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“BANFF”

“CANADIAN NATIONAL PARK”

- IN -

WINTER



CANADA'S
Winter Playground

1920

COMPILED BY

B. W. COLLISON - BANFF - CANADA





OLD TIME NATIVES



FOREWORD

BANFF is situated in the heart of the Canadian Rockies, and is beyond all doubt Canada's greatest out-of-doors playground. It is the centre of the Rocky Mountains Park, is owned and controlled by the Dominion Government through a Commissioner of Dominion Parks at Ottawa, represented locally by a Superintendent and a large staff of courteous and efficient officials.

It is most beautifully situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and boasts of that efficient train service which this Company is so favorably known for throughout the whole civilized world.

The town has electric light, telegraph, local and long distance telephone and a modern, up-to-date water and sewer system. The drinking water is supplied by a gravity system of snow and mountain spring water, which exhaustive tests have proven to be the purest of any drinking water in the whole Dominion of Canada. Lying as the townsite does, in a beautiful valley surrounded by some of the most famous peaks of the whole Rocky Mountain range, it is very artistically laid out, the main street is paved and boulevarded, and all the buildings erected in keeping with the natural surroundings, the idea being to keep the whole as near Nature as possible.

Fine churches embracing all denominations; a Bungalow public school in which grades are taught up to entry into the University; a private school for boys and girls up to twelve years; a first-class fire brigade; a detachment of the Canadian Mounted Police (formerly called the Royal North-west Mounted Police), a modern, very comfortable hospital, four physicians, three drug stores, dentists, four large hotels which are open the year round, and three more of the larger hotels are open during the summer months, numerous private rooming and boarding houses, a large departmental store, three grocery and provision stores, three meat markets, two gent's furnishing stores, a bank, three photo and supply houses, several novelty stores, a jeweller and watchmaker, two shoe repair shops, a first-class



BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL



TRAP SHOOTING



SNOWSHOE OBSTACLE RACE

cafe open at all hours, several lunch, fruit and soft drink shops, two barber shops, four first-class garages, a steam laundry, a lumber yard, billiard and pool parlors, a moving picture theatre where nothing but the latest and most desirable pictures are shown, two weekly newspapers and a winter population of upwards of fifteen hundred of the most hospitable citizens which can be found any place in the wide Dominion of Canada.

The writer of this booklet will be pleased to furnish any information in regard to Banff or the National Park upon request.



"HELEN"
YOUNGER BANFF



Banff Slogan

-

"Let's Go"



SLEIGHING



SKI-JUMPING



Snowshoeing



SKATING

"CANADA'S WINTER PLAYGROUND."

The Citizens of Banff in submitting this illustrated booklet of typical winter sports which can be enjoyed in and around Banff, Canada's Winter Playground, during the Canadian winter do so with the hope of encouraging an agreeable impression of the Canadian Rockies as an ideal winter resort for the visiting tourist.

The different illustrations with a meagre write-up of the different winter sports and pastimes will we hope demonstrate to the prospective visitor the many different ways in which every member of the family, both young and old, may enjoy an enjoyable winter's vacation in Canada's National Park at a very nominal expense.

Some few years ago the citizens decided to organize and conduct an annual "Winter Carnival," and since the inauguration of this event thousands of tourists have visited us and enjoyed our delightful winter and have gone away enthusiastic in their appreciation of our beautiful natural scenery, combined with a perfect winter climate and satisfied that, advantageously situated as we are in the very heart of the Rockies, we can offer to the tourist ideal advantages from the standpoint of healthy, exhilarating and typically Canadian Winter Sports and Athletics which cannot be equalled at any other place in Canada, or on the whole North American Continent.

Very little attempt has been made to go into details in this booklet, the intention being to let the actual pictures, which have all been taken by amateur photographers, do the talking.

Banff as a summer resort is well known the world over, and there can be no doubt as to the many advantages it may boast of in the way of its outstanding attractiveness in this respect, but to really see the mountain town at its very best is to visit it during the winter months and more particularly during the now famous "Winter Carnival," held annually about the first of February, when you may enjoy seeing or perchance being a participant in the largest, most varied and most interesting programme of Winter Sports staged in Canada.

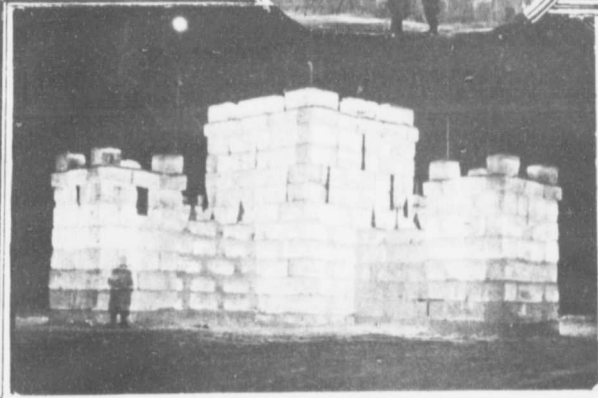
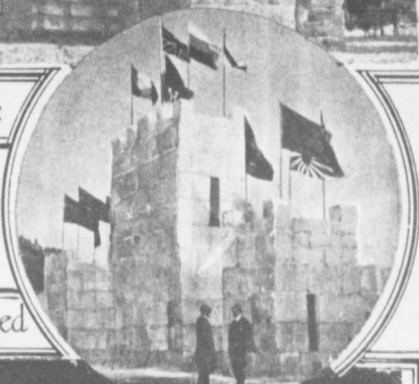
The citizens are justly proud of their achievement in connection with their sports and pastimes, and bid you a most hearty welcome at all times. They are confident that in the future their Annual Winter Carnival will be expectantly looked forward to as the premier



Ice Palaeæ



Ice Palaeæ illuminated



out-of-doors winter attraction upon the Continent, and no pains or expense will be spared to insure your entertainment and approval in the hope that in appreciation of their efforts you will decide to come back year after year and enjoy to the full the many natural advantages with which they have been blest.

The Canadian Winter begins in Banff ordinarily about the middle of November, and from this time on until practically the first week in April the following healthy out-door sports may be indulged in making a means of unlimited enjoyment for all:

Curling.

Skating.

Snow-Shoeing.

Ski-running.

Ski-jumping.

Ski-joring.

Tobogganing.

Trap-shooting.

Sleighing.

Fancy and Art Skating.

Swimming in Hot Sulphur Pools.

For those who may not enjoy a snow-shoe or ski tramp during the long evenings under the most wonderful of wonderful moonlight the time may be made merry by attending a dance, or by attending the very attractive programme which is provided at the moving picture theatre. The dances conducted nightly during the Carnival, are held in a hall which is recognized as one of the largest and best dance halls in Western Canada. The music is supplied by the Banff Dance Orchestra, and is the equal of any to be heard in any of the large cities.



Cutting the Figure 8



Champion Figure Skaters

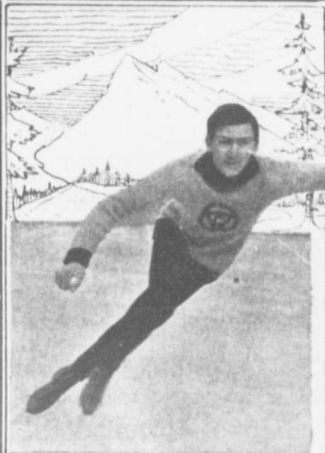


During the "Winter Carnival" a very elaborate programme of all winter sports, which are enjoyed throughout different parts of Canada, and at which the Canadian youth excels, is arranged and consists of many competitions in all of the following:

World's Championship Ski Jump.
Canadian Amateur Ski Jump.
Championship Swimming Races.
Championship Figure and Art Skating.
Championship Speed Skating.
Senior Hockey Matches.
Junior Hockey Matches.
Ladies' Hockey Championship.
Long Distance Ski Racing.
Ski-joring.
Snow-shoe Races.
Toboggan Races.
Trap-shooting competitions.
Sleigh Dog Races.
Whippet Races.
Bonspiel.
Packer's Race.
Wood-cutting Competitions.
Tent and Teepee Pitching Competitions.
Numerous Novelty Competitions.

All these competitions are supported with valuable silver trophies and in addition medals of exceptional value go to the winners of all events.

An ice palace is constructed each winter near the centre of the town, and is becoming, year after year, a more important feature of the "Carnival." The palace is particularly well illuminated, and is not unlike a place of sparkling diamonds as you gaze upon it from any angle. A very elaborate display of fireworks is given from the ice palace from time to time, and it is also the central point of numerous attacks made upon it by representatives of the different sports.



Speed Artist



TOBOGGANING.

An evolution of the "sliding down hill" of your boyhood and girlhood days. It is one of the exhilarating winter pastimes and nowhere on this continent can it be enjoyed more thoroughly than at Banff. The slide is constructed on the natural slope of Tunnel Mountain and runs directly down Cariboo St. past the Mount Royal and King Edward Hotels, the distance being upwards of half a mile. The complete distance is covered in about 35 seconds, and you are assured a thrill every second. The slide is brilliantly illuminated, and makes a very beautiful picture with the ample setting of pines and snow-clad mountain peaks which surround it. You stop almost in front of the Dance Hall, where the music, being supplied by the Banff Dance Orchestra, will attract you, and you will undoubtedly decide to take your party into the hall and do a one-step or a fox trot before returning to the top of the slide to enjoy another thrill. Shooting the Banff slide has a peculiar fascination that you cannot resist and is an experience you will never forget. Every precaution is taken to avoid accidents, and since the beginning of its operation, some years ago, no accidents have happened.

TRAP-SHOOTING.

This very alluring pastime, while not pre-eminently a winter sport, has become a very popular one in Banff. The Gun Club has a very desirable site on the banks of the Bow River with a light which is most acceptable from the standpoint of good marksmanship. A very attractive, comfortable and up-to-date club house has been erected, and some of the most famous shots in the world have been participants in the competitions staged during the Carnival.

SNOW-SHOEING

Ordinarily quite early in the month of December snow has fallen to a sufficient depth throughout the many valleys and mountain slopes to provide excellent snow-shoeing, and this is indeed a time of great glee among the devotees of this sport. True lovers of nature can find no more healthful recreation than a pleasant tramp on snow-



Swimming in Hot Sulphur Water 10 Below



The Cave and Basin



• Diving Competition •

shoes over the mountain trails and under and through the towering pines of the Canadian Rockies. Well-defined trails to numerous mountain cabins and teepees have been blazed, and throughout the whole winter both by day and by moonlight nights, hikes are made by congenial parties to these delightful spots. A huge bon-fire is lighted, hot tea and coffee together with substantial "eats" are provided, and after a spell of story telling around the bon-fire the tramp is again resumed towards the town, everything being done to provide for the enjoyment and comfort of the party. Snow-shoes are always available for visitors, many pairs being at the Carnival Club House for rent, and the courtesy of many citizens in this regard is gladly extended at all times.

CURLING.

This old and very entrancing game originated in Scotland, but nowhere outside of its birthplace is it more popular and universally played than throughout Canada. Clubs are in existence from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but in none of these clubs is the game played more enthusiastically or scientifically than at Banff. Some twenty years ago the first club was formed here, and since that time to the present, curling has been provided for citizens and visitors alike. The club holds membership in the Royal Caledonian Society, and has a local bonspiel each year during the time of the Winter Carnival. Very attractive trophies and prizes are offered in competition, and visiting rinks from practically all Western Canada attend. Banff rinks are among the visitors at all important outside bonspiels, and have always been successful in bringing back to the mountain town a fair percentage of the trophies and prizes provided; in fact, all the trophies competed for under the auspices of the Royal Caledonian Society (Alberta Branch) have from time to time graced the shelves of the Banff Curling Club. The rink is open all winter, a liberal supply of "rocks" are available and visitors are at all times made welcome.

LADIES' CURLING.

The ladies throughout Canada have now taken up curling as a winter pastime, and in Banff they have a very strong organization. Part of the ice at the curling rink is set apart for their use, and it is not



SIGHT
SEEING



an uncommon sight to see half the female population of the town in attendance at some of the games, either as members of the different rinks engaged in the sport or as spectators and enthusiastic supporters of one or other of the "rinks." They, too, are most happy to entertain any lady curler who may be a visitor to the town.

SLEIGHING.

From the middle of November, there is as a rule sufficient snow on the ground to provide excellent sleighing. You may enjoy the drives by cutter, being your own "chauffeur" and having your best girl with you, or you may join a party and be driven over the popular drives by an experienced driver with a spirited team hitched to a four- or six-seater. The old-time sleighing parties with sleigh box filled with hay, lots of warm blankets and a host of pretty girls is also much enjoyed, especially among the younger people, who arrange drives to outside points where dancing and games are indulged in until midnight, or later. The drive home is one of untold pleasure, and the merry jingle of the bells, and the melody of the massed singing as it rings out on the still, frosty mountain air will long remain with you as a very happy memory.

SKATING.

Early in November the rivers and lakes adjacent to the town are frozen over, and a great quantity of splendid ice suitable for skating is provided. Long stretches of ice, sometimes miles in length, are available at this time, and is most enthusiastically taken advantage of by the lovers of this healthful and much favored sport. Moonlight skating parties are formed, and far up the Bow River across the Vermilion Lakes they go stopping only for a few minutes' rest before the trip back to town is begun, and you return somewhat tired, but with a recollection of an evening well spent and full of invigorating enjoyment. As the winter progresses, this long-distance, promiscuous skating must be abandoned on account of the fall of snow. Skating is then provided in a large open-air rink, constructed on the Bow River in practically the centre of the town. This rink is electric lighted, is provided with spacious warm dressing rooms, and music is



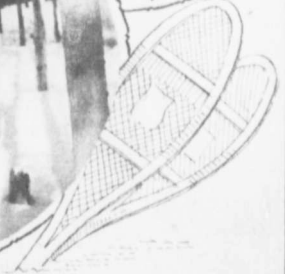
Two Deers

Two Deer



Youth on Snowshoes

Snowshoe Trail



supplied at all times for the entertainment of both skaters and spectators. Skates and boots are provided by the management of the rink for visitors, who are at all times made welcome.

Masquerades, moccasin dances, and all sorts of novelty skating entertainments are conducted at different times during the skating season and the Winter Carnival, providing no end of fun and amusement not only for those taking part, but also for those who prefer to act the part of the more reserved and amused spectators.

FIGURE SKATING.

This branch of skating is, of course, of a much more artistic and finished nature than the brand we learned as kids. It is, however, becoming very popular throughout Canada, and the American States, where ice is to be had, and Banff has not been slow to take it up; even now it is almost a universal accomplishment among the younger set of skaters, and figure skating and dancing on skates may be witnessed on the rink at almost any time. Figure skating is given particular attention during the Carnival. A programme of exceptional merit is arranged under the supervision of an expert in accordance with the rules and regulations instituted by the International Skating Union of Europe and the Amateur Skating Association of Canada. Skaters representing skating clubs from all over Western Canada compete and provide a most artistic programme.

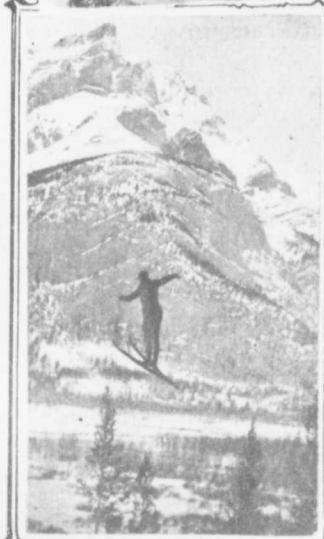
HOCKEY.

Hockey can perhaps be called the National game of Canada, as it is now being played far more extensively than any other Canadian branch of sport, and is a game particularly well suited to the stamina of the sturdy Canadian youth. It is without doubt the fastest, most interesting and at the same time the cleanest and most manly of all competitive sports. Such a hold has it now gotten on the sport-loving public that in those sections where natural ice cannot be assured, artificial ice has been made, and the game is being played under both professional and amateur auspices. The visits of Canadian hockey clubs to some of the American cities have somewhat



The
Champion
S.C.

Ski-Tramp



Ski-Jumping

familiarized the game to the Americans, and it is now becoming very popular in certain parts of the United States. It is a game which is most fascinating, and calls for such admirable qualities of endurance and agility, qualities which are so acceptable to our American cousin, that it must as a matter of course soon become as popular across the line as it now is with the sport-loving Canadian. Banff, while not having the material from which to draw a championship team, is, nevertheless, quite able to maintain its place with the teams outside the large cities, and many very interesting games are played on the local ice throughout the winter season. Special games are played during the Carnival for trophies and valuable prizes, and are all very exciting and worthy exhibitions of this sterling sport.

LADIES' HOCKEY

The Canadian girl, not to be outdone by her big brother, has not only taken up the more sedate game of curling as a winter pastime, but has donned the knickers and hockey sweater and is fast becoming a most proficient exponent of the very fascinating and contagious sport of hockey. Ladies' clubs have been formed in practically all the large centres in Canada, and the hockey played by some of these fair adherents of the game is, to say the least, most astounding. During the Banff Winter Carnival many games are played between teams representing the different Western cities, and it is hoped that this winter will see competitions between teams representing cities as widely separated as Ottawa and Vancouver.

SKI-ING.

This very spectacular and alluring sport is rapidly growing in popular favor the last few years, and Banff having four different ski hills, a vast territory of ground suitable for ski running, and an abundance of local enthusiasts, is becoming one of the most prominent ski centres in America. Ski tramps consisting of large parties are growing in popularity, and the indications are that they will soon be as much in evidence as the ever-popular snow-shoe tramps. Ski-joring



Snow-shoeing



Toboggan Slide • Curling

is a very attractive branch of the sport, consisting of being drawn on skis by a pony, which is allowed to gallop at full speed, the ski-jorer driving the pony by a long rope.

All varieties of ski-ing sports are very fascinating, but it is left to the particular branch known as the Ski Jump to provide the spectacular stunts which are of a nature to strike terror into the hearts of the onlookers. The largest Banff hill has been constructed on the Northern slope of Tunnel Mountain, and is recognized by the ski-running fraternity to be by far the best natural ski hill in America. It has been constructed, through the assistance of the Dominion Government, at an enormous expense and in accordance with the express instructions of Mr. Anders Haugen, the professional champion long-distance jumper of the world. It is confidently expected that the world's record of 214 feet for a long jump, at present held by Mr. Haugen, will be broken on this hill this winter. We have three other hills for the younger and less daring ski jumpers on one of which young Iven Nelson, 14 years old, of Revelstoke, B.C., during the Carnival of 1920 established a new world's record for boys by jumping the phenomenal distance of 114 feet 6 inches. The ski hill is one mile from the town proper on the Calgary to Banff auto road, directly opposite the entrance to the buffalo enclosure. The broad valley at the foot of the hill gives ample room for spectators, and the jumper can be distinctly seen from the time he leaves the top until he has completed his "act." It is impossible to put into print the thrills and sensations the spectators experience as the jumper comes down the side of the mountain leaping off into space at a speed of something like 90 miles an hour and landing on the lower slope some 200 or more feet from the place from which he takes the jump and scooting off across the valley like something inhuman or perhaps falling where he lights. Should he be so unfortunate as to fall, nothing but snow, skis legs and arms can be seen and you are filled with amazement when in a few seconds you see the jumper arise and scamper off to meet his friends and club mates. So well have these adventurous athletes trained and so adept are they at the game of ski-ing that it is very seldom that an accident of any kind happens and then they are of the most trivial nature.



Dog Races



Sleigh Dog Race

SWIMMING.

One of the outstanding attractions of Banff, both in summer and winter, is the hot sulphur baths. There are two public baths, one at what is known as the Upper Hot Springs and the other at the Cave and Basin. The Dominion Government has erected magnificent buildings at both these springs, and thousands of people from all parts of the globe enjoy these health-giving baths at all seasons of the year. To bathe in the open with this hot sulphur water at approximately 100 degrees Fah., and the atmosphere at anything down to 10 or 20 degrees below zero and snow-capped mountains all about you is a very unique experience, and is enjoyed immensely by all our winter visitors. Daily, one may see these different pools, with the blue vault of the sky for a roof, thronged with happy bathers while the mercury is registering many degrees below zero and icicles decorate the surrounding walls. Many comfortable steam-heated dressing rooms are provided which prevent any unpleasantness or inconvenience from the low temperature. During the Winter Carnival, a programme of swimming events representative of different championships is arranged, with substantial prizes offered for competition, and the novelty of these contests in the open air in mid-winter is a very enjoyable and attractive event.

DOG SLEIGH RACES.

The sleigh dog, as a beast of burden, has had much to do with the development of our great North West. For hundreds of years the Hudson's Bay Co. has used the dog to tote supplies and goods to and from their different trading posts in the far North, often covering 50 to 100 miles in one day. In the Yukon he has been found indispensable as a carrier of supplies, and His Majesty's Royal Mail. He has been of undoubted value to the members of the famous North West Mounted Police, who have policed the great Northland under the most adverse circumstances to the undying fame of that most remarkable organization, and made the "Malamute" train famous wherever tales of northern adventure and hardships are told. He was the only means of travel for the Indians for hundreds of years, and it



Bob Sleighing
Curling



WHIPPET RACES

was not an uncommon sight 25 years ago to see forty or fifty dogs hitched to "travoies" carrying a whole winter's supply for an Indian settlement, as well as the camp equipment. He has, indeed, been a most worthy pioneer, and it is not at all strange that the Winter Carnival Committee have done him the signal honor of giving him a prominent place in their entertainment. Many sleigh dog races are held during the Carnival, and provide a most interesting and varied change in the programme. The races are run down the main street ending in front of the hotels. As in other sports, it often is a case of the best dog being beaten as a great deal of comedy is pulled in these races, and it often happens that an over-anxious or jealous contestant grabs an opponent in any convenient place and a most unholy mix-up is the result, while the fat, homely, old Carlo may waddle home an easy winner, creating much merriment among the spectators and consternation among the anxious owners and backers.

ICE YACHTING.

The winter visitor can have an abundance of fun at this sport at Lake Minnewanka, which lies about eight miles from Banff. The lake is about fifteen miles long, two to three miles wide and may be reached by a very pleasant sleigh drive through the mining town of Bankhead. A strong west wind is generally prevailing across the lake and keeps the ice remarkably free from snow. Private-owned yachts are always in commission among them being several owned and operated by Capt. Stanley, who makes his home at the lake, and is always there to welcome the adventurous visitor. The sport dates back some 130 years, and to-day has reached a very high state of development along the Hudson, the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes, the skippers maintaining at times a speed of upwards of 80 miles an hour. Lake Minnewanka, with its natural advantages, without tidal waters or cracked ice, and an abundance of wind is undoubtedly destined to become a most popular location for an immense fleet of sailing ice yachts at no late date.



CURLING



WHIPPET RACING

Whippet racing, as far as Western Canada is concerned, is an absolutely new sport and to Banff belongs the credit of starting it. The Winter Carnival some few years ago included several races on the programme, and so well did the visitors enjoy the exhibition put up by these dynamic little animals that they have been given a permanent place on the Carnival programme. The matter of starting a Western Canada Whippet Association was taken up by local enthusiasts with Calgary owners, an Association was eventually formed with the City of Calgary as headquarters, and Whippet Handicaps are now being conducted at many places throughout the West during both the winter and summer months.

As previously stated only a very meagre description is given herein of the many beauties of Banff in Winter, or of the varieties of winter sports and pastimes in which the visitor may entertain himself, or be thrilled by the many participants in the different competitions during the Winter Carnival, but it is earnestly hoped that enough has been given to arouse you to the realization of the many advantages which you possess here in the midst of the Canadian Rockies in your own National Park to make Banff Canada's greatest winter playground.

We want you to visit us, you will always be made to feel at home, that the place is yours, that we play no favorites, and that your personal comfort and convenience is the personal concern of every Banff citizen. We want you to be glad you visited us, and sorry when it comes time for you to leave us. You will enjoy our cloudless skies combined with unsurpassed beauty and variety of scenery, you will leave us in improved spirits and health, with a happy recollection of the enjoyment of unequalled wonders in mountain beauty and stimulating companionship with nature at its very best.

Do not hesitate because you have not learned the art of ski-running, ski-jumping, snow-shoeing, or the many other pastimes in which all can take part. The great delight in the majority of winter sports is in learning how it is done and it will be surprising how soon you will speak as an authority on all the different branches, and tell the youngsters the proper "form" in ski-running, or how best to conserve their energy for the final dash home in the snow-shoe race.

In arranging your itinerary think of the Banff slogan—"Let's Go," and decide to make your stay with us as long as possible.



On
Snowshoe
Tramp.

Lunch after Snowshoe Tramp

WHAT WINTER SPORT HAS DONE FOR CANADA

(Contributed)

"Climate!" did you say?

Can any globe-trotter who has "taken in" the entire circumference of the earth or travelled from Pole-Star to Southern Cross, say that he ever found anything with the purity and snap in it that makes joyful and, therefore, successful people, that will match the invariable outdoor air of a Canadian Winter.

At any point of the twelve months, Canada, at least, in her glorious atmosphere, easily ranks first among all latitudes and longitudes for its dependability, equality and for all those hygienic qualities that build up great structures of brain, brawn and indomitable character.

The certainty and continuity of her summer sunshine is at once the secret of much of her wonderful prosperity and the delight of every visitor who crosses the continent on that great steel highway of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

But it is the winter out-door activities of the season, particularly its sports, that have made the real men and women of Canada as they are known and respected by the whole world to-day. And within recent date the world has got an insight into the strength and resourcefulness of Canada that for the time at least struck it dumb with amazement.

What, for example, had so much to do with its astonishing success, with the all but incredible grit and staying-power of the men and women of Canada who have written the name in letters of Gold in the story of the War as the training they received from infancy with their hockey teams, their snow-shoe "route-marches" and the hundred and one salubrious employments its Ice Carnivals recall.

And think of what is meant by that happy little incident of the young "Falcons" who lately carried everything before them when pitted against the crack sportsmen of the whole world.

Did ever living creatures know such magnificent out-door living conditions as we are now enjoying all over Western Canada? The "Wonderful Season" is (metaphorically) "in everybody's mouth" and while the past is one magnificent, unblemished record of clean sport and amazing achievement, it is all going to be eclipsed by the Carnival which is staged annually at Banff about February 1st.



LADIES HOCKEY



"From sports like these are all our cares beguiled." The mere recreative element, however, is but a side line in this great event. Looked at from every rational standpoint, it is doubtful whether there is anything *so worth while* at any time, and especially in these times, as the invigorating and rejuvenating effect of a week's "let up" in the hill-air of Banff and its great week of Carnival.

The whole scheme is one that begs a description to the citizen who has never witnessed or taken part in this distinct national affair. It has meant something of an epoch-making character in the lives of thousands of hard toiling men and women of the city and prairie. Anyone who has ever been there will strain every effort to get there again and to influence every neighbor he can reach to share in the same royal feast of inexpensive and legitimate fun.

WINTER SPORTS IN AN ALPINE SETTING

We are all lovers of life in the open. We are insurgents against sluggish existence, against wasting the bright sunshine of the world, against remaining indoor. We all love the summer sunshine, when the whole world seems bent upon spending as much time as possible out of doors, following our favorite pastime, or enjoying the refreshing breezes at some resort.

Summer is a time to laze around, but our winters are when Canada may be seen in real action and at no place may winter sports of a greater variety be enjoyed than at Banff during the Carnival. You just can't resist the temptation to "get out" and enjoy a hike, or a skate on a fine open-air rink in the clear dry air. Never was a place better fitted for a Winter Carnival than Banff, being so well situated. There are several hotels open all the year round at Banff and the opportunities for having a gay and exhilarating Winter Holiday are unparalleled.

Two through Transcontinental trains in each direction on the Canadian Pacific Railway pass Banff daily, thus offering the visitor, or the tourist an excellent opportunity of seeing Banff in Winter without delay.

On your trip to the Pacific Coast this winter, do not fail to include a stop-over at Banff, you'll enjoy it, and continue your journey with renewed vigor, prepared to take the full value out of your trip.



Snow Shoe Race

Snow Shoeing



Snow Shoe Race

ORIGIN OF BANFF WINTER CARNIVAL

(Contributed)

"No one knows the joy of winter
Till they've lived the ones we know,
When the snow has heaped the branches
And the mercury drops low:
When the tingling sunlight thrills through
All our veins like golden wine,
Then the mountains' magic claims us—
When the frost is on the pine."

The origin of the Banff Winter Carnival had its inception during the holiday season of 1916-17, when a prominent resident of Banff (whose wife and family were spending a few weeks visiting relatives and friends in Calgary) invited a "fellow orphan" to spend an evening in bewailing their enforced bachelordom.

The two men mentioned above were N. K. Luxton and B. W. Collison, and the meeting was held at the home of the former.

The evening hours were whiled away with music, refreshments and social chat, interspersed with devotion at the shrine of My Lady Nicotine, and finally the conversation switched to the all-important subject (dear to the hearts of every Banffite) of what could be accomplished along the line of bringing people to Banff during the winter months—when the mountains, woods, lakes and rivers are more majestic and beautiful, covered with a mantle of pure white snow, than even in summer time.

Many methods of accomplishing the desired result were considered and discussed until finally the idea of holding a weeks' series of sporting events was decided upon as the most feasible, and the two gentlemen decided to dream upon the subject until the following day.

Messrs. Luxton and Collison met the following day, decided in the cold light of "the morning after" that the idea was a good one and immediately set to work to carry it into execution.

Barney wired to the authorities at Ottawa, and, in due course, received a reply that the Dominion government would back the scheme to the extent of a few hundred dollars.

A public meeting was then called, but the public, grown weary of attending meetings from which results seldom materialized, did not respond to the invitation to attend and talk over the project.

Nothing daunted, Norman Luxton inspired with renewed vigor started out to canvass the citizens individually. Armed with the courage of his convictions, he put up so good an argument and supported it by such sound and convincing reasons that business men and citizens generally fell in line and promised substantial contributions to the Banff Winter Carnival—as the project had been by this time named.



Fun on the toboggan



Bevy of Revelstoke Maidens

The Banff Curling Club, which had been organized in 1900, entered into hearty co-operation with the Carnival committee, and in February, 1917, from the 5th to the 17th inst., inclusive, the first winter Carnival was staged in Banff.

The Carnival was a decided success, hundreds of people coming to Banff to witness the novelty of winter sports in the heart of the Rockies and going away delighted with the different programs prepared for their entertainment and amusement and sincere in their praises of the hospitality of the committee and the citizens of Banff generally. The guests were enthusiastic over the scenic effects of the mountains, woods and rivers—whether viewed under the bright sunlight of perfect days or the pale glow of moonlight—and carried away with them unfadable photographs imprinted upon their memories of fairy-like scenes almost unbelievable to those who have not visited Banff in winter time.

“When the stars throng out in their glory,
And they sing of the God in man;
They sing of the mighty Master,
Of the loom His fingers span:
Where a star or a soul is part of the whole,
And weft in the wondrous plan.”

WE WANT PICTURES, SO KODAK AS YOU GO.

At no time during the whole year can better pictures be taken of Banff and the many beautiful spots around and about it than during the winter months and more particularly during the Winter Carnival when all the different sports referred to in this booklet are being participated in.

All the pictures included herein have been taken by amateurs and we are particularly anxious that you bring your kodak along with you and that you send copies of your pictures to your friends who have not been fortunate enough to join you in this paradise of winter beauty.

It is the intention of the writer of this booklet to publish a similar one from time to time, and he will be very glad, indeed, to receive copies of any pictures which may be thought of interest and which are sent to him by the parties taking the same.

KODAK AS YOU GO.



Tug of War on Snow Shoes





Fun on the toboggan



All Ready



Swiming in Hot Pool.