

The Government Tourist Bureau

Our snowfields are under the parental care of the Government Tourist Bureau, which institution has, since its inception, in 1906, had a remarkably successful career. Its officers have many fine achievements to their credit, and the present head, Mr. H. J. Lamble, with his active and zealous lieutenants admirably carries on the splendid traditions of the service. Ski-runners and all visitors to our resorts, winter or summer, are greatly indebted to the Tourist Bureau for the excellent work done in making the resorts attractive and in providing and co-ordinating travel facilities, and also in the remarkably good service of information made available.

No request to Mr. Lamble or his officers comes amiss, and they are ready at all times to help and to secure the assistance of other Government departments. An interesting example of their resource in this direction is the action taken when the Ski Club wanted some information about a hut known as Tin-Pannikin Hut and supposed to be situated at the foot of Gungartan Mountain on the Main Divide. Mr. Lamble was asked was Tin-Pannikin Hut there; if so, in what condition was it? And if, in bad repair, what was needed to put it in order.

Mr. Lamble didn't know. Gungartan is in the heart of the Main Divide. There is no road there; and the only way of reaching it is a long trek on horseback. However, he invoked the aid of his good friends the Police Department, and Sergeant Allen Cameron, of Adaminaby, made the long trek and, after his inspection, supplied the following concise and business-like information:—

Dear Sir,—

In connection with your letter, dated 18/4/'25, attached, re shelter hut, known as "Tin-Pannikin Hut," I beg to inform you that there is no hut generally known as Tin-Pannikin Hut in locality.

Doubtless, the hut inquired about, is identical with what is known as "The Tin Hut," said to be owned by Mr. Owen C. Litchfield, of Springwell, Cooma.

This hut is on the Main range, about 10 miles from Hotel Kosciusko, and about 28 miles from Adaminaby or Jindabyne.

The structure is of galvanised iron, earthen floor, size about 8 x 12 feet; it has no chimney, but has a fireplace at

one end, the smoke escaping through an opening left in the roof for that purpose.

The hut is merely a shell, constructed originally as a cook's galley, at present is not snow-proof. It will require a door to take the place of a loose sheet of iron at present used, also a rough chimney requires to be built.

The materials required to make this hut habitable for a short period would be about six sheets of galvanised iron and a few lengths of sawn battens.

It would probably take nine or ten days for a person to go to the locality and repair the hut, and a dray or light cart would be necessary.

I estimate that the total cost of repairs, etc., would be about £20. Possibly the timber required could be found in the bush in the locality.

The repairs would have to be carried out at once, as snow may fall at any time now, and the locality, hard to be got at at any time, be unapproachable.

To get to this hut from Hotel Kosciusko, pack-horses have to be used, but it can be approached from Adaminaby or Jindabyne by vehicle over very rough bush country.

In consequence of this intelligent report, the hut was placed in repair with the help of Mr. Litchfield, and there is no doubt that it proved a vital factor in the successful accomplishment of the Kiandra-Kosciusko tour. This is only one of numerous actions of the Tourist Bureau, but it is indicative of the ready spirit of helpfulness and resource that actuates the director and all his officers.

