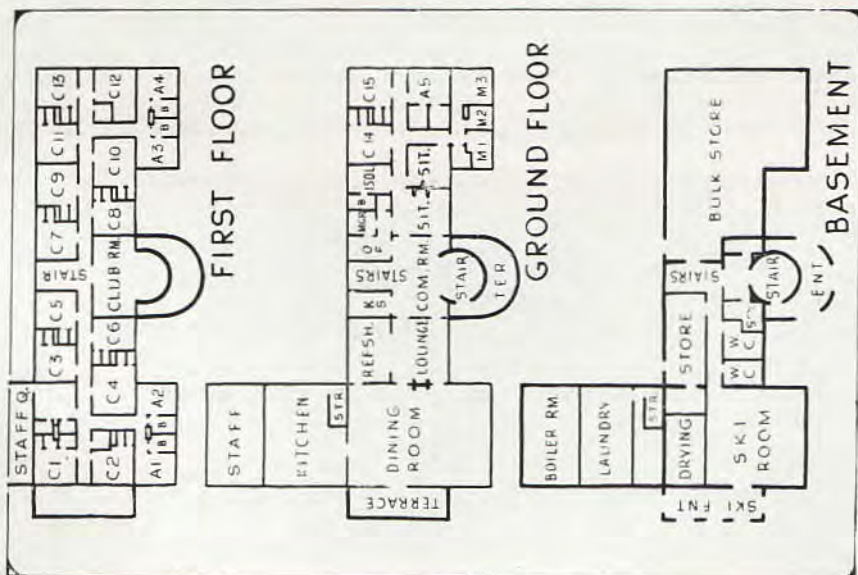


THE NEW CHALET

WITH these notes from the Department we reproduce plans and an interesting composition by Captain Frank Hurley of the new Chalet at Charlotte Pass. The Department of Railways has shown complete willingness to incorporate all suggestions of a practical nature.

It can well be imagined that all sorts of advice has been freely offered and the difficult task of pleasing everybody and at the same time constructing a practical building was placed in the capable hands of the Department's architect, Mr. Hall S. Metcalf, who has presented a plan intended to fulfil every requirement consistent with the conditions. Careful attention has been devoted to central-heating and mechanical ventilation; all the sleeping accommodation and the public rooms have been insulated against heat-losses and for sound-proofing purposes. Ample heat radiation has been provided throughout the building—windows will not require to be opened as there will be constant changes of air mechanically provided. We have the architect's assurance that the keynote of the design of the fireplaces is warmth without smoke . . . to those of us who suffered the old Chalet fires this feature remains to be enjoyed to be believed!!!

Approaching the Chalet from the Betts' Camp end, one enters the north porch and removes ski, thence into a large ski-room which has drying rooms adjoining. One may then proceed via the central passage in the basement to the main stairs. Most of the ground floor consists of public rooms, there being a large dining room, lounge, common room, drawing room, refreshment (?) room, offices, kiosk, etc. The manager's quarters, a special suite, and two "C" rooms are situated on the south end of this floor. The first floor (excepting the club room in centre of plan) is for sleeping accommodation, the "A" rooms being two-bedded with appropriate furniture and separate bathrooms and the "C" rooms being provided each with three double-deck beds, chest of drawers, etc. A basin with hot and cold water is provided in each "C" room and there is a mirrored toilet fitting



Floor plan of the new Charlotte's Pass Chalet.

having six small drawers. Each "C" room has a shower cubicle and a toilet, both with exhaust ventilation. There is a bathroom at each end of the first floor.

A fire service is being installed with a good head of water from the new dam which has been constructed to hold 50,000 gallons of water. Six hydrants will be placed in convenient positions and escapes are being provided at the end of each corridor. There is little likelihood of a fire in the new structure, but the Department following "Safety First" practice has taken every precaution to safeguard the lives of guests and staff. The "A" rooms have telephones with communication (through the switchboard) to Sydney and other exchanges. A soundproof telephone bureau is on the ground floor for the use of other guests.

Care has been taken in the selection of furniture and furnishings. The Department of Railways is to be congratulated on its speedy design and construction of such a building under conditions of weather, housing, etc., of operatives and transport difficulties of which few of us have the vaguest idea.