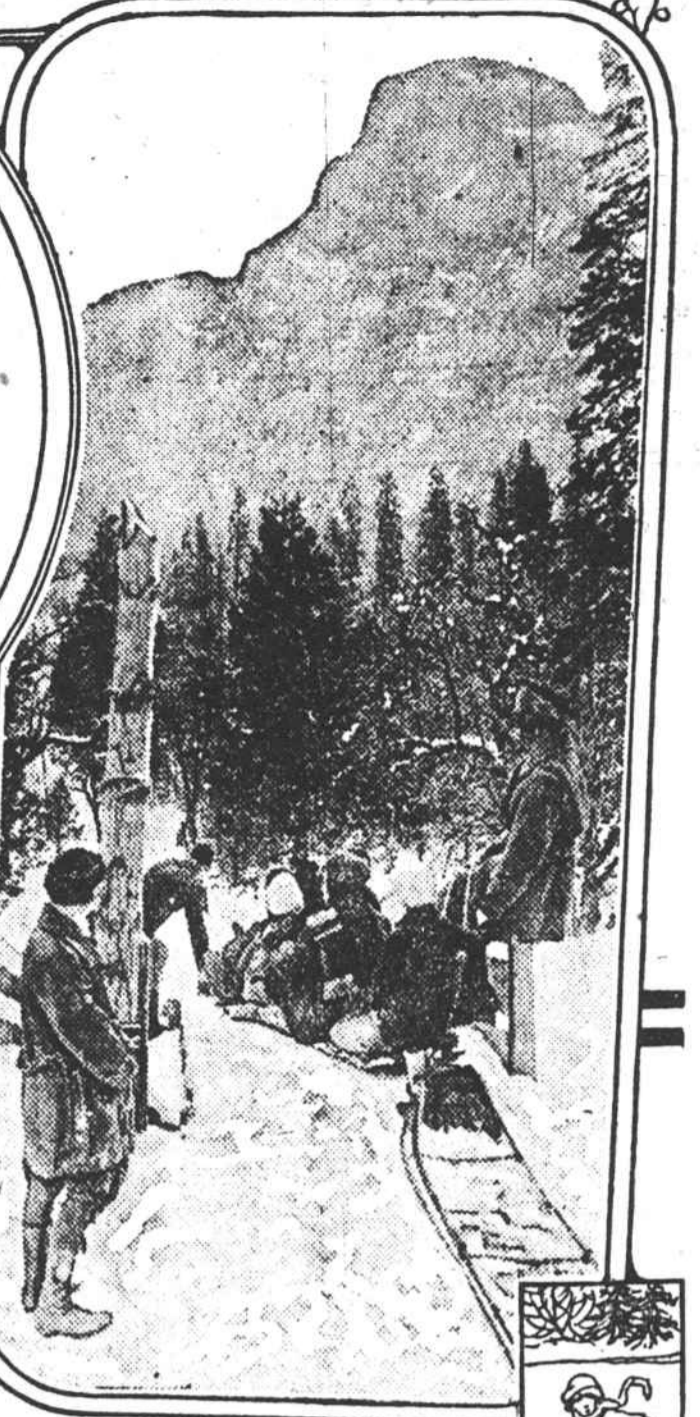


# SPORT in the SNOW



By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

**W**ALK upon the city street,  
For so hath fate it writ;  
Thoughts far away and bitter-sweet  
Bequile with cheat my willing feet,  
This, this the trail I hit:

The Fern Lake Trail, where virgin snow lies soft and deep the pines below. Away from road and far from rail, Snowshoe and ski to break the trail (Toboggan's creak, the squeak of thong. A girl's bright sash, a snatch of song. A frost-nipped ear and quick snow rub, The rest at noon for bite of grub). That winds and twists its way to make From valley up to mountain lake, With cabin on its frozen edge And ski-run down its steep-hung ledge And campfire throwing yellow light That turns to gold a world of white— A playground decked in brave array— "Ho, ho, Jack Frost! We've come to play!"

Sport in the snow—it's been the proper caper all winter and the American people are still at it all through the North—from New England to Rocky Mountain and from Yosemite to Mount Rainier. Students of the times are commenting on it as a new phase in the evolution of the nation. These winter sports have been growing in popular favor for several years. This winter, however, their vogue is such as to make sociologists sit up and take notice.

Now there are winter sports and winter sports. For example, on a January Sunday 45,000 spectators gathered at the Garfield park lagoon to see a thousand or more Chicago boys and girls compete in a series of skating races. On the same Sunday 30,000 spectators attended an international ski tournament at Cary on Chicago's outskirts.

That is not what I mean by winter sports. What I mean by winter sports, by sport in the snow, is the people turning out to do the playing themselves, not to watch somebody else do the playing. And the people are doing it this year.

A generation or so ago the students of American life were complaining that the American people did not know how to play, took no vacations and all that sort of thing. Then the people did learn to play and did take vacations—in the summer. The next change was that a class of vacationists was evolved who took vacations all the year round. They played in the North in the summer and followed the warm weather South to Florida in the winter or West to California, or abroad. Now the society visitors to the South have been joined by the "Tin Can Tourists," who travel in fivers—more than 3,000 held the fourth annual convention of the Tin Can Tourists of the World in De Soto park, Tampa, early in January of this year.

The latest development of this recently acquired appetite for summer and winter play on the part of the people is sport in the snow. It has been evolved since the war. Perhaps the red-blooded young fellows who came back from "Over There" in such fine physical condition that they must let off steam through real exercise have been in part responsible. Anyway, the idea has become widespread that coasting, tobogganing, skiing, snowshoeing, ski-joring, hiking and all the other winter sports easily within the reach of the average American in the North are first-class fun. The complementary idea is that a real tussle with Jack Frost in his native wilds is more conducive to red blood and rosy cheeks and a good appetite than less strenuous exercise under warmer skies at home or abroad. An enthusiast might put it like this:

Jack Frost, you are no enemy of mine; I rather look to you as friend in need. 'Tis true I love the outdoors all the year—The recurrent miracle of the Spring And splendor of the good old Summer-Time; But more I love the Indian Summer days Whose drowsy calm is charged with Autumn's tang, Forecasting even then your coming reign. And most of all I love the world of white Of which you are the undisputed King Who shouts his royal message, "Snappy Days!" And offers to his subjects royal sports That set red blood to dancing in their veins, That give to them a joyous appetite, That bring such sleep as money cannot buy. Ho, ho, King Jack! It is your reign of frost That hardens up the fiber of a man To stature full of body, mind and soul. Jack Frost, I know you for a wise old king! Jack Frost, I know you for a friend in need!

Winter sports this season in New England are really on a big scale. About the middle of December a Boston Sunday newspaper felt warranted in getting out a "Special Winter Resort Edition" containing page after page of display advertisements of winter resorts in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and Massachusetts. It appears that over 100 hotels and inns are open for winter sports in these states, as against 60 last winter. The chambers of commerce in many cities have advertised liberally all winter. The New England railroads have made substantial reductions in fares for winter tourists. Enterprising cities have established municipal recreation grounds and arranged elaborate winter carnivals; some even advertised community Christmas trees, and a special program for Washington's birthday.

Among them all they offer a long list of sports, including tobogganing, snowshoeing, skiing, ski-joring, skating, sleighing, coasting, curling, ski bobbing, hockey, ice boating, mountain climbing and hiking. Some even offer fishing through the ice and sugaring-off parties to a sugar camp. Scores of winter carnivals were staged during December, January and February, with every sort of entertainment in keeping with the season.

The news columns of the Eastern newspapers reflect the activity in winter sports. They set forth the winter migrations of various city clubs. It also appears from the news columns that society is doing it, too. Country clubs by the score that ordinarily close with the golfing season opened their doors to gay parties. Hundreds of country estates were kept open and were crowded with guests, whose names were recorded at great length by the society reporters. Sleepy county commissioners had to wake up and buy tractors to clear the roads for sleighing and ski-joring.

Maine started in early to arrange a program and proclaimed its intention to become the "St. Moritz of America." The plans called for carnivals as follows: Waterville, January 25, 26 and 27; Portland, January 27; Augusta, February 15, 16 and 17; Bangor, February 22; Bar Harbor, February 22, and the University of Maine February 8, 9 and 10. Lafayette National park, the only one east of the Mississippi, is well adapted for winter sports and its use for that purpose is encouraged by the national park service.

In New York the Adirondacks were perhaps the center of winter sport. Lake Placid has had throngs of merry-makers all winter. Plattsburg had many visitors and a carnival in January. Saratoga Springs was active. The city took over Recreation Field, made many improvements and had an elaborate sports program for a week late in January. The Interstate Fallsades park on the Hudson was visited by thousands, including boy scouts, girl

scouts, Campfire Girls and their friends. There were ample hotel and camp accommodations and sport programs.

So much for winter sports in New England and the East. Now for a jump across the continent to national parks of the Scenic West.

Right here, however, it is well to note that our national park system, containing nineteen reservations, offers all-year attractions to the tourist, and from the question of winter sports. Three of our national parks are all-year resorts—Grand Canyon, Hot Springs and Hawaii.

Yosemite, Mount Rainier and Rocky Mountain are the three Western national parks where the winter merry-makers most do congregate. They are three easily accessible. They all three offer magnificent scenery. They all three offer natural playgrounds unsurpassed in the world. Enthusiasts believe that a very few years will see them as full of visitors in winter as in summer.

Yosemite is now an all-year national park under the auspices of the national park service. There were 4,182 visitors from November 1, 1921, to March 1, 1922, and the attendance this winter has been much greater. Most of the merry-makers stick to the floor of Yosemite Valley, which is sheltered. The harder spirits climb to Glacier Point on the heights above. In a year or two there will be a hotel winter hotel, an all-year motor road into the valley and maybe a mechanical lift to Glacier Point. Yosemite's Christmas tree is a living Sequoia, 60 feet high.

Mount Rainier has unusual sport in the snow because of its topography and climatic conditions. The mountain is 14,408 feet high and, with its slopes, covers 100 square miles. Its lower slopes are heavily timbered. Then there is a flower zone. It comes the everlasting snow and ice. So visitors bent on winter sport can have it the year round. The big hotel in Paradise Valley (5,400 elevation) is close to the snow and ice. The season officially begins June 15. The international ski tournament is held in July each year. So you can have winter sport one day and summer sport the next.

Rocky Mountain National park offers absolutely real thing in the way of play in the snow with Jack Frost. Fern Lake (with Odessa Lake close by) has been selected for winter sports and is a natural playground tucked away in a deep valley on the east slope, right under the giant peaks of the Continental Divide. It's ten miles or so from Estes Park, the east entrance to the national park. You get part way from Estes Park by automobile. Then the road quits. Then you've got to hit the trail on snowshoes or skis, and you've got to haul your duffel by toboggan. Why? Because snow is too deep for a packhorse; you're tramping among the branches of the pine trees. And you get to Fern Lake you'll live in log cabins. There's the lake (8,500 elevation) in front of you and natural toboggan slides and ski-runs beyond and snowshoeing everywhere. Magnificent scenery is all around you.

Though there were 1,044,502 visitors to the national parks last summer, the American people are just beginning to know something about these beautiful playgrounds. For example, the average American assumes that because Rocky Mountain National park is perched on the Continental Divide it's terribly cold in winter. Well, the report of the United States weather bureau for the seven days, January 11-17, 1923, shows these maximum temperatures: 44, 47, 40, 37, 48, 50, 50; minimum temperatures: 30, 19, 25, 17, 23, 14, 32.

Nearly 2,000 red-blooded visitors have had the fun of getting up to Fern Lake and down again this winter, to say nothing of the playground joys. The climax of the fun is the two weeks at the end of February and the beginning of March.

## AGE OF CONSENT MEASURE PASSES

BILL COMES THROUGH SENATE  
BY VOTE OF FORTY-THREE  
TO TWO.

## ASSEMBLY AGAINST RECESS

New Bills Introduced Include Regulation of Charges on Pullman Cars.

Raleigh. After entanglements in a parliamentary maze probably unsurpassed in the annals of the Senate, the bill raising the age of consent from 14 to 16 years passed its final reading in the Senate by a vote of 43 to 2. The bill emerged from the tangle somewhat the worse for amendments, but in a form satisfactory to its proponents.

Discussion of the measure consumed practically all of the Senate session and adoption of Senator Squires' summary motion to adjourn cut off consideration of the companion bill prohibiting marriages of persons under sixteen years of age and everything else on the calendar. However, fourteen new bills were introduced, varying all the way from regulation of charges on Pullman cars to an amendment to the election law and including a new angle of the Sanatorium investigation and a measure prohibiting publication of details of elections.

When the age of consent bill was reached on the calendar it was greeted by a flock of amendments, a substitute and a motion to recommit. Senator Varner, who introduced the measure, insisted upon immediate action, accepted some amendments, defeated others and had one adopted over his protest. The final roll call was taken after the measure had passed, with Lieutenant Governor Cooper putting the motion with some of the Senators not knowing what was happening because of confusion in the chamber. The Senator reconsidered that vote and on the roll call only Senators Hicks and Moss were recorded in the negative, both explaining that they endorsed the principle of the bill but thought it poorly drawn.

The bill was supported by the North Carolina Legislative Council of Women and is the first measure on the program of that organization to pass either house. At the hearing before the committee the measure was advocated by a large delegation of prominent women, including Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, Mrs. T. W. Bickett and Mrs. Palmer Jerman.

Definite decision against a recess pending the report of auditors now investigating the condition of the State Treasury was made by the Senate and House following assurance from the auditors through the special finance committee that a "certified current balance sheet" cannot be furnished before April 1. By resolution introduced in the house by Speaker John G. Dawson and passed by both bodies, the finance investigating committee is continued with authority to make its report to the Governor and council of State in the event the General Assembly has adjourned when that report is completed.

The principal provision of the new election law introduced as a committee bill by Senator Hoyette, limits absentee voting to persons who can present a physician's certificate that they are unable to cast their votes in person.

Senator DeLaney offered two measures, one forbidding surcharge transportation on Pullmans within the State of North Carolina and the other presenting a new angle to the legislative investigation which has been ordered of the management of the State Sanatorium by L. B. McBrayer. The bill creates another measure to inquire into the validity of claims of the institution aggregating about \$50,000 which are held by Charlotte contractors and which it is alleged the doctor has refused to pay. The present charges for Pullman transportation include a surcharge of 50 per cent, collected by the Pullman Company for the use of the railroad company.

New Member Takes Oath in House. Richmond county was again represented in the house of representatives when James F. Bennett, elected to succeed W. N. Everett, who resigned his seat in the House to become secretary of State, to succeed the late Colonel J. Bryan Grimes took the oath of office. Mr. Bennett took the oath at the hands of Speaker Dawson.

Mr. Bennett is the second newly-elected member to take oath in place of a member elected last November.

Printing Inquiry Brought to Close. Legislative investigation of the state department of labor and printing, following charges by Dr. Charles Lee Smith, of discrimination against the Edwards & Broughton Printing company, one of the state printing contractors, of which he is president, came to an end after 25 hours of actual testimony. A sub-committee will now draft the committee report.

M. L. Shipman, commissioner of labor and printing, and George Justice, former assistant commissioner, were the principal witnesses.

## To Install Radio Receiving

A radio receiving station in each district office to receive instructions from headquarters in Raleigh is being planned by the State Highway commission, to be installed by March 1. Arrangements have been made with the North Carolina State College to use its broadcasting station, 10 o'clock each morning at 7:30 evening to handle the highway department's matter to engineers.

After making a study of the use of radio in giving instructions, other material information to the hundreds of workers throughout the department decided to have receiving stations in each district to urge resident engineers where to install sets so that they be in daily touch with the office.

Important information relating to the condition of various highways will be broadcasted for the benefit of tourists and travelers. These bulletins, it was decided, will be published in the daily press. Officials pointed out that North Carolina would be one of the first in the union to adopt this method of communicating with the highway department employes.

Closer co-operation and more rapid transmission of information are expected to result from the program, it was stated, which is expected that later it might be possible to establish broadcasting stations in the districts. Government is understood, will be set out the plans.

The receiving stations are expected to be installed in each district by March 1.

Prison Reform Bill Introduced. Bill for the abolition of the State Prison and the establishment of a reformatory for the discipline of prisoners, except that for those in confinement in dungeons are both classes of prisoners.

George Ross Fou, superintendent of the state prison stated that he opposed the feature of the bill, venting flogging on the ground that the power is necessary as a deterrent but that he has no objection to abolishing all the dungeons at the prison.

Urges Continuance of Program. The University of North Carolina Alumni association of New York urged the continuance of the educational program of this state in resolutions adopted at a meeting February 9. The resolutions, addressed to the governor, were received at the executive office, and reads as follows: "Whereas, we, the University of North Carolina Alumni association of New York City, at our meeting, February 9, are greatly impressed with the educational progress within the state of North Carolina, realizing the necessity of continuing such progress and firmly believing in the expediency of the recent great growth and the future leadership of the State of North Carolina, do hereby resolve that we express our hearty endorsement of the legislative program of the 1921 session of the state legislature for the upbuilding of education in the state, and do respectfully and heartily memorialize the present session of the state legislature to continue the same constructive and forward-looking program."

The memorial is signed by Gordon Battle, chairman; Dan Brady, Herman H. Horne, Victor Whitlock, and Dr. L. F. Harris.

Bob Bryson Granted Parole. Bob Bryson, of Jackson county sentenced to twenty years in prison in 1916 for his alleged participation in the murder of his wife, was paroled by Governor Morrison.

"Grave doubt that Bryson had anything to do with the murder," is asserted as the reason for the parole. Judge F. M. Harding and Solicitor G. L. Jones both recommended it. Bryson's wife was shot by his daughter, Sally Bryson, who on the stand swore that her father told her to do it. She received a pardon for her sentence and the two came down to Raleigh to begin their long term a few months later. Sally, following a prayer service in the prison, confessed her religion, and in a sworn statement declared she has sworn falsely when she involved her father in the killing. Sally was paroled a year or more ago, and is now in the care of a family who became interested in her when she was in prison.

Need New Depot at Washington. Fifty representative citizens of Washington, piloted by Representative Lindsay Warren, most of them members of members of the Washington Kiwanis club, appeared before the State Corporation Commission on petition for a new passenger station to be built by the Norfolk Southern railway. Officials of the company appeared against the petition. The present station was described as being totally inadequate to the growing needs of the thriving metropolis at the head of Pamlico sound.