



LADIES' SKI CLUB BULLETIN  
NOVEMBER, 1959

# KENDALS



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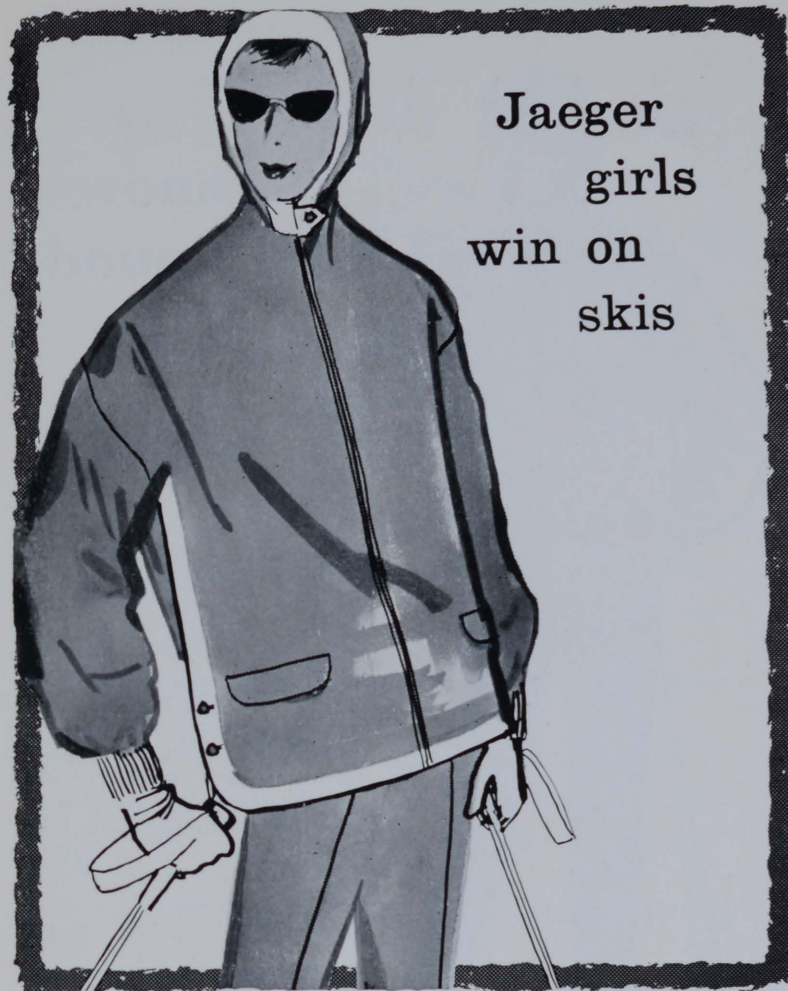
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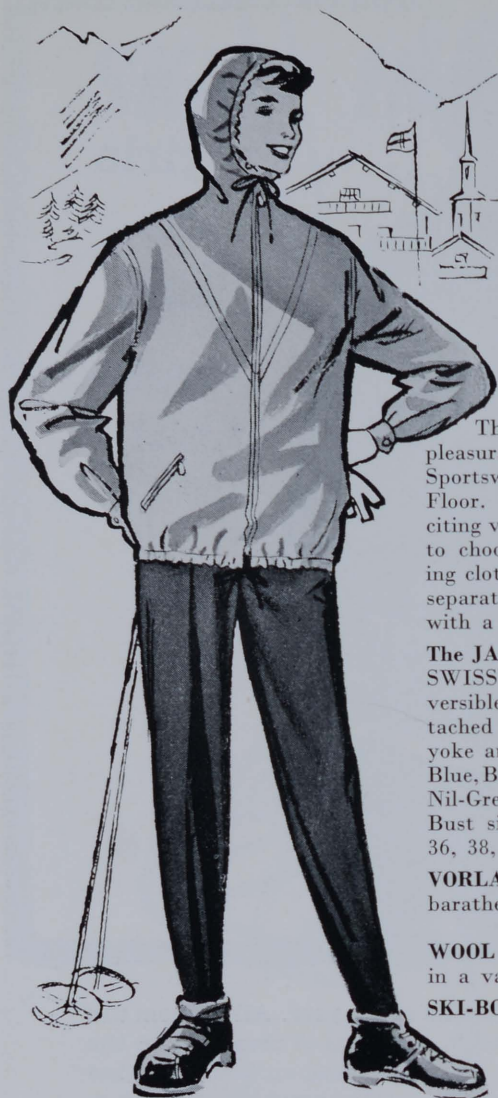
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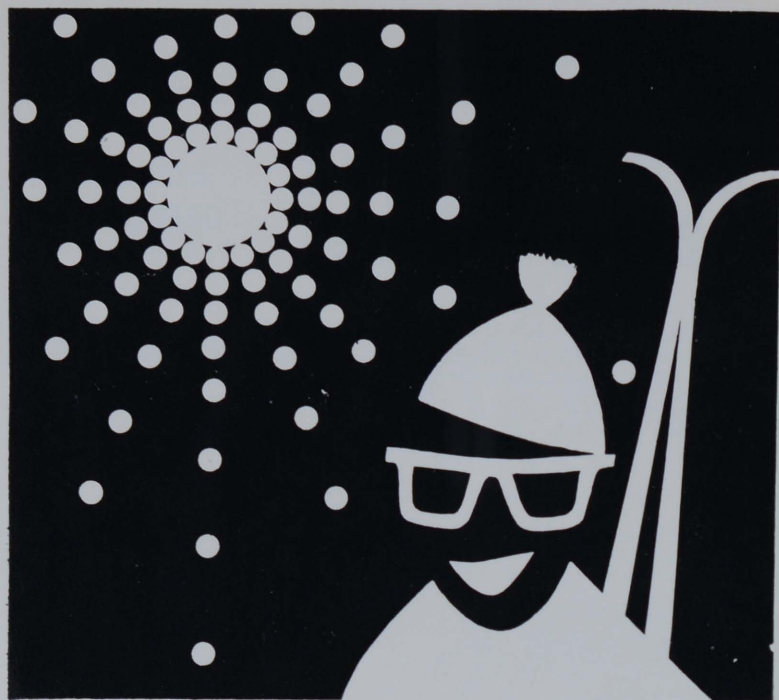
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# Switzerland

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# THE LADIES' SKI CLUB BULLETIN

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NOVEMBER, 1959

## EDITORIAL

LAST season the sun certainly redeemed its fitful behaviour of the previous year, and made up for the soft-snow shortage that prevailed throughout the mountains. In both the Wengen and Davos areas, however, I managed to find some lovely powder snow, and even a zealously guarded spring-snow slope. Whilst ski-ing in the Parsenn area I was particularly dismayed by the behaviour of some of the *piste* skiers. How often do manners desert the average skier when once he smells the mountain air! On a well used route, very few, if any, will stop and assist a fallen or otherwise distressed fellow-being. Admittedly some of those who descend the mountain side by ski are probably quite unable to stop at a given point if so desirous, but for the rest I clamour for a big Courtesy Drive amongst skiers. Who knows, perhaps some day S.C.G.B. Reps. will be firing questions on the Skiway Code, to those trying to get their bronze, silver, or gold?

The tragic death of one of our newest members, Carol Thubron, in an avalanche at Grindelwald, emphasises once again the vital importance to soft-snow enthusiasts of learning their snowcraft. Indeed, this was sharply impressed on your Hon. Editor, who nearly ended a brief married life, when honeymooning in Klosters, by ski-ing straight across the path of an oncoming avalanche, whilst "birds-nesting" on the Serneus run. The one thought in my head at the time was the well-remembered warning, "Keep going as fast as you can!" I don't think I've reached such speed before or since!

Our best wishes to Zandra Nowell, who was married on July 4th to John Johnson, and to Jocelyn Wardrop Moore, who was married on April 4th and is now Mrs. Waley.

Many congratulations to Mrs. R. Hilleary, who had a son on July 31st.

Welcome to the following, who have been elected new members: Miss A. Asheshov, Miss M. A. Cannel, Miss Valerie Drew, Miss P. L. S. Elliott, Miss Annette Ford, Miss Josephine Gibbs, Miss M. J. Ingram, Mrs. James, Miss A. Kirwan, Miss S. Kirwan, Lady Elizabeth Lindsay-Bethune, Mrs. McArthur, Miss Christine McLean, Mrs. Marx, Mrs. O'Reilly, Miss Francis Strong, and Mrs. Waley.

Mr. Bernie Bracher, who is President of the El Paso Ski Club in Texas, has very kindly sent in an article on American ski resorts, on

which attention will soon be focused for the coming Winter Olympic Games to be held in Squaw Valley.

The following is an item of interest which I have received and which I quote verbatim:

"The L.S.C. Championship (described elsewhere) was a most successful race run and reorganised on 'Lunn Lines' and not as planned by us in London, the cause of all this being a misunderstanding with the Kandahar and S.C.G.B. over a Mürren fixture—and what more logical on 'Lunn Lines' than that the L.S.C. should be altered? However, we are bound to admit that awarding the L.S.C. Championship on the combined result of the Lady Mabel Lunn Slalom and the Duchess of Kent Giant Slalom, was an entirely satisfactory decision, even though it did not come from us!"

The L.S.C. Championship will be held on January 23rd at Davos.

The L.S.C. Junior Championship will be held on January 6th at St. Moritz.

The L.S.C. Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 10th, at the Ski Club of Great Britain. This will be followed by the Cocktail Party, at which there will be a raffle to raise funds for the "L.S.C. Championship Party," which was held so successfully last year to entertain competitors and their friends.

Your Editor's warmest thanks go out to all those wonderful members who responded so gallantly and punctually to pleas for articles, and especially to those who sent in their manuscripts all beautifully typed out and legible. Please repeat next year and remember that all contributions must be in by June and these include photographs—glossy prints. Any who are willing to help by finding new advertisements, please contact the Advertising Secretary. All members should realise that the Advertisements are the life blood of the BULLETIN. Please remember to quote the BULLETIN when making enquiries of advertisers.

**Subscriptions.**—Our subscription is still only five shillings and, unlike most clubs, has not been raised. Members may, if they wish, give a voluntary donation to the racing fund, of an additional five shillings yearly. Anyone wishing to do so should write to their bank instructing them to increase their yearly subscription to ten shillings, and send a postcard to the Hon. Treasurer, notifying her of their intention.

**Badges.**—L.S.C. badges can be obtained from the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. R. Oddie, 23, St. Leonard's Terrace, London, S.W.3. Prices: metal 8s. 6d., cloth 5s. It would be much appreciated if members would enclose cash with their orders.

**New L.S.C. Sweater**—Royal blue, pale blue band, "V" neck. The sweater is suitable for ski and *après-ski* wear. It will be on sale at the Cocktail Party on November 10th, price £4 17s. 6d. including badge.

The following article, which appeared in the *Evening Standard*, was sent in to me, and I received kind permission to reprint it from the London Express News and Feature Services:

### TIME TO LIMBER

This time of year the Alpine passes are clogged with lorries bringing supplies of splints, bandages and cash-registers to the Swiss medical profession. It is an honest and humanitarian trade, but the Ski Club of Great Britain desires to have it diminished. In this hope, the club has printed, and is distributing to winter sports organisations and travel agencies, 20,000 copies of a seven-point pamphlet, the *Skiway Code*.

First, it says in this pamphlet, and well in advance of departure, the intending skier must "limber up." This is well-meaning but fundamentally mistaken advice. A man who spends a fortnight bending his knees and twisting his ankles in the bathroom does not escape the risk of being crippled abroad. He merely adds to it the certainty of being crippled at home. Let him at least start his holiday feeling his usual *fine, flabby self*.

### OVER THE TOP

The next point is that ruts are to be avoided wherever possible; and here again reservations must be stated. What is a rut? It is a track or path, which sets a man on his course, robs him of ambition, depresses his initiative, relieves him from the need to take his own decisions. But this is an exact catalogue of the novice's requirements. A rut may lead him to the hospital, but never, unless he is specially unfortunate, over the edge of a precipice.

The next suggestion is to get out of the way quickly if one falls. This is undoubtedly sound exhortation, but it is weak on the practical side. It should be pointed out that in the starting position both legs are quivering with exhaustion, all facial orifices are packed with snow, and that the head may be 3 feet lower down the slope than the feet.

### AS PER MUSIC

To attempt to stand from this position—especially if the frame is already weakened from limbering-up—is madness. Crawling is better; rolling better still; while, if conditions permit, a rapid burrowing underground with the hands can be the most efficacious of all.

Finally, the Code particularly counsels, "never run out of control." There is nothing to quarrel with here. Indeed, it summarises the essence of the matter, as do the instructions on how to play the piano like a maestro, in one lesson, for £5, which read: "Place music on stand. Place ten fingers on notes. Press same as per music."

## OBITUARY

THE LADY MABEL LUNN

By Phyllis Holt Needham

WHEN I arrived in Mürren as Arnold's secretary 26 years ago, Mabel had ceased to ski very much, but she still flitted gracefully about the slopes in her very individual ski-ing clothes, helping beginners with their early struggles. Her speciality at this time was getting the clumsier kind of newcomer through the Third Class turns which were then called Q.3, and there must be many skiers who remember being led away by Mabel to some secluded bank to be *willed* round their jump turns.

As I did not know Mabel at the height of her ski-ing powers, when she was the first woman to pass the S.C.G.B. First Class Test, I feel I should not be writing about her in a ski-ing publication. I have, however, been allowed to examine the first Minute Book of the Ladies' Ski Club, from which it is clear that, whatever the Sinister Father's keyhole technique that day, it was Mabel who was in the chair at the first meeting of the Club on January 22nd, 1923, when "it was decided that those present should constitute the Foundation Committee with power to add to their number."

The Foundation Committee kept a firm grip on the growing Club until the first Annual General Meeting in November, 1924, and during that time asked Dame Katharine Furse to become the first President. On her refusal, they asked Lady Denman, who accepted, and Mabel became the first Vice-President. Dame K. had second thoughts, and was elected to succeed Lady Denman in 1926, to be followed by Mabel in 1929.

Mabel always retained her affection for the Ladies' Ski Club, but her interests lay with individuals rather than with institutions. If people wanted to join clubs she would take great trouble finding proposers and seconders; if they wanted to enter for tests or races she would make sure they knew how to go about it; but it was the people who did not really know how to get the most enjoyment out of their time in Mürren who had particular reason to be grateful to Mabel. She would try to find out what they really wanted to do, and make it possible for them to do it if she could. She never suggested that they *ought* to want to do something else.

But when I think back to my first winters in Mürren, it is chiefly at the big round table just inside the dining room doors at the Palace that I remember Mabel. All through the season people came and went; some had been coming there for years and took their places as of right; others came for some special occasion and were asked to stay on; some were brought in when it was discovered that the rest of their party had gone home; however large the table became, Mabel always remained in complete control of it, and made a gay party of every meal.

When Mabel returned to Mürren after the last war her health was already failing, and though she continued to help both skiers and bridge players to enjoy themselves, it was a great effort to her, and there were, of course, sad gaps round the table in the dining room. Mabel took a great interest in curling, however, and became an enthusiastic supporter of her favourite teams.

Eventually her doctors refused to allow her to go to Mürren in winter, and she withdrew more and more from her old ski-ing friends. It was a great pleasure to many of them that, shortly before her sudden death, she got in touch with them again, and was full of plans for meeting. She lunched with me about a week before she died, and we telephoned to each other most days. I think what I miss most is Mabel's penetrating, but always unobtrusive and sympathetic interest in everything that concerned her friends.

RIPLEY ODDIE

TO THOSE who had the privilege of knowing Ripley Oddie there is nothing one can say except to congratulate them on their great good fortune. To those who only met him as "Jeannette's husband" at L.S.C. Parties perhaps they may not have realised that here was a man of enormous charm, great ability and of a most delicious wit.

To all of us who have known Ripley his loss is irreplaceable, and a great deal of gaiety and civilisation has been removed from our lives.

Through the past years he had suffered from extreme ill-health, but he remained as charming and witty as ever even though he could only see visitors for a few minutes.

To Jeannette we can only offer our greatest sympathy and send our love to her.

CAROL THUBRON

CAROL THUBRON'S death in the Grindelwald avalanche accident in January came as a great shock to us all.

Carol had just joined the Ladies' Ski Club and intended to compete in the L.S.C. Trophy at Mürren. Besides being a good and competent skier, she possessed many other invaluable qualities that made, for the Ski Club of Great Britain, such a highly successful Representative. We shall all miss her very much and extend our sincere sympathy to her family.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE Annual General Meeting was held at the Ski Club of Great Britain, 118, Eaton Square, on Tuesday, November 26th, followed by a Cocktail Party. The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were passed and signed, and the accounts were also approved and passed. Lady Blane was then re-elected Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. Oddie as Hon. Treasurer. Mrs. John Bolton Carter was elected Hon. Editor, and Miss P. Grant, Miss J. Scott-Brown, and Miss E. Fulton as members of the Committee. Miss Fulton also undertook the job of Advertising Secretary.

The President then went on to deal with the racing fixtures for the coming season. In recent years, she said, the L.S.C. Championship had had a raw deal, having been fitted into the racing programme rather as an afterthought. Everyone would be glad to hear that it was now going to take its place in a British Ladies' racing week, to be made up as follows:

Beginning of week: British Championships, Downhill and Slalom.

End of week: L.S.C. Championships, Slalom and Duchess of Kent Giant Slalom. Both the L.S.C. Championship and the Duchess of Kent Cup were to be open events, and to attract an international entry of Lowland class. The 1959 L.S.C. Championship would be run at Mürren, on Saturday, January 24th.

In her report the President said: "I should like to say how pleased and honoured I am at being asked to be President of the Ladies' Ski Club, and I will now give you an account of last season's activities and proposals for the coming season.

"The first Ladies' Ski Club Junior Championship was held at Villars last year. It was run as a slalom, and all the juniors who were competing in the British Junior Championship took part. Sixteen-year-old Wendy Farrington skied well to become the first winner of the trophy. This race has now been recognised as a regular slalom and will be run annually a few days before the British Junior Championships.

"The Ladies' Ski Club Championship was held last season in conjunction with the British Championship at Adelboden. Frieda Dänzer won the Open, and Sue Holmes, who came within three seconds of the winner's time, won the Member's Cup. Caroline Sims won the non-International Cup and is to be congratulated on a most successful season."

The President then said that the raffle, which was being held that evening during the Cocktail Party, was to raise money for a party at Mürren to be given for the L.S.C. and Duchess of Kent competitors, and all members who had contributed presents for this raffle were most gratefully thanked.

Continuing her report, the President went on to say: "On the competitive side, if one is to achieve success at ski-ing in the international field, it is now generally considered that one has to be dedicated

to the sport—that means ski-ing whenever you can. With this in view, there are plans for spring, summer, and winter S.C.G.B. training. All this costs money, and we are grateful to all members who have most generously contributed to our racing fund. Our fund is used to help top racers to compete in yet another race when the kitty has run dry. Two of our British hopes have been training in Austria since early November, so you can imagine that by Christmas time funds are already running a bit low.

"I should like to welcome our new members and am delighted to say they are already making themselves most useful. One has written an excellent informative article on ski-ing at Méribel, and another has taken over the job of Advertising Secretary. My nose is a little out of joint as this new Advertising Secretary has acquired advertisements for the L.S.C. BULLETIN where I have dismally failed for Marden's. I don't know if this is a reflection on me or Marden's?

"Our thanks are due to Lady Chamier for producing an excellent BULLETIN and to those writers who took up their pens upon receipt of her threatening postcards.

"I am sure we would all like to congratulate Miss Josephine Keliher on her engagement, and are delighted that she is to be our new Hon. Editor.

"We offer our thanks to Mr. Kenneth Smith and Mr. Eric Lewns for once again acting as Hon. Auditors, and also to Lady Blane and Mrs. Oddie for their work as Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

"Prospects for the coming winter are good, and for the first time for a number of years the last autumn snowfalls are lying and forming a base which, if allowed to stay, should be ideal. With this in mind, I take this opportunity of wishing you all a jolly good season, and may you cover yourselves in silver and gold, lions and stars, or, if it is your choice, just enjoy a little quiet 'Off-the-Piste' stuff, known perhaps to some of you as 'on the powder,' 'through the forest,' or 'in the crust.'"

Prizes were then presented, and Caroline Sims received the non-International Cup. Unfortunately Sue Holmes and Wendy Farrington were unable to be present to receive their respective cups. The meeting then adjourned and the Cocktail Party commenced.

## THE RACING WEEK

### British Ladies' Championships and Ladies' Ski Club Championships

THE Racing Week for the British Ladies began at Wengen on January 21st and was ushered in by the British Ladies' Championships, the Downhill on the 21st and the Slalom on the 22nd. The results were somewhat unexpected and rather interesting.

The day, which started badly, cleared miraculously around mid-day and conditions were perfect, both snow and sky. The course was Hundshof, Waterstation, Switchbacks, Sawmills, and had 11 controls. The last *schuss* and that hair-raising finish by Mary's Café were thus eliminated. There were 16 starters and they all finished.

The race was won by Joan Shearing (aged 41 with three children), followed by Zandra Nowell, Olympic runner, 2nd, and Josephine Gibbs, practically a newcomer to the racing world, 3rd. Tania Heald, Junior Champion, aged 15½, was 4th, Cynthia Petre 5th, and Sue Holmes, our other Olympic girl, was 6th. Times as follows:—

1, J. Shearing, 2' 32.6"; 2, Z. Nowell, 2' 34.2"; 3, J. Gibbs, 2' 34.8"; 4, T. Heald, 2' 35.6"; 5, C. Petre, 2' 36.4"; 6, S. Holmes, 2' 36.8"; 7, C. Sims, 2' 37.8"; 8, E. Nicoll, 2' 38.2"; 9, J. Galpin, 2' 39.2"; 10, W. Farrington, 2' 40"; 11, V. Drew, 2' 47.4"; 12, A. Asheshov, 2' 50.2"; 13, F. Strong, 2' 56.8"; 14, M. Scott, 3' 4"; 15, G. Clarke, 3' 10.6"; 16, C. Mitchell, 3' 57.2".

The weather changing overnight made the Slalom course on the Brunner Slopes hard and unsympathetic, and although the sun eventually shone, it made very little difference to the course. Here Cynthia Petre, who had clocked a 5th in the Downhill, slalomed beautifully and got 1st place with runs of 66.7" and 67", the former being the best time made. Sue Holmes was 2nd with 70.7" and 66.8", Tania Heald 3rd, 68.4" and 69.7", and Zandra Nowell 4th, 70.9" and 67.8"

There were 16 runners, of whom two retired. Julie Galpin lost her ski from a broken binding, Joan Shearing missed one of the very last controls and lost a lot of time climbing back. Wendy Farrington had two bad spills and Frances Strong a heavy one near the finish. The Combined Results gave Cynthia Petre the winning place with 2.37 points; Zandra 2nd, 3.26; Tania 3rd, 3.87; Sue Holmes 4th, 4.33; Caroline Sims 5th, 9.70. So we have two juniors in the first four places, each beating an Olympic runner; rather shattering for the Race Committee and a vindication of their recent policy of "catch 'em young."

Arnold came over for the two days, and gave a very nice talk in the Eiger Bar on Earlier British Ladies' Championships, practically B.C., and watched the Slalom from the Crow's Nest, to which he climbed without any of the artificial aids offered. The D.H.O. held a Cocktail Party at the Bellair for competitors and helpers, which everyone enjoyed.

Wengen emptied that afternoon, most of the girls going off to Mürren for the finish of the Racing Week. The Lady Mabel Lunn

Challenge Cup, Slalom, and the Ladies' Ski Club Trophy (Combined) were held there on Saturday, January 24th, and the Duchess of Kent Giant Slalom and L.S.C. Trophy (Combined) on Sunday, January 25th. Wengen seemed to move in on Mürren. It was snowing hard on Saturday and visibility at times was very poor for the Slalom. The Finish could scarcely see the Start. As an added excitement Arnold was trying out his "ping-pong" slalom poles. The Course was set by Peter Heugler and started at 1.45 p.m. A very good entry of 28 competitors included 2 Norwegians, 5 Swiss, 2 Spanish, 1 Austrian and 17 from Great Britain, a great improvement on former Start Lists, and gives us hope that this International Race will become more popular.

Josephine Gibbs tied for 1st place with Wanda Klaveness, from Norway, with a total of 53.4", Traude Legat, of Austria, was 3rd, and Tania Heald and Zandra Nowell tied for 4th place. Ping-pong balls flew in the air frequently and a certain amount of penalties were exacted. I am not sure whether the experiment was regarded as a success or not.

As soon as this snowy ordeal was over, the girls rushed away to go over the Giant Slalom Course on "Kandahar," and try and get an idea in the fog where the controls were. However, Fate was kind, and the next morning dawned cold and clear—the sun was marvellous and everything on the mountain was lovely. A field of 27 competed and the finishing times were as follows:—

### THE DUCHESS OF KENT CHALLENGE CUP (GIANT SLALOM)

AND

### LADIES' SKI CLUB TROPHY (COMBINED)

|     | Name                 | Country       |          |
|-----|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| 1.  | Traude Legat         | Austria       | 1' 29.4" |
| 2.  | Caroline Sims        | Great Britain | 1' 30.2" |
| 3.  | Maria Scabell        | Switzerland   | 1' 31.1" |
| 4.  | Marianne Brynner     | Switzerland   | 1' 31.3" |
| 5.  | Susan Holmes         | Great Britain | 1' 33.2" |
| 6.  | Zandra Nowell        | Great Britain | 1' 34.2" |
| 7.  | Elspeth Nicoll       | Great Britain | 1' 35.1" |
| 8.  | Tania Heald          | Great Britain | 1' 38.1" |
| 9.  | Jacqueline Vuille    | Switzerland   | 1' 38.3" |
| 10. | Anna Asheshov        | Great Britain | 1' 40.4" |
| 11. | Joan Shearing        | Great Britain | 1' 41.2" |
| 12. | Josephine Gibbs      | Great Britain | 1' 45"   |
| 13. | Gloria Pallay-Delmar | Switzerland   | 1' 45.4" |
| 14. | Frances Strong       | Great Britain | 1' 47"   |
| 15. | { Julie Galpin       | Great Britain | 1' 48"   |
|     | { Valerie Drew       | Great Britain | 1' 48"   |
| 17. | Alie Schubert        | Switzerland   | 1' 49.3" |
| 18. | Coriminas Montserrat | Spain         | 1' 53.1" |
| 19. | Lulu Boulaz          | Switzerland   | 1' 56"   |
| 20. | Helga Schmatt        | Austria       | 1' 57.2" |
| 21. | { Röslä Streiff      | Switzerland   | 2' 02.1" |
|     | { Moyra Scott        | G.B.          | 2' 02.1" |
| 23. | Gilda Clarke         | Great Britain | 2' 13.4" |
| 24. | Campana Montserrat   | Spain         | 2' 26"   |
| 25. | Diana Tubbs          | Great Britain | 2' 31"   |
| 26. | Ella Maillart        | Switzerland   | 2' 41.4" |

Wanda Klaveness broke a ski. Wendy Farrington lost a ski.

THE LADY MABEL LUNN CHALLENGE CUP (SLALOM)  
AND  
LADIES' SKI CLUB TROPHY (COMBINED)

|     | Name                 |     | 1st Run | Pen. | 2nd Run | Pen. | Total  |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---------|------|---------|------|--------|
| 1.  | Wanda Klaveness      | ... | 26"     |      | 27.4"   |      | 53.4"  |
|     | Josephine Gibbs      | ... | 26.6"   |      | 26.8"   |      | 53.4"  |
| 3.  | Traude Legat         | ... | 25.8"   |      | 27.8"   |      | 53.6"  |
|     | Tania Heald          | ... | 28.4"   |      | 28.6"   |      | 57"    |
| 4.  | Zandra Nowell        | ... | 28.2"   |      | 28.8"   |      | 57"    |
| 6.  | Maria Scabell        | ... | 27.8"   |      | 29.8"   |      | 57.6"  |
| 7.  | Caroline Sims        | ... | 29"     |      | 29.8"   |      | 58"    |
| 8.  | Valerie Drew         | ... | 30.8"   |      | 33"     |      | 63.8"  |
| 9.  | Elspeth Nicoll       | ... | 32.4"   |      | 31.8"   |      | 64.2"  |
| 10. | Wendy Farrington     | ... | 39.8"   |      | 30"     |      | 69.8"  |
| 11. | Carolyn Doran-Webb   | ... | 30.8"   |      | 37.4"   |      | 71.2"  |
| 12. | Corominas Montserrat | ... | 31"     | 3"   | 31.8"   | 6"   | 71.8"  |
| 13. | Frances Strong       | ... | 32.6"   |      | 40.4"   |      | 73"    |
| 14. | Isobel Roe           | ... | 36"     |      | 38"     |      | 74"    |
| 15. | Joan Shearing        | ... | 36.6"   | 3"   | 36.2"   |      | 75.8"  |
| 16. | Angela Carr          | ... | 32"     |      | 44.4"   |      | 76.4"  |
| 17. | Anna Asheshov        | ... | 39.2"   | 3"   | 31.4"   | 3"   | 76.6"  |
| 18. | Gloria Pallay-Delmar | ... | 38.8"   |      | 38"     |      | 76.8"  |
| 19. | Julie Galpin         | ... | 43.6"   |      | 34.2"   |      | 77.8"  |
| 20. | Susan Holmes         | ... | 26"     |      | 55.6"   |      | 81.6"  |
| 21. | Diana Tubbs          | ... | 53.6"   | 3"   | 45.4"   |      | 102"   |
| 22. | Gilda Clarke         | ... | 47.6"   |      | 61"     | 6"   | 114.6" |
| 23. | Campana Montserrat   | ... | 57"     |      | 62.6"   |      | 119.6" |

The following retired: Helga Schmatt, Austria; Moyra Scott, G.B.

Abbreviations: N.—Norway; Sw.—Switzerland; Aus.—Austria; Sp.—Spain; G.B.—Great Britain.

The Combined results for the Ladies' Ski Club Trophy of the Slalom and Giant Slalom were as follows:—

THE LADIES' SKI CLUB TROPHY  
COMBINED RESULT OF  
SLALOM AND GIANT SLALOM

|     | Name                 |     | Slalom Points | Giant Slalom | Total Points |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.  | Traude Legat         | ... | 0.22          | 00.00        | 0.22         |
| 2.  | Caroline Sims        | ... | 5.10          | 0.75         | 5.85         |
| 3.  | Maria Scabell        | ... | 4.66          | 1.58         | 6.24         |
| 4.  | Zandra Nowell        | ... | 4.00          | 4.48         | 8.48         |
| 5.  | Tania Heald          | ... | 4.00          | 8.12         | 12.12        |
| 6.  | Josephine Gibbs      | ... | 0.00          | 14.56        | 14.56        |
| 7.  | Elspeth Nicoll       | ... | 12.00         | 5.32         | 17.32        |
| 8.  | Valerie Drew         | ... | 11.56         | 17.36        | 28.92        |
| 9.  | Susan Holmes         | ... | 31.32         | 3.55         | 34.87        |
| 10. | Joan Shearing        | ... | 24.88         | 11.01        | 35.89        |
| 11. | Anna Asheshov        | ... | 25.78         | 10.26        | 36.04        |
| 12. | Frances Strong       | ... | 21.78         | 16.42        | 38.20        |
| 13. | Gloria Pallay-Delmar | ... | 26.00         | 14.93        | 40.93        |
| 14. | Coriminas Montserrat | ... | 20.44         | 22.12        | 42.56        |
| 15. | Julie Galpin         | ... | 27.12         | 17.36        | 44.48        |
| 16. | Gilda Clarke         | ... | 68.00         | 42.00        | 110.00       |
| 17. | Diana Tubbs          | ... | 53.98         | 57.49        | 111.47       |
| 18. | Campana Montserrat   | ... | 73.54         | 52.82        | 126.36       |

Aus. = Austria; Sw. = Switzerland; Sp. = Spain.

We were all pleased that Caroline Sims got a well deserved 2nd. The prize-giving took place at the Palace at 6 p.m., our old and very dear friend Kini Maillart officiating. The Ladies' Ski Club held an impromptu Cocktail Party for the visiting guests, which seemed to go down very well. Altogether a very successful Racing Week, which we hope to repeat another year.

E.R.C.

LADIES' SKI CLUB JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP  
January 21st, 1959

Slalom. Brunner Slopes, Wengen. 43 Gates.

|    | Name             | 1st Run | 2nd Run | Total  |
|----|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 1. | Cynthia Petre    | 66.7"   | 67"     | 133.7" |
| 2. | Tania Heald      | 68.4"   | 69.7"   | 138.1" |
| 3. | Anna Asheshov    | 87.2"   | 85"     | 172.2" |
| 4. | Wendy Farrington | 105.4"  | 98.4"   | 203.3" |
| 5. | Frances Strong   | 161.3"  | 91.6"   | 252.9" |

Owing to bad weather conditions, the L.S.C. Junior Race was postponed from the Junior Championships at Adelboden, and was held in conjunction with the British Championship Slalom at Wengen.

The winner, 16-year-old Cynthia Petre, completed the very difficult course in splendid style, and is to be congratulated on becoming the British Ladies' Slalom Champion, British Champion (Combined), winner of the Hew Trophy (British Championship non-International Cup), and Ladies' Ski Club Junior Champion. A close 2nd was Tania Heald (15), British Junior Champion, 1958-59. The others, including Wendy Farrington, the holder, lacked the required judgment for such a difficult course. A new member, and the youngest competitor, too, Frances Strong, showed promise.

The first four girls were members of the D.H.O. second team, which beat all the boys' teams at Adelboden, and thus won the Junior Championship team race. It was the first year that an all-girls' team had been entered.

ISOBEL ROE.

L.S.C. SPOON RACE  
Wengen

By MRS. HEPWORTH

THE Ladies' Ski Club Spoon for girls under 19 years of age was competed for in a Giant Slalom on the Lauberhorn. The course was perfect, after a little snow, but light drifting cloud penalised the first competitors more than the others, so the results were uneven. Tania Heald skied magnificently, as she did throughout the season. It is always a joy to watch her small, compact figure, which, owing to her lightness, appears to fly through the air. Her courage and balance are quite

fantastic, and no one was surprised when she won the British Girls' Championship for the second time this year, at the age of fifteen. Cynthia Petre (3rd) is a strong and beautiful runner who improved very rapidly again this season during training. Her spectacular progress in slalom won her the British Ladies' Championship at sixteen. Frances Strong and Patricia Murphy are two young racers who are coming on fast, while Wendy Farrington, last year's L.S.C. Junior Champion, needs no introduction. Every one of the thirteen runners, all of whom were training with the D.H.O. at the time, gave a good performance, including the youngest, aged ten, Maud Illingworth. Among them was Sheila Jamieson, the Scottish Junior Champion, and her sister Helen, and Anna Asheshov, who has taken to racing like a duck to water, and has now discarded her glasses for contact lenses. Members may be interested to know that Shelagh and Patricia Murphy are the racing daughters of Joan Shearing, the British Lady Downhill Champion, a well-known member of the Club.

Our thanks are due to the members and trainers of the Downhill Only Club, who organised the race. Results:—

1st, Miss T. Heald, 1' 37.5"; 2nd, Miss F. Strong, 1' 37.2"; 3rd, Miss C. Petre, 1' 39.2"; 4th, Miss P. Murphy, 1' 39.9"; 5th, Miss W. Farrington, 1' 40"; 6th, Lady Lucinda Mackay, 1' 40.8"; Miss A. Asheshov, 1' 42.8"; Miss M. Irvine-Fortiscue, 1' 43.5"; Miss H. Jamieson, 1' 50.7"; Miss S. Jamieson, 1' 51.8"; Miss T. Dredge, 1' 56.2"; Miss M. Illingworth, 2' 4.2"; Miss S. Murphy, 2' 50.4".

This race will be held next season on December 23rd. Ladies' racing training will be organised by the Downhill Only Club from December 13th until January 17th, 1960. Those who can get out at the end of November will be welcomed at Kleine Scheidegg, until the D.H.O. training chalet at Wengen opens on December 12th. Details can be obtained from Mrs. P. Hepworth, 49, Caversham Street, London, S.W.3.

## NIGHT SLALOM AT BAD WIESSEE, BAVARIA

February 9th, 1959

By SUE HOLMES

THE bus from Garmisch, where we had competed in the A.-K., took us through the lovely Bavarian countryside to Bad Wiessee, where we were to compete in a Night Slalom. There were strong teams from France, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, and myself as the sole representative from Great Britain.

On arrival we were greeted by a smart band playing outside the Cafe Koenigslinde, and all the ladies were given small bouquets of carnations—a charming gesture. While we had our lunch, the arrangements for our short stay, and the race itself, were explained to us. The night slalom with flood lighting was going to be a unique experience. We all snatched a couple of hours' sleep that afternoon, as most of us had been up late the night before, at the A.-K. prize-giving, and our packing was done in the middle of the night.

About 5 p.m. we got ready for ski-ing, and how unusual it felt to be putting on ski-boots and pants at that time of night! After a quick cup of tea and some sandwiches we set out for the slope with the sunset colouring the surrounding hills and mountain tops with a heavenly pink. Thousands of people were streaming towards the slope, and with darkness falling rapidly the mountainside looked very eerie, with the big arc lamps shedding pools of light on the snow, the slalom course itself appearing to be just a mass of poles stuck into the hill at random. And what a slalom—Fritz Huber had set a magnificent course, but there were some 75 gates for boys and girls alike—quite a marathon, as we were only used to about 40 gates! If only one could have seen it all a little more clearly!

With about 35 girls competing, I had drawn number 22, not too good, as the course soon became rutty. There were some excellent skiers at the start, Betsy Snite (U.S.A.), who won the A.-K. Slalom, Annemarie Waser, and some strong French girls, Arlette Grosso, Danièle Télinge, Norway's Inger Bjoernekakken, and Austria's Hilde Hofherr, Sonja Sperl, Germany, and Hannelore Basler (who had won the previous year) completed the top group.

I had a tough time, being a little night blind, which did not help matters, and groped my way down the course, anxiously peering into the pools of darkness between the lights. It was more luck than ability if I got my ski into the right rut and took the gates the proper way! To make matters worse, the spectators were lining the course very closely, shedding long shadows on the snow. It was like travelling on braille. Three-quarters of the way down I got completely lost in the dark and zoomed past a gate combination, which meant, of course, a bit of climbing back. I achieved a time of 92" and was 22nd.

After our first run we were told that only those with times under 95" were to have a second run. So, crammed into a small hut, packed with people, we drank some hot tea and rested our weary legs. Finally it was decided that it would take too long for us to have a second run, and we were let off. But the boys went on, and the Slalom actually finished around midnight. By then most of the spectators had drifted home-wards; the stars anyway had long since finished their run, and the slope looked quite desolate, whilst the last racers hopped through the enormous ruts, where in many places the grass was coming through.

I managed to get a lift back into the village, and tucked into some hot food with relish, then found myself a comfortable arm-chair and had a short nap until the prize-giving got under way—at 2.15 a.m., which must surely be a record hour for such an event. But it was well worth waiting for, as there were some wonderful prizes. For the boys, best prize was a T.V. set, won by Ludwig Leitner, with 59.6". Second was Karl Schranz of Austria, who won a radio, and Anderl Molterer, who was third, got a huge basket of champagne. For the girls, first prize was an electric cooking stove, which Betsy Snite should have won, but as she found it would be a little difficult to transport back to the States, this was awarded to Annemarie Waser,

and Betty chose a portable wireless set. Even I got a prize—a lovely sponge bag!

There was to be dancing to round off the festivities, as it was Carnival time, but most of us were far too tired to go in for that. And early next morning we all set off again by bus, bound this time for Cortina, and for more racing.

## THE NEW SKI WORLD

BY BERNIE BRACHER

*President, El Paso Ski Club, Texas*

THE New World is fast becoming a "New Ski World" as well. American enthusiasm for ski-ing has increased in great leaps and bounds in the post-war era, but most observers believe the next great jump is just a few months away. Just as the 1932 Olympic Games at Lake Placid, New York, got things started the first time, the 1960 Olympic Games at Squaw Valley, California, are expected to give the sport another tremendous push. The Games in early March of next year will no doubt be seen by more people than any in Olympic history, with one of the T.V. networks planning to devote many hours of coverage to it.

There's a certain poetic justice to the selection of Squaw Valley as a games site (though the folks at Innsbruck and other areas may not agree). For it was there, many years ago, in the fabled Gold Rush Days, that a stalwart American named "Snowshoe" Thompson focused attention on winter travel on ski. Thompson made his own slats, and since "snow-shoe" was a more familiar word than "ski," that became his nickname. It was he who skied across the rugged Sierra Mountains and brought mail, medicine, and supplies to the miners in the high country around what is now Squaw Valley. And he made great speed, too. No one as yet has performed similar feats, and no one probably will. Even though the Olympics are an international event, some mention should be made of this staunch pioneer.

Early American ski resorts were carved out of the north-eastern mountains, near the larger cities. Ski trains transported the first skier, some of whom had donned their first pair of boots and ski in a New York department store only, to areas like Stowe, Vermont, Pico Peak, Pennsylvania, and the New Hampshire Mountains, where Hannes Schneider introduced the Arlberg technique. Hannes, much revered by many American skiers, was easily the greatest influence on teaching technique, and his snow-ploughs and stem turns still make patterns on U.S. mountains.

Three years ago, however, everyone was rolling the word "*wedeln*" across tongues unaccustomed to European accents. But as ski school after ski school adopted the new technique, or variations of it, and sports magazines and ski publications illustrated and sometimes pummelled it editorially, more and more skiers asked to be taught the new way. Most found that with to-day's packed-out *pistes*, which are studded with moguls (another new word), some sort of

technique which didn't require time-consuming rotation was essential. Look at a busy American slope to-day and compare it with what you saw only four or five years ago. There is no comparison. The general standard of ski-ing is good. The average American skis fast, on good ski (thanks mainly to Mr. Head), he has release bindings, and his feet are well supported in European ski boots.

The westward spread of ski areas saw the establishment of tows on some of the hills in the Northern Midwest, in Michigan and Wisconsin, but since small hills get boring, most of the jumpers came from those areas.

The Rockies are tall and steep, but the snows are deep. Ski areas sprang up near Denver, Colorado, and to-day there are five major slope systems within two hours' drive of the Colorado Capitol, all well developed and served with chair-lifts and high-speed T-bars and platter pulls. Further west, mountain communities such as Steamboat Springs, Leadville, Glenwood Springs, and others, have their own areas and their own local champion skiers. Capital of the Colorado ski communities is Aspen, the rejuvenated "ghost town," whose elaborate network of chair-lifts whirr at a dizzy pace from November until April. Aspen could easily be the most cosmopolitan city in the U.S.A. People come from everywhere to ski on its light powder and varied slopes.

Then there is Alta, in Utah, famed for waist-deep powder, and Sun Valley for its picturesque mountains and superb lodge, and Mount Hood in Oregon, where the snow remains for the summer and in July and August the serious skiers are still there keeping their legs in shape. Of course, there's more to California ski-ing than Squaw Valley. Near sprawling Los Angeles is Mammoth Mountain, where in a good year no amount of uphill transportation could carry all the skiers to the top fast enough. In the Sierras there are peaks that have never been skied on as yet.

The southern end of the Rockies where it dips into New Mexico is slowly coming into bloom as another potential ski-ing area. Peaks over 1,300 feet hold snow as long as their cousins to the North. There are already four major ski areas in New Mexico, and one which is within sight of Old Mexico is now in the embryo state of a new centre. This peak, rising to 12,000 feet, has its base on the floor of the South-western desert, and overlooks the historic site of the first atomic explosion here in 1945. A resort in these surroundings would make a ski trip, a swimming party, and attendance at a Mexican bull fight possible all in the same day!

Americans are also making their contribution to Alpine lift lines. Whole charter groups leave regularly from Eastern airports for two and three week trips to Europe. Last year a whole plane load took off from Houston, Texas (all but a few were Texans), for a charter trip to Switzerland. In the summer they go to Chile, in South America.

And so the vast ski community continues to grow and expand, nowhere perhaps faster than in the "New Ski World."