

Sports (cont'd)A Rare Sport is Snow Snaking

Snake throwing combines several arts - skilful design, master craftsmanship, good timing, strength and knowledge of the conditions. Object of the sport is simple, who can throw the snake the farthest.

The track the snakes take is formed in a mound of snow about 22 inches high. A log is dragged along the top of the mound, forming a depression three or four inches deep in the crown. The trough or depression guides the snake in its run.

The long mounds creep across the fields, up and down hills. The snakes usually travel between one-half and three-quarters of a mile and it takes about two hours to construct the track. In Tonawanda, N.Y., one of four United States centres where the games are played, a snake was thrown the width of a concession or about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

The snakes Mr. Porter makes are thicker and heavier than most snakes are made. He likes them thick, especially just behind the head. The snake then doesn't break as easily as a thin-necked one does.

The snake is designed with a "head" or raised portion on the front which keeps the shaft riding on the proper surface. Occasionally, the snake does roll over and the head drags it to a halt. "The best woods are fine-grained hardwoods," says Mr. Porter, who has snakes made from hickory, ironwood, maple, thorn and oak.

A lead tip is poured on each snake to prevent cracking if the shaft happens to collide with a rock. The lead must be heated to just the right temperature to provide a good bond between wood and lead. The tail of the snake is notched for the thrower's finger.

P E R S O N A L S

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Montour attended the morning service at Brant Avenue United Church in Brantford on Sunday. Mr. Montour spoke on "Religion on the Reserve," including the Longhouse.

Mrs. Helen Hill returned to school on Monday after a month off due to illness.

Captain and Mrs. Gary Venables showed pictures of the Holy Land at Deleware Chapel on Monday evening, November 10th. They also sang songs to the accompaniment of guitar by Capt. Venables. The evening was enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Miller made it to the Remembrance Day services at Ohsweken from Rochester, N.Y., encountering terrific roads on the way (15 inches of snow).

Mrs. Gordon Longboat entered Chedoke Hospital, Hamilton, for therapy on Tuesday.

Miss Elsie Powless, Buffalo, N.Y., was the weekend guest of Mrs. Wilfred L. Smith, Sour Springs.

Mr. & Mrs. Graham Smith and Scott, Buffalo, N.Y., were visitors to the Reserve on Saturday.

Master Wm. Vyse was home last week for several days from Regina Mundi College, London, Ont.

Mr. John Capton was judging plowing on farms in Oneida Township on Monday.

Mr. Harold Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., visited the Reserve.

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