



Ski Flying—Tanno Luuro clearing 139 metres at Oberstdorf.

Alpine Winter," a picture of a typical winter resort, by Mrs. Aubrey le Blond, was on sale for 5/-. And, by no means the least evidence of publication in those dear dead days, a teacher of ski-ing could afford to write:

"The turn (the Christiania Swing without the Stick) is characterised by a peculiar catch in the snow which is not very easy to learn and which is very difficult indeed to describe. It is not improbable that there are several ways of arriving at this catch, and I do not, in offering the following directions, say that they afford the only possible guide to proficiency."

THE KOSCIUSKO HOTEL FIRE

The destruction by fire of the Kosciusko Hotel was a great blow to ski-ing in New South Wales. Many of us who were no longer regular visitors have the most pleasant memories of our early ski-ing days there. Mr. Petersen has dealt elsewhere in this issue with the fire and what it destroyed. We wish him and Mrs. Petersen sympathy in their personal loss and say no more in these notes than to wonder at the initiative and imagination which created the building in 1909 and to deplore the lack of such qualities in the authorities in later periods.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DAY

The passing of the Day family from Charlotte's Pass was not overlooked by us last year, but at the time of going to press there appeared not to be finality so we avoided the risk of untimely obsequies. To George and Mrs. Day we now say none the less sin-

cerely, as host and hostess for many years, farewell and thank you.

George Day's services to ski-ing at Kosciusko have been many and varied. In winter he was always ready to help with the organisation of any races and was a tower of strength in any emergency. In summer he carried on in his practical manner, whether it was making the Twynam Course or building a jumping platform. These are a few symptoms only of his enthusiasm for the sport, just as the massive mountain ash gate posts to the Chalet are a lasting indication of his interest in the Chalet itself.

In later years, his duties—as Manager of a place like the Chalet, he was at once captain, chief engineer and mate—did not allow him over much time on the snow, but that does not mean that his record as Australian representative and all-rounder in championship meetings was a light one. He first came into prominence in 1937 when he was second only to Durrance and Bradley, of U.S.A., in three of four events and finished his racing career (so he says) with the 1949 N.S.W. championships, in which he won the Downhill but was beaten in the Slalom by his younger son, this year one of Australia's first representatives at the Winter Olympic Games. (He has also made the only known landing from an unprepared take off through the upper branches of a gum tree.)

Some of the aspects of a hotel manager's life, we know, tried our host at times, for he is essentially a man of deeds rather than words. Once upon a July morning we remember an assertive type from overseas standing and watching George as he sweated with a crowbar to replace the steel cable which had slipped down the eight-foot drum of the ski hoist. Various doubtless well meant suggestions were offered by the watcher and suffered in silence by the worker. Finally, "You'll have some fun when you get the cable up to the top, George." The reply was completely adequate. "No," said George. "No, there'll be no fun." There are, of course, stories of occasions when his reactions were more direct and forceful, but in no case did he lose any person's respect or, indeed, friendship.

An instance of the direct approach in his his paper work (which, we suspect, he did not take to very kindly) is to be found in an entry in his routine report to the Tourist Bureau covering a summer period. It read:

"Dec. 20, chef tight. Dec. 21, chef left."

Mrs. Day's part in the management of the Chalet is none the less deserving of mention because it was not always obvious. She was to no small degree responsible for the smooth running of the establishment and to our knowledge at one holiday period most successfully took the place of the abovementioned chef.

George now has a property not too far from the snowfields and there is every prospect that with two sons in top championship class he will be paying visits to his old home. Meanwhile we wish both him and Mrs. Day success and assure them both of the appreciation of all N.S.W. skiers of a job well done.



This is not a member of the U. S. S. R. Pole Vaulting Team but a model of winter sports wear, circa 1909, price 7/6.