not

(Continued on Page 19)



Head of the "Big Draw," near summit of San Geronio

—Photo by Ed Danner

*Ski Touring near Lake Arrowhead*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNITED IN SNOW SPORTS

By GARRATT B. SARGENT, *Secretary Arrowhead Ski Club*

With our beautiful mountain ranges of Southern California covered under a blanket of snow during the winter months, easily accessible over good roads to 3,000,000 sports loving people who live only a few hours distant, when are we going to wake up to the possibilities of snow sports as something of benefit to Southern California?

What a contrast—summer and winter on the same tank of gasoline—but this fact was never brought to public attention until a few years ago because our exploiting agencies were too busy in their efforts to entice people from the icy blasts of the East for the single purpose of enjoying our warm winter sunshine. The result—Sun Valley, Lake Placid, New England and all points east of Southern California made popular their slush and sleet while our Chambers of Comicals watched millions of dollars go into the pockets of the "snow-billies of eastern Ice Hollows."

But—"Believe it or Not"—the good old California booster with his apology for "unusual weather" can save his face if he tells you that we have in our mountains, snow every winter with a longer average season, better snow for skiing, warmer weather and

more clear days to enjoy it than any other place between our frozen Atlantic and Golden Pacific.

And "strange as it may seem," in 1932 while the Olympic Winter Games were being held at Lake Placid, New York, with snow that was being hauled in for ski jumping events, we furnished headlines for papers throughout the country by allowing our weather man to deposit fourteen feet of crazy frozen sunshine crystals in our backyard mountains where thousands of our "Scandaformian" minded citizens became snowbound. So we are gradually waking up and becoming winter sports conscious.

Our State Chamber of Commerce estimates that during the 1936-37 season Californians spent \$12,000,000 in pursuit of enjoying winter sports.

Our Junior Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles tells us that ski jumpers from all over the world have pronounced our master hill at Big Pines as the finest in the country, and to prove the point they will quote the American distance records in all classes of ski jumping which have been made on that spectacular hill. Of course, the skiing that is so

extremely popular at this time does not concern jumping and is participated in by the ordinary person who likes most any kind of sports. And for that person let me tell you that we are living within eye-range of a "Skier's Paradise." In most snow areas skiing can be enjoyed only in zero weather, as the least warm weather turns their snow to slush. In the Southern California high country, however, the snow falls fast and deep, packing well as it falls and lasts for long periods of comfortably warm weather. We are also fortunate in having a wonderful variety of natural skiing territory.

So what—? Well, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Resort Owner, Mr. Oil Company and Mr. Publicity Man, it would appear that you have been asleep in a snow bank while big business is going strong for snow sports in all other parts of the nation and taking the play away from you in razzle-dazzle style.

Do you know that during a four days' Winter Sports Exposition in December 1936, at the Madison Square Garden, New York City, there was an attendance of 80,000 people, and this Exposition brought about world-wide illustrated and editorial comment. By dramatizing, publicizing and promoting the appeal of winter sports through instructive exhibits and interesting entertainment there was created in the minds of the buying public a strong desire for winter sports and winter sports

equipment. The cooperation of those concerned in this new industry was responsible for the huge success of the enterprise, and this year the Exposition is to be promoted on a grander scale.

It is reported that the Union Pacific Railroad is bringing a great ski team from Europe to Sun Valley this winter for a series of events and will again have a large staff of instructors with unpronounceable names to create a glamorous appeal to the sports loving Americans throughout the country.

Well, Mr. Sunshine from Southern California, if the fog doesn't completely obscure your vision, you are having the path pointed out to you by others, but as you have already been born with a silver spoon in your mouth you can take the easy way. Here in Southern California you have a larger population in close proximity to the mountains than any other place in the country where winter sports can be enjoyed. Furthermore you have in a purportedly aggressive community, a number of young enthusiasts who are determined to ski, skate and "skidaver" in our mountains during the winter, in spite of the fact that you have been insisting that they hang on to your apron strings of summer sports.

Now, if I was a smart young feller and owned a store, and a gas station, and a bus, and a snow plow, and a mountain resort, I could get me some winter sports clothing and

*Lake Arrowhead Village and Automobiles Buried in Snow—1932*

*A Sparkling Paradise*

skis from my store, and I would hop in my bus, and I would get me some gas from my gas station, and I would drive through green fields and sweet scented orchards to the landscape of snow covered mountains which I saw out of the back window of my house, and about an hour later I would push my snow plow ahead of my bus, and in another hour I would be at my mountain resort where I would find the most gorgeous snow fields in the country, and if at the end of my trail I found a large sign which read "Southern California United in Snow Sports, Incorporated" I would know that there were many thousands of people who had arrived ahead of me or were coming behind me, and I would know that the cooperators and the incorporators had finally got on the job.

(Well, darned if I don't think I'm snow-blind, because I just now had a vision while looking out of my office window at the mountains. I'll swear on the constitution of the

1937 NATIONAL JUMPING TOURNAMENT,
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
CLASS A, FINAL RESULT SHEET

	Distance in Meters		Total Points
	1st Jump	2nd Jump	
Sigmund Ruud.....	55	70.5	228.8
Kongsberg, Norway			
Alf Engen	54	74.5	228.1
Utah Ski Club			
Einar Fredbo	51	66	218.4
Anaconda, Montana			
Sigurd Ulland	55	60.5	215.1
Lake Tahoe, California			
John Elvrum	52	62	214.6
Los Angeles, California			
Sverre Fredheim	47	68	214.0
Bush Lake Ski Club, Minnesota			
Casper Oimoen	50.5	60.5	213.4
Anaconda, Montana			
Harry Tregillis	51	66.5	212.7
Los Angeles, California			
Ted Rex	47	67	210.6
Mineral, California			
Jimmy Hendricksen	47	66	210.0
Eau Claire, Wisconsin			
Hermud Baake	52	64.5	209.9
Leavenworth, Washington			
Sverre Engen	48	57	208.1
Utah Ski Club			
Ronald Mangseth	48	60.5	207.5
Coleraine, Minnesota			
Arthur Johnson	45.5	64.5	203.1
Big Pines Ski Club			
George Kotlarek	50.5	56	202.9
Duluth, Minnesota			
Lloyd McLean	47.5	60.5	202.2
Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado			
Rolf Wigaard	46.5	58	199.2
Auburn, California			
Eugene Wilson	44.5	61.5	199.1
Coleraine, Minnesota			
Roy Mikkelsen.....	56.5	67F	
Auburn, California			
Arnt Ofstad	46.5	61F	
Spokane, Washington			
Paul Ahiers	43.5	62F	
Cloquet, Minnesota			
Ole Tverdal	47.5	66.5F	
Seattle, Washington			
Helge Sather	49	66F	

Judges—

M. A. Strand, Salt Lake City, Utah
Thor Groszold, Denver, Colorado
Chris Steiner, Chicago, Illinois.

Chamber of Comicals that I saw Mr. Resort Owner, Mr. Oil Company and Mr. Publicity man all sitting atop the same mountain peak on a snow throne with a plush covered seat waxing the skis of each other and telling the world how it all came about—Southern California United in Snow Sports).

SKATING BROUGHT UP TO DATE

By JOHN L. WOOD

President Los Angeles Figure Skating Club and Member Pacific Coast Amateur Status Committee, U.S.F.S.A.

Much evidence has been discovered which would indicate that ice skating began almost with the advent of the human race. Pieces of wood and even bone were laced to the feet with thongs; although this may seem more like going for a sleigh ride—THUS BEGAN SKATING.

Today ice skating has a greater scope of physical activity and potential variety of movement than any other sport. Skating has no age limit. One can make of it a very mild form of exercise, or wear one's self to a frazzle.

In each of its several classifications, such as hockey, racing, figure and free style, skating has become highly technical. Figure skating is judged by the same standard of requirements throughout the world. This phase of the sport has developed so tremendously in the last few years that one must indeed be an artist to get on top in the competitive field.

Not so very long ago ice skating was available only to those fortunate enough to be living near a river or lake, situated in a cold climate and then the skater had to await in hopeful anticipation the quirks of nature. He was not particular concerning the type or condition of the skates he wore, nor was he particular in the way he performed on them. While such conditions existed the sport could hardly be taken seriously, or expected to become very popular.

Today, however, all is different; due to the advent of artificial ice rinks in our principal cities, and the fact that most winter sport centers have improved and conditioned outdoor rinks. Usually a suitable and convenient location is sought shadowed by trees and hills as much as possible. The spot chosen is ordinarily a favorite hiding place of old "Jack Frost." The selected area for the ice surface is leveled. When sufficiently cold weather comes, a thin layer of water is applied, allowed to freeze and this procedure is repeated until the proper thickness of ice is obtained. There you have an ideal outdoor ice rink which is safe and convenient, with the assurance of many more skating days than could otherwise be obtained by natural sources alone. This type of rink is particularly adapted to Southern Cali-

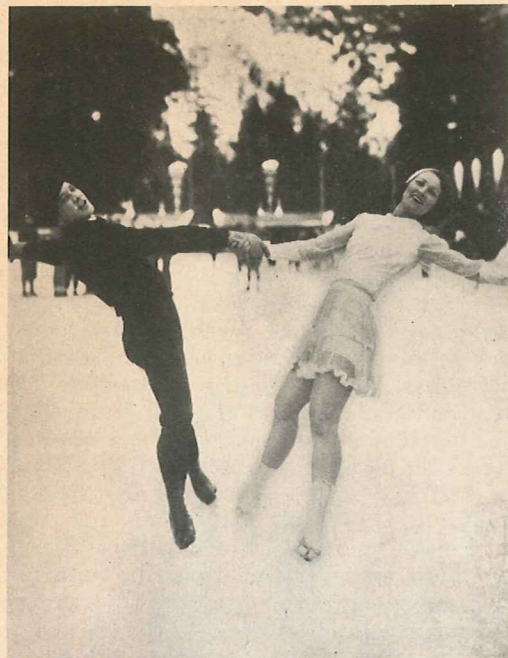
fornia because of so little sub-zero temperature.

When thinking of winter sports, the mind naturally turns North and East. We dream a bit of skating and skiing; with such pleasant thoughts, the mind becomes a riot of desire and enthusiasm—then like a wintry blast, a new thought breezes in—the thought of icicles and blizzards. With a sigh of resignation we then contemplate the warmth of our California sun and decide to do nothing. BUT one need not forego the pleasure of winter sports, for almost in our backyard the San Bernardino Mountains tower. "In them thar hills" are situated many resorts which offer all that a winter sports enthusiast could possibly wish for.

Nowhere else in North America can one indulge in a little outdoor plain or fancy skating, then take a dip in the ocean, both within the space of a few hours and without undue physical discomfort.

The rink at Big Pines maintained by the Recreation Department of Los Angeles County under the able supervision of Leonard Luglan, better known as "Red," affords better

*The Outdoor Rink at Big Pines*



The Author and Mabel Thorns

facilities and the most consistent skating of any of the Southern California resorts. "Red" misses many meals and a lot of sleep in order to give the skate-pushers just the "right" kind of ice.

That ice skating is riding a wave of ever increasing popularity, and is not just a passing fancy, is evidenced by the present skating situation in England. About ten years ago the sport invaded the British Isles like an epidemic of old-fashioned "flu." There are now eleven rinks in London, six of which were open to the public all last summer. Two rinks are putting on elaborate shows nightly and the increasing attendance indicates their continuing indefinitely.

When Sonja Henie left the amateur ranks to top all professionals in one grand and glorious leap, she really started something! Now Karl Schafer, twice Olympic and several times World's Champion, has left his titles for others to struggle for. Our own Maribel Vinson, present North American and several times National Champion, has turned professional and will be featured with Schafer in an ice show to open shortly at Madison Square Garden, thereafter to tour the country. So the general public have finally become skating conscious and a sport formerly purely recreational suddenly bursts forth in a spasm of commercialism, such as to tempt most any

PROGRAM OF WINTER SPORTS AT BIG PINES RECREATION CAMP 1937-1938

Jan. 1-2—Winter Opening Snow Festival.
Jan. 8-9—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, sledding, tobogganing.

Jan. 15-16—Big Pines Ski Club competitions; ski jumping, cross-country and slalom races, skating events, tobogganing.

Jan. 22-23—Sixth Annual Big Pines Snow Pageant; ski jumping competitions, cross-country and slalom races, speed and figure skating events, ice carnival.

Jan. 29-30—Twelfth Annual Snow Sports Carnival of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce; ski jumping in all classes, cross-country and slalom races, skating events and ice carnival.

Feb. 5-6—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, sledding, tobogganing.

Feb. 12-13—All Organizations Snow Day—(churches, scouts, clubs, etc.)

Feb. 19-20—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, sledding, tobogganing.

Feb. 26-27—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, sledding, tobogganing.

March 5-6—Big Pines Ski Club Final Tournament; ski jumping competitions, slalom and cross-country races, downhill races, etc.

Ski tours leave the club house every Sunday morning. You are cordially invited to accompany the members for a day's outing.

Feb. 19-20—State Championship Ski Meet at Mt. Lassen.

OUR COVER PICTURE

Again our Snow Sports cover picture is by Ethel Severson and the art titles by Will G. Norris, our staff artist. Miss Severson, an artist of note, who has taken many prizes in photo competition, is also one of the leading woman skiers of California and a valued contributor to Trails Magazine.

Though this year's cover is not yet a prize picture, as was last year's, it well illustrates the point which we wish to bring to our readers, great, sweeping ski-slopes surrounded by real grandeur and so easily reached for a day of sport. It is the south slope of Mt. San Antonio, just above the large and comfortable ski hut of the Ski Mountaineers.

skater to "jump on the wagon and take a ride." GOLD HAS PUT ITS FINGER ON SKATING!

SKI CLUB HEADQUARTERS

Many persons are not aware that the Big Pines Ski Club has one of the finest club houses in the western part of the United States.

Situated about one-quarter mile from the main camp at Big Pines on the road leading to the Table Mountain ski fields, is our club headquarters. The main building has a large lobby and reading room complete with fireplace and lounges. Also on the main floor is a work room complete with racks for storing skis and a bench for waxing, etc.

Sleeping accommodations are provided on the second floor with a dormitory accommodating sixteen persons. Two more rooms accommodate four and two persons respectively. Rest rooms on both floors complete with hot showers and lockers for those who wish to leave their equipment from week to week. This year we are adding a wing to the club house which will give us three more rooms.

The cafe is located adjacent to the club house. The interior is furnished in modern design and it has complete facilities to serve thirty-two persons at one time.

We are justly proud of our accomplishments at the headquarters site. Each year has brought some major addition demanded by the requirements of our members, and our expansive program continues year by year, keeping pace with the enormous developments in winter sports activities.

SKI TRAILS AT BIG PINES

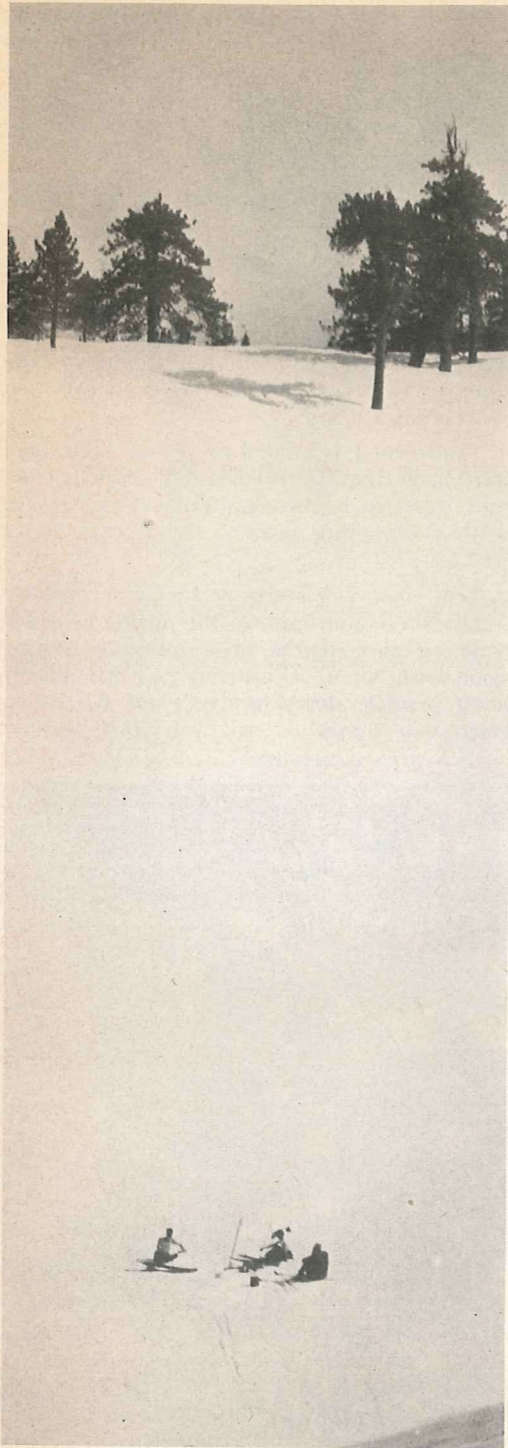
These trails reach all parts of the Big Pines area, are from one hundred to three hundred feet in width, clear of timber, brush and stumps and are among the best and safest in Southern California.

Trail No. 1 is located on Table Mountain, starting at the Smithsonian Observatory, and runs westerly for one and one-half miles. It is all down grade with a vertical descent of 800 feet.

Trail No. 1-A starts at the same place as Trail No. 1 and bears to the north for a distance of three-tenths of a mile, connecting again with No. 1. This trail goes through the finest practice slopes in the Table Mountain area.



Ski Club Headquarters at Big Pines Playground



*In the Sugar Bowl
on Big Pines Ski Trail No. 2*

Trail No. 2 commences just above the Junior Ski Jump, rounds the reservoir and follows the side of the hill above the motor road, to the top of Blue Ridge east of Inspiration Point. It then follows the motor road east to Johnson Flat, where it leaves the road and proceeds over the hill on the left, continuing across Bald Flat and on to the Blue Ridge Ski Hut. This trail is about five miles and makes an ideal trip for one day. The vertical ascent is a little over sixteen hundred feet and the start should be made not later than 11 a.m. This, together with a rest at the ski hut, will bring the skier back to camp well before dark.

Trail No. 3, while not a touring trail, offers a quick return from Trail No. 2. It commences on Trail No. 2 about one-half mile east of the top of the Master Ski Jump, dropping down to the run-off of the Master. One may then continue down the road to camp. The trail is approximately three thousand feet in length with a vertical drop of nearly five hundred feet. The lower part of this trail is used for our contests in slalom and downhill running. We warn skiers that this descent is very fast and therefore dangerous, and they should exercise every precaution on this hill. The average grade is approximately twenty per cent and steepens to well over twenty-five per cent in places.

Five miles out on Trail No. 2, on the highest point of the Blue Ridge at an elevation of 8505 feet, is the Blue Ridge Ski Hut, a refuge and first aid station for the convenience of all who need its protection. It has sleeping accommodations for four, a stove, cooking utensils, lantern, fuel, emergency rations and medical supplies.

WARNING—If a person finds it necessary to use any of the emergency rations at the hut, they should report to some one in authority at Big Pines in order that the deficiency may be made up immediately. We cannot press this point too strongly, for just as it was necessary for you to have aid, some one else's need will be as vital.

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It's Come to Stay— (from Page 11)

only the leg muscles and the lungs, but the sense of humor. In fact, a sense of humor is practically an indispensable part of the equipment. Without it, many a ski would be broken in two from sheer exasperation, or over the head of a mirthful companion. Nothing is funnier than the facial expression of a person who swings into what he is determined shall be a perfect christie, only to find that he has executed a magnificent "sitsmark." And the struggles of the beginner striving to untangle himself after a spill are as likely to convulse the victim himself as the onlooker.

Skiing is the perfect sport. Irresistibly, it combines the sublime and the ridiculous, and who are we to resist the irresistible? Its appeal is universal—the ages of its devotees range from six to the sixties. Watch it—if you're not too busy trying to master the tempo-turn, or unwinding yourself from a nearby tree—and you'll see the enlivening spectacle of California taking to skii. One doesn't have to be a prophet to say, "It's come to stay."

WALTER MOSAUER

In the accident to Dr. Walter Mosauer, Professor of Zoology at U.C.L.A., in the wilds of Mexico and his death a few days later in a hospital in Mexico City, Southern California lost one of its best known scientists, snow sports one of its most ardent devotees, young skiers a skillful and willing instructor and Trails Magazine a valued friend and contributor.



Dr. Mosauer was not only a leading authority on reptiles of the world, but also one of the most expert and best known skiers of Southern California and published numerous books on both subjects.

His splendid articles in Trails Magazine, "White Death In the Mountains" in the Winter Number and "Ski Mountaineering in California" in the Autumn Number, both of 1936, have been widely read by Snow Sports enthusiasts and reproduced in several publications throughout the nation.

Friends and comrades all over the world mourn his untimely death.

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SKI WAX AND HOW TO USE IT

For the guidance of new members and because we know of none better suited to Southern California snow conditions, we reprint this article on the use of wax.

HARLOW DORMER, Secretary.

The average ski runner and a large number of the more experienced ones seem to take not the slightest interest in the vital question of wax. Proper waxing can add immeasurably to the enjoyment and comfort of any ski expedition, and the runner who neglects to prepare his ski properly is usually a hindrance to those who do. To prepare for downhill running is very simple and the following notes may be of assistance and interest.

Hard Wax

The under surface of the ski must first be smooth and unscored, as wax is not for filling up scores. For this use a cabinet scraper, working from front to back with the grain.

Wax comes in block form and can be softened by using a hot iron, pressing the wax against the iron held above the surface of the ski, allowing the melted wax to drop on the running surface. After sufficient wax has been melted on to the ski, use the iron to smooth it into a thin, continuous layer. Care must be taken to clean the groove, for wax left there makes traversing very difficult. Experience will soon show the correct thickness; if too thick it will scale off in the snow.

Skiis to be very fast must be polished with a block of cork or the palm of the hand. A highly glazed surface is obtained in this manner. Some proponents advise the use of hard wax on the front and back of the ski, leaving about eighteen inches in the center free for some sort of climbing wax. Always be certain that the wax used has time to become hardened to its own viscosity before the skiis are used, for if the wax is too soft, it has a retarding effect that may result in calamity.

At the top of a climb give the waxed surface a rub over with a block of paraffin so that a thin film is left over the hard wax, being careful to not use paraffin when temperatures are below freezing. Skiis thus prepared will be fast over all conditions of snow, and will run well even over falling snow. If a halt is made in the descent, give the ski a light rub with paraffin before continuing.

Semi-Plastic Wax

Another wax which gives an excellent running surface is the semi-plastic type, such as Attenhofer's "Record." In this case the run-

ning surface must be quite perfect as the wax film is very thin. Apply as follows: Having rubbed occasional smears of wax on the ski, take the palm of the hand and briskly polish into a thin coating. A little experience will show the correct amount to apply, too much leaves the ski sticky. After polishing with the hand use a soft cloth to give a higher gloss. Record wax may be applied at any time and paraffin may be applied over it.

Climbing or Plastic Wax

Climbing wax forms a plastic surface, like a thin cushion, against the snow crystals in which they can embed themselves slightly, thus holding the ski. Any deliberate sliding motion must be sufficient to smooth out the indentations left by the snow facets, so one can readily see that the mixture must be adapted to the existing snow conditions, however though the use of these waxes is a delicate manipulation they are well worth the effort, for a correctly waxed ski can give amazing power of climbing and yet be fast downhill.

Suggestions

Since every ski runner has his own beliefs concerning the use of waxes and the different makes and grades one should use, it seems a question that will never be settled. However, we give a few of the general rules, and a few of the makes and grades, in an effort to help the novice to proper selection:

1. Clean the ski well of all grease and dirt.
2. Smooth the ski with a scraper of some sort.
3. Put on a layer of Attenhofer's "Record" fore and aft, leaving about 18 inches in the center for climbing wax.
4. Smooth this out with the hand and let it cool before using.
5. For climbing, the colder, drier, and more crystalline the snow, the harder the wax (Mix), and the more granular the snow, the stickier the wax.
6. DO NOT use an iron to apply climbing wax.
7. For dry snow use Oestbye Mix.
8. For sticky, clogging snow, use Oestbye Medium.
9. For wet snow use Klister (yellow tube) lightly over ski.
10. For jumping there are a number of preparations; for the most part a coating of shellac well smoothed out with steel wool and then coated with paraffin has proven a good method. There is also a preparation called "Tento" that is considered good, as well as "Hopskivox," a product of Oestbye.



Glistening Slopes of the Blue Ridge

Big Pines Playground

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PACIFIC CREST TRAIL RELAY HIKE FINISHED

The last 685 miles, final stretch of the 2300-mile Y.M.C.A. relay hike from Mexico to Canada has, without doubt, been completed across the line to Vancouver, British Columbia.

Last year's relays ended at Odell Lake in central Oregon with the coming of winter weather to the high country. This year, start-in from that point in June, the hikers were on their way, north through Oregon's beautiful lake country, across the mighty Columbia, into the state of Washington and some of the Grandest, wildest, most difficult mountain country in North America. Their route lies just beneath the crest of the great mountain wall of the Cascade Range, culminating with that magnificent group of glacier peaks dominated by Mt. Baker.

From this initial effort has already developed the "Pacific Crest Trail Club," composed of hikers who have participated in this three-year trip, and now the "Explorers Project," sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of the Pacific Coast, who will award suitable testimonials and medals of gold, silver and bronze for various degrees of proficiency in back-packing over the trail.

"The Mountaineers Award"

To the mountaineer who climbs the 24 famous mountains of the Pacific Crest Trail, 1st Class; ascent of 17 peaks, 2nd Class; ascent of 10 peaks, 3rd Class.

"The Knapsackers Award"

To the hiker who knapsacks with complete equipment and provisions in one unaided trip: 1st Class, 200 miles; 2nd Class, 150 miles; 3rd Class, 100 miles.

"The Explorers Award"

To the explorer in an organized expedition with or without pack animals or food depots, who hikes in one continuous trip over stated continuous divisions of the Trail: 1st Class, 1,200 miles; 2nd Class, 800 miles; 3rd Class, 500 miles.

To obtain any of the above awards the hiker must be a member of an organization that will make a written report of his accomplishments as evidence that the conditions have been correctly passed.

Stories of "Pioneering the Trail," written by those who hiked the relays, will appear in future issues of TRAILS MAGAZINE.

BIG PINES TRAIL MARATHON 1937

Run by the light of the moon, its progress reported by short wave radio from three stations along its 44-mile course, the Fourth Annual Big Pines Trail Marathon passed into history on Sunday morning, August 22.

First to finish was Ray Ebel, representing the Catholic Youth Organization, at 6:10 a.m., his time of 13 hours 3 minutes lowering the former record made by Paul V. Engelhardt in 1936 by 10 minutes. Second was Don Wood



—Photo by Carl H. Bauer
Barley Flats

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of Alhambra under the colors of Pasadena Junior College, and third Charles Melhorn, representing Big Pines Ski Club. Ted Baker of the Roamer Hiking Club of Los Angeles, only other of the starters to reach the summit of Mt. San Antonio, 10,080 feet, highest point on the course, failed to finish.

In this year's race, as in those that have gone before, it was decidedly demonstrated that a thorough knowledge of the course is essential to win or even to finish. Of the four who passed Pine Mountain, three were off the course at some point, two of them seriously.

Don Woods, on the return trip down Pine Mountain, took the wrong one of five ridges, landing him way down the mountain side, with a loss of an hour in time and much more than an hour in hiking energy, so badly needed on the remaining 28 miles. Ted Baker was off the course twice, first taking the wrong ridge between Mt. Dawson and Mt. San Antonio, and again on the return between Dawson and Pine Mountain.

There are few outdoor organizations in Southern California but have some member who would make a real contender, and it is hoped that next year will bring out a number of such entries for this GREATEST TRAIL RACE IN THE WORLD.

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Outing Club News

ROAMER HIKING CLUB

ERNEST READ, *President*

Our Club members and friends enjoyed a dinner and dance at the Montebello Women's Clubhouse on Saturday, October 9. During September and October there have been picnics, parties and interesting hikes. A recent hike from our Dark Canyon Clubhouse to Switzerland, a trail which we have not traveled since the road was built, was greatly enjoyed.

The fall and winter schedule includes some fine hikes, also dances, bridge parties and other social affairs. November 14, a hike through an interesting canyon and beautiful forest to Monrovia Peak; December 11 and 12 a hike through Ice House Canyon and a night at Kelly's Camp, a big log lodge with a big fireplace and cozy, real log cabins (just ask those who have been there how they like it) and this may be a snow trip, too. January 9 (subject to change), Snow Sports at Crystal Lake.

For information on open dates and club activities, write or phone to Florence Kennett, 1727 East 69th Street, Los Angeles. Phone, Jefferson 4015.

GLENDALE COMMUNITY HIKERS

The schedule of the past month has included a morning hike in Griffith Park and breakfast at Mineral Wells, overnight camp and hike at Crystal Lake, moonlight on Mt. Lukens, a day in the Big ujunga, a frolic with the ghosts and goblins on the evening of October 29th.

November 7 will be a hike through Big Santa Anita Canyon to Sturtevant Camp. A new trail to be scouted on November 11. Breakfast in Glen Oaks Park on November 14. A moonlight hike in Verdugo Hills on November 19. Bailey Canyon above Sierra Madre on November 28. Hike to Iron Mountain by Trail Canyon from the Big Tujunga on December 5. San Dibas Peak Look-out, by special permit, on December 12. Mt. Lukens by moonlight, from Angeles Crest Highway by Wark Canyon Trail on December 17.

For information on this club's rules and activities, write or phone to R. W. Haight, chairman, 420 So. Lincoln Ave., Glendale. Phone VAndike 8785 or DOuglas 4872.

WOMEN'S ATHLETIC CLUB OF GLENDALE

The Hiking Department of the Women's Athletic Club is starting the new season with enthusiastic interest.

The first hike of the season was taken October 7th on the Switzer trail from Oakwild. The trip over this beautiful trail was enjoyed by a large party of members. This group hikes every Thursday throughout the club year, leaving Glendale at 8:30 a.m. After reaching the trail they hike until noon, when lunch is enjoyed and the return trip made in the afternoon.

The trips scheduled for the next few months are varied and interesting. Some are on new trails, others favorite old time haunts. Several moonlight hikes are planned and these are always popular, providing an opportunity for business women in the club to enjoy an outing with their friends in this department.

Women who live in Glendale and are interested in hiking and enjoy the beauties of nature are invited to join the club and this group. Further information may be obtained by calling the chairman, Mrs. J. R. Lockwood, 523 N. Orange St., Glendale. Telephone DOuglas 3917.

CALIFORNIA TRAILS

Continuing its current drive for new members, California Trails will seek to unite the organizations interested in preserving the remaining wilderness of the Sierra Nevada in a campaign to end permanently the threat of invasion of the area by unnecessary highways.

At present the Sierra Packers' Association is working to prevent a resumption of work on the Kings River Highway, and it is hoped that, by allying with this group, California Trails will help considerably in stopping the destruction of the primitive character of the beautiful Kings River Canyon.

This season the campaign is being extended to all parts of the state not now occupied by roads and commercial developments, especially to the few unspoiled areas in the Central Coast Ranges and the Southern Cascades.

Anyone interested in the group or in its work is requested to communicate with Martin Litton, 345 E. Redondo Blvd., Inglewood, California.

THE SKI MOUNTAINEERS SECTION OF SIERRA CLUB

The Ski Mountaineers were organized in 1934 to encourage a high standard of skiing and ski mountaineering in Southern California.

The coming winter promises to be a most active season for the section. During the month of January free ski instructions will be offered each Sunday morning on the slopes near Harwood Lodge in upper San Antonio Canyon (conditions permitting). There will be classes for beginners and more advanced skiers.

The San Antonio Ski Hut, 8700 feet elevation, on the southeast slope of Mt. San Antonio, has been completed and provides access to the wonderful spring skiing on the huge open slopes of the peak. The ski hut is reached by two and one-half miles of trail starting from a wooden stairway one-quarter mile above San Antonio Falls.

In the month of March the fourth annual San Antonio downhill and slalom races will be held. These races are the only ones held on a major peak in California.



The Ski Mountaineers offer an invitation to all skiers to participate in our activities. For information call Robert Brinton, 1832 So. Curson Ave., Los Angeles. Telephone: WHitney 7477.

THE NATURE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

This club holds a dinner meeting every Tuesday evening at Boos Bros. Cafeteria, 530 South Hill street, followed by an illustrated lecture on the out-of-doors. Lectures scheduled for November meetings are of more than usual interest. Friends and prospective members are invited to meet with us.

Sunday Field Trips for the month include: a hike to Mt. Josephine on November 7, with a day at Opid's Camp for those who do not hike. A mystery hike for November 14. The Schillings Cabin at Lake Arrowhead on November 21. A trip being planned for Thanksgiving Day.

The start for Field Trips is made from 530 South Hill and transportation is by the Nature Club bus. For information, contact Viola N. Poole, 1626 Victoria Ave., PA 6473; or Frank C. Davis, 1011 N. Louise St., Glendale.

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THE SIERRA CLUB WELCOMES YOUTH HOSTELS

By E. S. JONES

European countries, especially Germany and Great Britain, have long been known for their excellent work in establishing youth hostels through their respective countries whereby their young people may, at a very nominal charge, enjoy the benefits of outdoor life and travel. As a general thing hostels are located a day's hike apart. Good clean dormitory accommodations are available for the hikers. The charge for overnight lodging is about twenty-five cents, meals are offered at the same price. It is also possible for the hiker to prepare his own meals in the central kitchen. The writer has had the delightful experience of staying in hostels in England this past summer.

Fortunately, the idea is spreading in America at the present time. A number of youth hostels have been established in the New England states and the spirit is now permeating the West. The Sierra Club welcomes the opportunity to encourage, assist and support this worthy movement which will open up the out-of-doors to YOUTH.

BALDY BIGHORNS

By J. RAYMOND MINNICH

This group has had a very interesting season of hiking, the highlight of which was a seven-peak trip accomplished in one day. This 25-mile excursion from the Bighorn cabin at Manker Flat, took in Old Baldy, Telegraph Peak, Timber Mountain, Cucamaga, Bighorn and Ontario Peaks, and Sugarloaf. The elevations of all but Sugarloaf range between 8000 and 10,000 feet. Unfortunately, only two members were able to participate in this ramble over the summits.

Other activities included an early spring ascent of Mt. San Jacinto, the first 1937 ascent; a climb up North Baldy and an investigation on July 4th of a large snow deposit and ice caves in Mine Gulch back of the Bighorn Gold Mine. Several reconnaissances both from the north and south, revealed details of the Fish Fork fire. Two trips were made into the Whitney region of the Sierras.

Future activities, following the winter's skiing, will point toward a study of the rare and elusive mountain sheep which inhabit the more inaccessible portions of the San Antonio

WOODCRAFT RANGER NEWS

By ROBERT B. GOULD, *Executive Sec'y*

Woodcraft Rangers in Southern California are looking forward to really enjoying snow sports this year. They have just finished construction of a new lodge at their Camp Ah-Da-Hi in the west fork of the San Gabriel Canyon and at their Lake Arrowhead Camp in the San Bernardino Mountains.

With this shelter from the cold which goes along with snow sports, the boys have planned to be in camp on week-ends and school holidays and are to enjoy tobogganing, skiing, and ice skating. A great number of them are interested in tracking, as after a fresh snow, it is always interesting to see what kind of an animal was outside the cabin during the night.

Lawrence Stevens and Dale Trowbridge, two new field executives of the Woodcraft Rangers, will be the leaders in charge of the winter sports, assisted by other Woodcraft Ranger guides.

The following poem is by James Melven Dannaldson, Naturalist of Western Rangers and Assistant Curator of Reptiles at U.S.C.

DESERT WISDOM

*Here are the laws of the desert.
Obey them and live to be wise,
For the strike of the desert serpent
Is quicker than human eyes.*

*So heed the rattlesnake's warning;
Mark the sun as it sinks in the west;
Eat only of plants as you know them,
And running water is best.*

*Read closely the guide book of Heaven
When night has taken the day,
And leave no smoldering fire
For the wind to carry away.*

*Plan well tomorrow's rations
Before using those of today,
And sleep within reach of a shelter
Lest blue skies change swiftly to gray.*

*These are the laws of the desert;
Attend them. The code never fails,
For nature provides but a warning
To those who would follow her trails.*

region. More than 30 sheep ranging from 2 weeks old lambs to patriarchal rams, have been observed by members of this organization during their past seven years of hiking. It is hoped that such a survey will reveal the presence of many more Bighorns.

THE YUCCA HIKING CLUB OF MONROVIA

RICHARD N. JOHNSON, *Secretary*

116 No. Alta Vista Ave., Monrovia

The Yucca Hiking Club of Monrovia began its 1937-1938 season with a "get-together" noon-day picnic in Mesa Park, Monrovia Canyon, on October 5th. Mrs. Harold H. Scott was re-elected president, Mrs. Clara Borsvold chosen as the new vice-president and Richard Johnson re-elected secretary and hike leader.

The first and third Wednesdays of each month were selected for regular hiking dates, with optional hikes on alternate Wednesdays when desired by the group. The customary assembling place is at Foothill and Myrtle Ave., at 9 o'clock, for the drive to the starting point for the day's hike. Any interested persons from other communities who may wish to participate will be very welcome to share the joys of the trails with us. The first hike on October 20 was the West Fork and Bear Canyon trail. No definite schedule was laid out for the season's hikes, but they are decided upon each time, depending upon seasonal interest, etc.

During the three summer months no club hikes were undertaken, but smaller groups and pairs of club members did some interesting hiking. One group of three spent a night on the summit of San Gorgonio Peak. Another group of four, Irving Wilke, Paul Shaul, Ivan Wilson and Richard Johnson, spent a night on the summit of Mount Whitney early in August during a week they were camped at Whitney Portal. A day's hike to the Meysan Lakes in the South Fork of Lone Pine Creek was one of the other jaunts of this foursome. Another pair of club hikers made a July hike to the top of San Antonio peak by way of Bear Flat, and still another pair spent four days in the back country from Mount Islip to Buckhorn, Horse Flats and Pacifico Mountain.

FOREST CONSERVATION CLUB

By CHARLES E. WARNER

The outstanding feature of Conservation Club activities during the past quarter was the sunrise trip to Mendenhall Peak, where an observation tower has recently been erected by the Angeles Forest management.

About twenty of the club members and friends met at the club headquarters Saturday evening, August 21, and gathered about the garden fireplace for an old-fashioned sing, then rolled up in their sleeping bags on the lawn for a snooze until awakened by the trip leaders at 1 a.m.

The party then took cars out Foothill Boulevard and Little Tujunga Canyon to Dillon Divide and hiked up the service road to the peak, which was reached about 5 a.m., and where the hikers were welcomed by Look-out Turner. After coffee and the thrill of sunrise from the heights, the party hiked to their cars and drove to one of the Pacoima Canyon camps for a rest during the heat of the day.

A committee of the Conservation Club has been active scouting a trail up the slopes of Eaton Canyon to avoid the long route by Henninger Flat and loss of grade in reaching the upper canyon. It is anticipated that a good practical trail will be developed with cooperation of the Angeles Forest authorities.

Schedule for ensuing quarter includes the following: Picnic at Washington Park, Pasadena, October 15, 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, October 16-17, Charlton Flats. Sunday, November 21, mystery trip, meeting at 8 a.m. at Colorado and Lake, Pasadena. Saturday, November 27, annual meeting and election, at 7 p.m. Sunday, December 12, Brown's Flat, meeting at Colorado and Lake at 8 a.m. Inquiries may be addressed to 279 Grand View St., Pasadena, Phone NIagara 4638.

THE WINTER ISSUE

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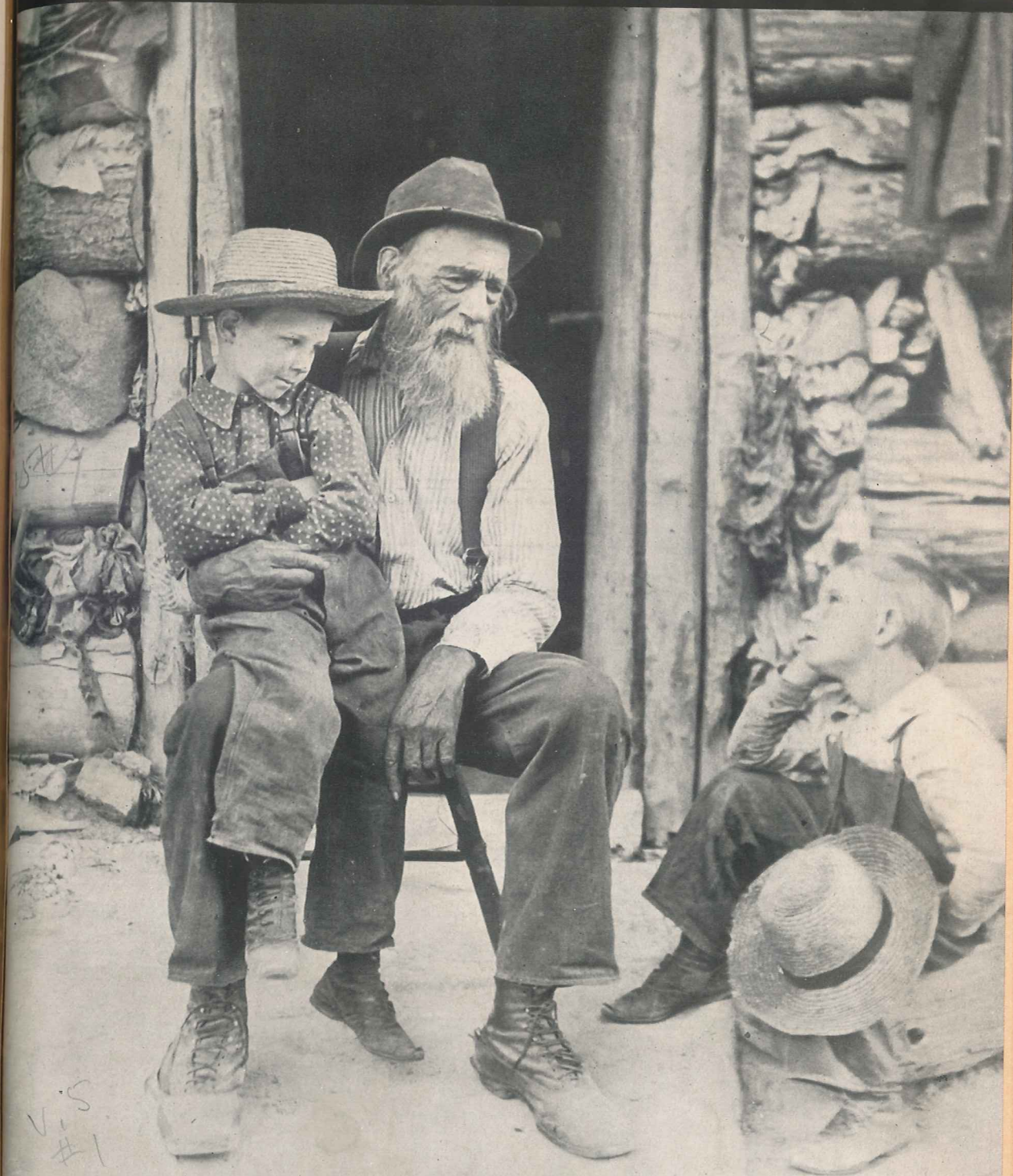
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