

## Improvements at Kosciusko

Mr. Speet has supplied us with the following interesting particulars, summing up the improvements made at Hotel Kosciusko, and in the district in the past few years:—

The additions and improvements at Kosciusko have been so gradual that few people realise the tremendous difference there is between Kosciusko to-day and Kosciusko seven or eight years ago.

*Pounds' Creek Hut.*—The first step in the right direction was made with the erection of Pounds' Creek Hut, which was built four years ago, with a view to accommodating travellers visiting the Muayong and Kiandra Ranges. Each year a number of enthusiasts use the hut in preference to Betts Camp. The hut is situated about two miles from Betts Camp, at the back of the Perisher Range, and faces the Snowy River just above where Pounds' Creek flows into it. It has accommodation for six persons, in two rooms. The hut is provided with stores and firewood, bedding and other necessaries.

*The Hotel.*—A concrete building for staff accommodation was erected and completed two years ago. The building released staff accommodation in the Hotel, which was converted into rooms for guests' accommodation, and, in addition to the new accommodation thus created, an extension to the south wing of the Hotel connected up the old staff quarters to the main building, making a 40 per cent. increase in accommodation. The extension to the south wing contains 12 rooms, four of which have private bath, and the balance are provided with hot and cold water. The new concrete building houses the central heating systems, which has now been installed in every bedroom throughout the Hotel, and makes a marvellous difference in the temperatures during the winter season. A new power house capable of producing 120 K.W. was completed at the same time as the new electrically equipped kitchen. The kitchen of the Hotel is worth visiting, it being one of the best equipped in Australia.

*Seaman's Memorial.*—This handsome little structure was erected and completed with the exception of paint-work last year. It has accommodation for four persons, and is stocked with wood and emergency rations.

*The New Chalet at Charlotte's Pass.*—This chalet, which will henceforth be referred to as "The Chalet," is being made available for this winter's snow sports. It is situated

11 miles from the Hotel, at the foot of Mount Stillwell, below Charlotte's Pass. It has accommodation for eight ladies and 24 gentlemen (in dormitories for this year). Electric light, hot and cold water, central heating, septic sewerage and telephone service are provided. The common room has been made a special feature in this building, and should prove very popular at night, and when weather conditions outside are inclement. A skating rink has been provided for enthusiasts.

*The Ski Tracks.*—The average skier does not realise the amount of work put in annually by the Hotel staff in making his ski runs agreeable during the winter months; neither does he, in most cases, realise that new tracks are being planned yearly and the old tracks improved. The five miles' course, for instance, has been improved and added to until to-day we think it is practically perfect. A new course was cut at the side of the Kerry course up the side of Mount Sunrise. This course joins up with the five miles' course, and provides an excellent run for good skiers, with a jump to finish up with if desired. A nice ski run was made just opposite the Hotel, running from the top of Alpine View, and with a nice finish in the golf links, an ideal place for beginners. New tracks have been cut from the south-western side of Mount Sunrise, connecting up the Plains of Heaven by good straight runs, with Dainer's Gap, Church Hill and numerous other runs about Dainer's Gap. Along the main road all creeks and water courses have been culverted as far as the Perisher Creek, thus dry crossing has been made possible as far as Betts Camp. Next year we hope to have Spencer's Creek permanently bridged.

*Telephone Service.*—A cable line was completed this year, connecting up the following points with the Hotel:—Kerry Course, top and bottom; the hut at the rise to Piper's Gap; Betts Camp; the chalet at Charlotte's Pass; red hut at Charlotte's Pass; Seaman Memorial Hut.

The advantages of this installation need not be emphasised.

*Road to Hotel.*—Access to the Hotel in winter has been greatly improved by the purchase of a Fordson tractor, with snow plough attachment, which made it possible last year to bring visitors right through to the Hotel by car, with the exception of two days, when a defect in the snow plough prevented its use. It is confidently hoped that members of the various Ski Clubs will appreciate the fact that throughout the summer months the management is occupied with their winter entertainment.