

Northern Tasmanian Alpine Club

THOROUGHLY successful is the description which applies to the past season in every respect.

Snow conditions provided really excellent skiing; although the quantity of snow was not great, excellent weather and powder snow seemed to coincide with the week-ends, and during the racing periods, the weather and snow conditions were good with the exception of the Tasmanian Championship Jump which was concluded in a snowstorm.

The racing programme for the year was, of course, dominated by the Australian Championships and Inter-state Meeting in which Tasmania filled second place.

Members of this club selected to represent the State in these events were Messrs. R. R. Vial, R. Naylor, E. D. Mills and R. Tilley, and as revealed by results, acquitted themselves extremely well.

For the first time in skiing history an Australian Championship was won by a Tasmanian, when R. Naylor won the Langlauf in very convincing style from a strong interstate field.

Competing in the interclub events at the Tasmanian Championships held at Ben Lomond, in August, the Northern Tasmanian Alpine Club scored first place in the teams result for each event and therefore retained the Interclub Trophy for the com-

ing season. Members of the successful team were—H. von See, R. Naylor, R. Tilley, E. Mills and R. Vial.

The Club Championships were conducted prior to the Tasmanian Championships—honours in the men's events being shared between R. Naylor and R. Tilley, who tied in the downhill and each came first and second in the other two events held.

The building improvements planned last season were put into effect. These include the construction of an engine shed and the installation of electric lighting which proved a very great convenience to members and visitors during the season.

Many day trips to Ben Lomond were made by non-members of the club, particularly during the racing periods, and these visitors were, whenever possible, provided with shelter at club huts, but the number in need of shelter were frequently greater than could be accommodated, indicating the need for some type of public shelter on the mountain.

Held in October, the Annual Dinner provided a fitting conclusion to the season.

Office Bearers; President, C. K. Stackhouse; Vice-Presidents, F. H. Smithies, E. D. Mills; Hon. Secretary, R. G. Hall; Hon. Treasurer, S. V. Tilley; Committee, H. L. von See, W. F. Mitchell, R. R. Vial, G. C. McKinley, R. Naylor.

Alpine Club of Southern Tasmania

THE 1948 snow season was a most satisfactory although a severe thaw in late September badly affected the snow. Subsequent heavy falls retrieved the position and members obtained splendid sport on the Mt. Field Ranges.

The club hut was fully occupied on most week-ends, members making the most of their opportunities to enjoy the amenities on Eagle Tarn and the snow on the surrounding mountains. The club was not successful in competitive events, it being still in the process of building up a strong team. It is hoped by the encouragement of juniors that the club may be a force in racing in a few years' time.

During the summer months work on the

Alpine Trail to Mt. Mawson continued; bends were widened and low scrub removed. It is hoped to have a first-class downhill course ready for the Tasmanian Championships this year.

It is with regret that it is recorded that our development work is hampered by a decided falling off in interest of our members during the summer months, while when winter comes all members are wildly enthusiastic. Our working bodies are once again the "Old Die Hards" who have kept the club together. However, this problem is being solved by the adoption of a policy of basing winter accommodation on the amount of summer work done by each member.

During the year it was disclosed that the



On Mt. Mawson Rhona Warren

Government proposed to grant timber concessions in the National Park to Australian Newsprint Mills Pty. Ltd. The club resolved to oppose this proposal by all means in its power, as it considered that the loss of 5000 acres from the National Reserve would be a calamity for Tasmania. This club wishes to place on record its appreciation of the efforts of our Northern Tasmanian friends who have joined the Southern Clubs in the fight to protect our National Park.

With the sanction of the Southern Division of the Ski Council of Tasmania, the Alpine Club of Southern Tasmania conducted the first Southern Tasmanian Ski Championships. The meeting was held on the scene of the last Tasmanian Championships on

the Rodway Range during the week-end 18-19 September. Weather conditions were ideal, bright and sunny with hard frozen snow. The course gave a descent of 400 vertical feet and each competitor made three runs. Women competitors ran the same course as men.

The standard was high; Mark Wolfhagen and C. Butler gave brilliant and daring exhibitions. In the women's events Miss Meg Gibson was unlucky to lose, but fell in both events a few feet from the finishing line.

RESULTS:

Men's Downhill Championship.—1st M. Wolfhagen, 1 min. 3.4 sec. 2nd S. Cowie, 1 min. 11.3 sec. 3rd C. Butler, 1 min. 36.2 sec.

Men's Slalom Championship.—1st C. Butler, 1 min. 55.1 sec. 2nd M. Wolfhagen, 2 min. 10.2 sec. 3rd Don Smith, 2 min. 40.2 sec.

Women's Downhill Championship.—1st Miss M. Maxwell, 4 min. 13.0 sec. 2nd Miss M. Gibson, 5 min. 36.0 sec. 3rd Miss E. Masterman, 5 min 59.6 sec.

Women's Slalom Championship.—1st Miss E. Masterman, 5 min. 46.6 sec. 2nd Miss Meg Gibson, 6 min. 15.9 sec. 3rd Miss R. Warren, 9 min. 32.2 sec.

Office Bearers.—President, Mr. Donald Smith. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, B. C. Johnston. Vice-President, Mr. A. Love. Captain, Mr. W. Hamilton.

Hobart Walking Club

HAVING an eye to the weather in Tasmania and the realisation that one cannot walk in the Highlands in winter the ski-ing section of the Hobart Walking Club was formed some years ago, and being a walking club our main interest has been in ski-touring and mountaineering in which much happy time has been spent.

Our club huts at Mt. Field National Park and Mt. Rufus, Lake St. Clair Reserves have provided excellent centres for day tours in the surrounding mountains. Shortages of petrol has for the past few years prevented our ski-ing extensively in mountains far from Hobart, but in the forthcoming season we hope to make tours (complete with snow tents, etc.) of several days' duration in both the Lake St. Clair-Cradle Mountain Reserve and the King William Ranges.

At the Tasmanian Championships this year the club was unable to field a team as only one member was able to attend the meeting and then only for part of the time. In the Women's Section, whilst definitely not up to the winner's standard, two members received placings in the Slalom—Nancy Wilson 2nd, and Rhona Warren 3rd.

Two of our members, Nancy and David Wilson, attended the Australian Championships at Mt. Hotham during August and September, enjoying themselves immensely, thanks to their Victorian hosts.

As the result of the club's Annual Meeting in October, David W. Wilson was elected Hon. Ski Secretary, with the following members as supporting committee:—Miss Pat Richardson, Mr. Dick Neale, Mr. Charles Wessing.