72

A

Short

Tour

By V. G. Wesche,

This year there will not be the usual amount of first-class racing in New South Wales. Some may be sorry, some may be glad, that we will get only faint echoes of the tumult and the shouting of Championship Week. The fact remains that people will have more time for touring. The following suggestions for a short day's run may be useful to those at the Chalet who like something mild for a start. Incidentally, it is a good run for beginners, if they take their time. No very exciting descent is to be had, but there is a pleasing variety about it, and, given a good frost or two, crystal snow of the finest quality will usually be found.

The route recommended is as follows: Make your way from the Chalet to the crossing over Spencer's Creek at the foot of the Sugarloaf, on the Betts' Camp side. (If you have not had too much breakfast for a stiff climb, it is worth-while to make a deviation by way of the Red Hut and the saddle behind Mount Guthrie.) Then bear to the left, across Spencer's Creek again, and follow the lower contours of the hills on the side of the valley opposite to Betts' Camp until you come to the last small valley under the Perisher. Climb in a N.W. direction up to the saddle at the head of this valley, whence you look across the Snowy and up the Guthega Valley to the top of the Main Range. From this saddle a creek wrongly [Are you sure?— Editor] called by some the Blue Cow Creek, runs down about 1,000 feet into the Snowy, near its junction with the Guthega.

Follow the bed of the creek down as far as it remains open going (about half a mile). Then climb the left bank and make your way round to the left and down to the Snowy through open timber. You will then be in sight of Pounds' Creek Hut, about a quarter of a mile up the Snowy.

After lunch, at the hut, the best way home to the Chalet is across Spencer's Creek, over the steep tongue of land which forms its left bank, and up the Snowy Valley. Keep to the right bank of the river (your left), as it is better going there than on the other side. After about a mile, when the cornice on the opposite bank has been left behind, you make a long traverse up to Charlotte's Pass, and so to the "Solarium."

Pounds' Creek Hut, by the way, has wood and billies, but food, alas!, no longer. As Dr. Laidley would say, "Où sont les stewed pears and ideal milk d'antan?"

