



The Man from Snowy River Hotel in the Perisher Valley.

Photo: D. Baglin.

PERISHER GETS £30,000 FACILITIES

1960 saw progress in Kosciusko's Perisher area which might well set the pattern for future development of Australia's snowfields.

Two new hotels of particularly high standard were opened—The Man from Snowy River and Sundeck, rebuilt in enlarged version after the disastrous fire of January, 1960. The Man from Snowy River, with 39 rooms and 39 bathrooms, was opened on schedule, June 25. Sundeck, with 32 rooms and 32 bathrooms, opened July 30.

The completion of the hotels was a battle against the elements. The Perisher Valley snowed in nearly two

months early (April 22) and a succession of early blizzards continued to build snow depths. Materials went several feet under and had to be dug for. The road head remained a mile away at Smiggin Holes and hundreds of tons of timber and other building requisites plus the whole of the hotels' equipment and furniture had to be transported over the snow. Four Weasel machines imported for the carriage of guests achieved the miracle. They even hauled in three emergency generators weighing five tons each. Meanwhile, Council electrification of the Perisher was held up and again the Weasels came to the rescue by

dragging the heavy cables across the mountains.

It all ended well and with the addition of a second T-Bar Lift, Perisher people enjoyed an excellent season.

The safety factor was well organised throughout the season. Included in the new 12-bed Ski School Lodge was a fully equipped casualty room with an official doctor in attendance. A written record of all accidents and their causes was kept.

The building of new lodges in Perisher Valley is now very active. The Kosciuszko State Park Trust has more than thirty enquiries for sites in the area.

Big news of the Perisher is the place-

ment of a contract with Transfield Pty. Ltd. for the erection of a chair-lift on Mount Perisher. This will provide a wide open slope nearly a mile long with a vertical drop of 1,050 feet. The contract calls for completion of the lift by April 30, 1961.

A middle station will be built near the 6,400 ft. level and this will allow skiing right through November in a normal season and until Xmas in a big year such as 1960.

The hotel-ski-lift development in Perisher Valley is in the hands of Mr. Ken Murray. With the completion of the chair-lift, the total investment will be well over £300,000.

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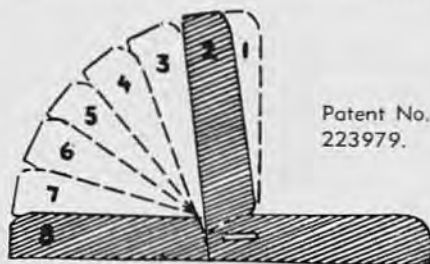
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