

# Swastika Reports

By G. F. COYNE

So far this winter, it seems that we are getting our full share of snow. As measured this week on our permanent snow course near Kirkland Lake, we have 27.2 inches. Last year at the same time we had 10.7 inches. It is interesting to hear the different reactions from the various supervisors on the effect of this on their particular phases of our operations.

Our Forest Protection staff of course like to see lots of snow because it is an indication that there will be plenty of moisture in the ground in the spring, and the more moisture there is available, the less the chances of bad fires.

The Fish and Wildlife staff on the other hand have mixed feelings about deep snow but they would rather see it on the shallow side than the deep, because in March when the crust forms, deep snow makes travelling for deer and moose very difficult, and it puts the odds much in favour of their mortal enemy, the wolf, who can skim across the crust with ease. Our Fish and Wildlife staff of course are biased strongly in favour of the game animals. Deep snow covering the ice on shallow lakes sometimes cuts out the sunlight and restricts the growth of water plants which provide life-giving oxygen and use up deadly carbon dioxide from the water. In severe situations, fish are sometimes winter-killed. On the other hand, deep snow provides cover for grouse on very cold nights and it helps the rabbit population by constantly elevating them to new levels of food supply.

The Nursery Superintendent likes lots of snow because it protects the trees from winter damage, which can be very severe where the young seedlings are exposed to wind and frost. In the spring, they are yellow and very sick-looking compared to the healthy green specimens that emerge from snow-covered beds. The Reforestation men like lots of snow to protect their newly planted trees, providing it does not offer too much protection to the mice which often work under the snow eating bark and twigs and providing also that it goes away in time for them to start planting more trees early in the spring.

The Parks staff like lots of snow to keep frost out of their improvements and help eliminate heaving of foundations, etc., which are unattended during winter months, but they find it hard to get a complete job done of clearing brush and other material during their winter works projects.

The Timber Management men do not like too much snow because it curtails woods operations and makes travelling in the bush difficult. Their scalers have to shovel off the skidways before they can measure the wood that has been cut and snow buries up the mistakes of the careless woods operator before they can find them. High stumps and large tops are a constant threat when the snow gets deep. Haul roads have to be plowed and sanded more often, and deep snow on lakes prevents thick ice from forming, and this sometimes makes lake travel very hazardous.

So even in one organization like ours, we can find a great difference of opinions as to whether a lot of snow is a good or bad thing, but one thing is certain, we have it and we have to live with it.

## N. McAulay Rink Win Competition

The Crazy Quilt Competition which was being played in the ladies' section at the local curling club proved very interesting and instructive. It gave the leads and seconds more insight into the game and it was surprising how quickly some of the players judged the ice and made final shots to win the game.

The draw finished Wednesday evening with the first prize being won by Ness McAulay's rink with May Hylands, Jackie Nadeau and Grace MaKae with her. Number of points, 36.

Second prize went to Irene Lemay with Glenice McAulay, Gwen Horncastle and Theresa Joyal as her rink. Number of points, 30.

Two of the afternoon rinks tied for points so will play off later to determine the winner in that group.

## Curling Notes

One rink from the local club attended the Mixed Bonspiel in Temagami at the last week-end and won first prize in the second event.

Maurice McNulty was to skip the rink, but owing to illness, Lockie Goddard skipped it. The other players were Flora McFarlane, Jim Loblaw and Katie Uren.

Four rinks from the local curling club attended the Mixed Bonspiel in Enlehart the past week-end.

A rink skipped by Percy Grozell with Tess Austin, Bob MacArthur and Mabel Grozell with him won second prize in the third event.

The personnel of the other rink were in order as named skip, vice, second and lead.

Ben Bourget, Ness MacAulay, Guy Marston and Mary Bourget.

Harry Coull, Adele Maloney, Ralph Crooks and Bunny Coull.

Bill Fleming Jr., C. Fleming, Roger Fleming and F. Pennock.

## Across the Kitchen Table

By MRS. MAC

It is hard to realize that the day after tomorrow will be the middle of the month and also St. Valentine's Day. Of course I don't suppose that anyone who has small children will find it hard to realize that Valentines are in the offing, when bits of red paper, white paper, paste, ribbons and crayons are scattered over the tables and floors. Never mind, mothers, they'll grow up

all too quickly and then you'll be glad that you took time to make their eyes shine, with a bit of praise and a little help.

\* \* \* \*

I was reading an article recently about retirement age, (to jump from children to grandparents,) and the doctor who wrote it said that training for the years after sixty-five should begin in infancy. He believes that work, after retirement, is vital, also diversion, moderation and rest, but not too much rest. He told of an 80-year old English secretary, who when it was suggested that she spend some of her wages on household help said, "Can't. Got to save for my old age, you know."

Another old English lady lives on her pension and works cleaning offices four days each week, in order to go on bus tours of Europe. When she was seventy, she decided that since her family was gone, she wasn't going to sit around feeling sorry for herself, but instead, would do some of the things she had wanted to do when she was younger. Already she has visited five or six European countries. More power to her! I get so provoked at people who keep lamenting that they can't do this or that because they are "too old." They can at least try to be interested in something. They needn't be like the woman I know who mournfully says, "I'm just waiting for the Lord to take me to dear Mac." She might just as well be getting around making life a bit more pleasant both for herself and others, because when the Lord is ready to take her, she needn't worry, He'll know where she is.

## Haileybury

Four rinks from Cobalt-Haileybury Curling Club left Wednesday for Noranda to take part in the T. and N.O. Curling Bonspiel being held there this week.

The rinks are skipped by Lorne Umphrey, Ron Morrisette, William Backland and Connie Vachon.

Mrs. William Allan and children, Frank and Vicki, of North Bay, are spending several days with Mrs. Allan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Connie Vachon.

Mrs. Peter Bonin, who has been a patient in the hospital for some time is now convalescing at the home of her daughter Mrs. Lorne Berry. Her son, William and Mrs. Bonin, of Detroit, Michigan, and her daughter, Mrs. Cora Miller of Toronto, have been visiting her and their father.

Latest information on the world's newest hardware, housewares, sporting goods and appliances will be brought back to Haileybury by Wilf and Louise Gibson who are attending the 54th Annual Canadian Hardware Show in Toronto, February 9-12 inclusive.

Mr. Gibson is a member of the Canadian Retail Hardware Association, sponsors of the show, which is the second largest in the world, exceeded slightly in size by the New York Hardware Show. The Canadian Show has 704 displays covering more than six acres, with hundreds of thousands of individual items.

Mrs. Lorn Umphrey and daughter Judith Ann, spent the past week-end in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. William Sheedy and children, Danny and Dale, of Cochrane, were week-end guests of Mrs. Sheedy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stevens.

## News from the Evelyn Shoppe

Last week the shop was upset during painting operations and Evelyn's apologies go to any of her customers who were inconvenienced by the fact that certain merchandise was hard to find. This week, things are back on a more even keel and you will be welcomed into a bright, cheery looking shop that forms a fitting background for the new styles that are arriving daily.

Maybe you, too, feel that both you and your wardrobe need renovating. Then just for you, is the new Answer girle by Gossard which erases tummy bulge instantly, in boneless comfort. It makes a perfect foundation for the new printed Miracle silk dresses which are absolutely uncrushable and perfect for travelling. The prints are blended like sunshine and shadow, in shades of turquoise blue, gold and grey, three tones of green blended with turquoise green or shaded Nassau rose with black accents.

A beautiful dress and jacket ensemble in navy and white silk tweed mixture, is very smart.

And ask to see the new shipment of boucle knits by Miss Sun Valley. These dresses have a wearable casualness about them and are fashionably popular for spring wear, in all the newest shades.

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