



Above: Illawong, with Mt. Twynam in the background. Photo: J. Smith.



Right: Author, outside Illawong. Photo: J. Smith.

A goose into a swan

By J. C. TURNER.

A small group of us felt that Pounds Creek Hut—suitably reconstructed—was the real solution to the problem of skiing on Twynam, being, as it were, right on the doorstep of that wonderful mountain. Our aim was to do for Twynam, Anderson and Tait, what Albina had done for Townsend, and Kunama for Northcote and Lee. With such a position and identical aims we applied for affiliation with the Ski Tourers' Association, but scarcely had a start been made on the reconstruction of Pounds Creek Hut when the Association suffered the double loss of Kunama and the Northcote Tow Hut.

The building of Illawong faced us with enormous physical difficulties. The material was transported to Guthega

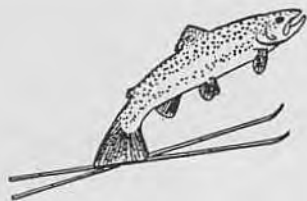
Dam by truck, transferred to a motor boat and taken to an inlet near the south end of the dam. Thence it was carried by a horse-drawn sled (as well as on our backs). This sounds straight forward enough, but takes no account of the rise and fall of the dam waters, which submerged hundreds of pounds worth of equipment for three days, or the loss of a horse, the destruction of our bridge in a flash flood, or rain, snow, and a host of minor setbacks. However, we brought the lodge to completion. It contains accommodation for 8 people plus temporary visitors. It is equipped with electric light, telephone, automatic hot water service, gas cooking, refrigerator, septic tank, drying room, AND inner-spring mattresses.



Snowy River Bridge with Mt. Twynam in the background.

Photo: [unreadable]

Illawong is easily reached. Situated by the Snowy River, it is scarcely two miles upstream from Guthega (the usual winter approach), or 2½ miles downstream along Spenser's Creek. In full view of the Lodge are the magnificent slopes of Twynam, Anderson and Tate, which offer some of the steepest, highest and longest runs in the Australian Alps.



These mountains rise majestically to heights from 6,300 to 7,200 feet, with Illawong (5,400 feet) at the centre. Every kind of skiing is possible in this area, with runs of up to three miles in length,



and over 2,600 feet vertical descent. There is no lack of good practice slopes nearby, while the ski lift at Guthega is barely a half hour's run from the lodge. For summer visitors, too, the charm and diversity of the area are endless.

Our future plans include the installation of a lift. It is intended to finance this by means of foundation membership at £25 each. Those wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity, or make bookings at the lodge, should contact Charles Anton, 263 George Street, Sydney (B0538) for full details.

and Technology Clubs as well as our own. It was a matter for regret that we were unable to enter a team in the Perisher Cup.

A number of new members have been welcomed to the Club, and there are still some vacancies. It is hoped that the majority of these vacancies will be filled by young people, since so many of our present members find themselves

with increasing family responsibilities. In view of rising costs, it has been fully decided to increase the subscription for life membership to £25 as from March 31st, 1960.

The Club Booking manager for the 1960 season is Keith Weir, 33 Rennie Avenue, Mosman, XY 1168, and the present secretary is Marcelle Pearce, Burns Road, Wahroonga, JW 2368.