Eastern Canada's highest peak attracts thousands

Montreal rises gently, season. Its White Peak is the thirties.

50 years, according to Taschereau. faithful old skiers.

whom I rode the chairlift before men ever climbed to the top of Mont its flanks with skis. Tremblant on a glorious Tremblant was formed day of bright sun, fluffy during the first glacier little white clouds dotting age, and rose originally to

the blue sky, a day of several times its present away and the legend they

Orlando and Tampa.

members.

Mont Tremblant, 80 packed powder snow, a height. miles north-west of day you wait for all Thousands of

undulating ridges from Jim grew expansive seismic upheaval, the Laurentian Plateau to and told me about the glaciation and erosion a height of 3,001 feet. It is first time he skied have given Tremblant the a venerable mountain. Tremblant, in the early gently contoured,

highest promontory of There were no lifts, and a venerable old lady. what is said to be the Jim and his party oldest mountain range in climbed the mountain Indians, who were there with seal skins in order to first, Mont Tremblant And it is a mountain ski down one of the two that men have traveled existing trails of the time: distances to ski for nearly The Kandahar and the

The mountain was the Wilderness, who Men like Jim with there of course, long

created would later give the mountain its name, MONT TREMBLANT. the Trembling Mountain. In February 1938, another party of skiers of Mont Tremblant. Among them was Joseph Bondurant Ryan, Irish several times

> Thomas. As Thomas later told it in a radio broadcast from the Mont Tremblant

millionaire, and Lowell

tervening years

sanctity of the wilds.

weathered appearance of To the Algonquin frozen lakes of that part and story-telling. came to be known as

spread out before us. Manitou-Ewitchi-Saga, the Mountain of the Dread Manitou, Indian God of would cause the mountain

to tremble with great spots in the world and Jean-Louis Levesque who hour. storms and falling rock when man violated the wrong with it; it is too Roger DeSerres. The Indians stayed

from Philadelphia and sale; he hired crews of democratically, to the "habitants", the French- true skiing public.

the top we found our- and in February 1939, just the great names in superhighway - and nging eaves and brightly have their skis blessed. selves in a glistening one year after his climb to Eastern skidom, and that followed it past towns colored gables. fairyland of ice crystals the summit with Lowell its ski school gave lessons with french-catholic There is a base area form up in the morning at and pine trees, either Thomas, opened the doors four hours a day, morning names, onto Quebec 117 to just up the road, called the Chalet Circle, where coated with rime ice or of the Mont Tremblant to and afternoon. buried deep in snow. It the skiing public, mostly An intermediate, I the signs for about seven arrangement of its from the Chalet des

was sunny and clear, and for his wealthy wanted the experience of miles to Tremblant - a buildings, with a ski shop- Voyageurs and red-suited we could see an immense Philadelphia friends at spending most of the day, 90-minute leisurely drive rental-repair shop, the ski instructors direct distance with the snow- first, who would come up every day, on the hill, in all. covered mountains and to enjoy skiing, singing with a good instructor. The second thing I Chalet des Voyageurs Tremblant Lodge guests.

Ryan added, according they have over the past to Thomas, "I believe I'll decade, installed lifts, widened trails and cut A casual remark - but new ones, put in an exnot in Ryan's mind. With tensive snowmaking a doggedness that would system, opened up more later become his novice-intermediate elected to climb to the top trademark, Joe Ryan terrain to counter succeeded in purchasing Tremblant's reputation the land he could and as an expert mountain, leasing what was not for and opened the door,

> Canadian farmers and I knew nothing of this lumbermen of the region; history when I visited cut trails and put up a Mont Tremblant last 4,500-foot chairlift (the season. I knew only that first in America) Tremblant was a for-

The first thing I learned learned, on arrival, is cafeteria and separate Three other lodges of the Province of Quebec In 1950 Joe Ryan died about Tremblant is that if that the Mont Tremblant Disco-Bar, a lift-ticket nearby and in 1965, the Ryan you go by air, it is Lodge is but the cen-building, a check-room Pinoteau, Cuttle's We got a thrill out of it family sold the entire remarkably close to home trepiece of a cluster of with lockers for season Tremblant Club and Villa and especially young Joe complex to three Mon- and easy to reach. The large wooden buildings pass holders and ski Bellevue - operate their treal businessmen flight from Toronto to and smaller cottages, set racks; and a ski school own ski-schools at Said he, "This surely is Messrs. Andre Charron, Montreal's Dorval airport in among the trees, that office. one of the most glorious Roger Beauchemin and took slightly less than an form a compact skiing there is only one thing were joined later by Mr. I rented a car at the Mont Tremblant.

airport, got on the It is all done in the early

difficult getting up here". Among the four of them Laurentian Autoroute - a settlers' style, with

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St. Jovite and followed the Chalet Circle for the brightly colored flags fly

village right at the base of nearby, the Chapelle St.- school-parka colors on the Bernard where in times hill.

Lodge "When we got to designed by U.S. Steel; midable mountain, one of six-lane, 70-mph characteristic overha- past children could go to

Magasin de la Place, the traffic for the Mont

Tremblant, which leads There is even a church to a profusion of ski-

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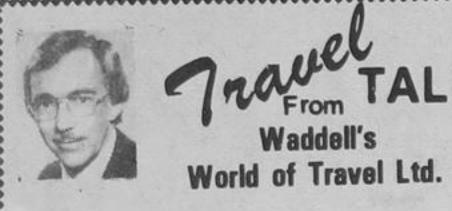
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