

## SKI CENTERS GROW IN NEW YORK STATE; CONTINUE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS

Albany, N.Y.—Expansion of skiing facilities continues in New York State, Commerce Commissioner Edward T. Dickinson reported today. A survey by the Department shows that of the forty-one centers that will be in operation this coming winter, a number have added new facilities.

In the Central Adirondacks, an \$85,000 ski center on McCauley Mountain at Old Forge expects to open December 20. It will have a network of trails, a T-bar lift, and a novice and beginners' slope. The center will operate daily.

Snow Ridge at Turin, in the western Adirondacks, has installed a second T-bar and placed a Poma lift in its expanded beginner's area, as part of a \$50,000 expansion program. Total capacity of the three lifts is more than 3,000 skiers per hour.

The state-owned Whiteface Mountain Ski Center at Wilmington has graded thousands of feet of ski trails and slopes.

Extra T-bar assemblies at Oak Mountain Ski Center, Speculator, will increase uphill capacity twenty-five percent. The center has undergone considerable face lifting. An extensive rock removal job followed by seeding, ditching and grooming has been done on the Sacandaga Trail. The warming hut and the auto parking areas have been enlarged and rest room facilities added.

A new center, Willard Mountain Ski Area, has opened at North Easton, eighteen miles north of Troy in the Capital District. It has a T-bar lift, which can transport 1,200 skiers per hour, a number of rope tows and a snow-making machine. In addition to its slopes, it has four trails.

Royal Mountain Ski Center at Johnstown in the Mohawk Valley has a new Constam T-bar lift, which will serve its expert, intermediate and novice trails.

In the Catskill region, the state-owned Belleayre Mountain Ski Center has painted and re-seeded its buildings and seeded a new 3,000-foot T-bar into operation last cut down the wait-for uphill transport—new trails constructed a year ago have added variety of skiing terrain. The Ski Center, next to Belleayre, has acquired property and thus enlarged its parking area. It has the slope to the top of the lift, and widened the Winkle trail. The beginner's area has also been enlarged.

At Mount Seneca Ski Area at Saratoga, Sullivan County, has added and cleared all trails, graded and bulldozed the top of the Poma lift expanded the beginners' area approximately three times the former size; installed school rope tow and extended the chalet.

The Concord Hotel at Kiamesha Lake is putting in a new Poma lift with a capacity of 560 persons per hour. It will make two rope tows and two ski lifts at the center. The center is also buying a new snow-cat.

Grossinger's Hotel, one of the best resorts to install a snow-maker, has improved its machine. The eighth annual world Barrel Jumping Championships will be held here Saturday, January 10, while the Eastern Olympic speed skating trials for the 1960 world games are set for Saturday and Sunday, January 24 and 25.

In the Central New York area, Greek Peak at Cortland will operate seven days a week. It has cut two new trails, the Stoic Way and the Olympian. The latter has a thirty-two degree slope at the top and is about 3,500 feet long. This raises the total to five trails. Two rope tows have been installed and a new building erected for the National Ski Patrol unit.

Toggenburg Ski Center, at Fabius, twenty miles south of Syracuse, has added seventy-two feet of floor space to its present lodge. A small rope tow for beginners and a ski school have been added. The cafeteria has been enlarged.

A new operation, Labrador Ski Center at Tully, is centrally located for skiers from Syracuse, Ithaca and Cortland. It has two rope tows and a chalet. It is open weekends and holidays, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights.

Swain, near Rochester, has installed a snow-making machine. The center will operate daily.

At Silvermine Ski Center in the Palisades Interstate Park, another slope has been cleared for beginners and a new tow installed, bringing the number of tows to four.

Another Hudson River Valley center, Birch Hill Ski Area, nine miles north of Brewster, is also prepared for a big season. The modern Austrian system of skiing instruction will be given to all grades of skiers. The capacity of the school has been increased and the ski school will offer pre-season skiing on a plastic ski-mat surface which covers a considerable area. Snow Valley at Fishkill opens this winter with some new features.

Among other centers are: in the Adirondack region: Fawn Ridge and Kobl Mountain at Lake Placid; Mt. Pisgah at Saranac Lake, (also open nights); in the Catskills area: Belleayre Mountain at Highmount and Holiday Mountain near Monticello; in the Hudson Valley: Birch Hill at Patterson; in Central New York: Hickory Ridge near Pittsford (might skiing also), and Swain near Nunda; in the Capital District: Willard Mountain at Easton (also open nights); in Western New York: Allegany State Park's Bova

Slopes (also open Saturday nights), and Holiday Valley near Ellicottville.

Centers operating week-ends only in the Adirondack section are Hickory Hill, west of Warrensburg, Marble Mountain at Wilmington, and Sugar Loaf Mountain at Tupper Lake; in the Catskills: Bearpen Mountain at Prattsville, Highmount, Simpson Memorial Slopes at Phoenicia, and Roxbury at Vega; in the Hudson Valley: Catamount near Hillsdale, Fahnestock State Park, and Silvermine at Palisades Interstate Park; in Central New York: Cooperstown, Labrador Ski Center at Tully (also open Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights), and Toggenburg near Fabius (also open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons) Land at East Berne, and Snowy Acres at Cobleskill; in the western part of the state: Allegheny State Park (Big Basin area); the Saratoga-Lake George area: Alpine Meadows near South Corinth; and in the Mohawk Valley: Royal Mountain near Johnstown (also open Wednesday nights).

Resort hotels with skiing facilities include the Mirror Lake Inn at Lake Placid; the Concord Hotel at Kiamesha Lake; Grossinger Hotel and Country

tel at Rosendale; and Youngs Club at Grossinger; Shavnes at Highmount; Williams Lake Hotel at Liberty.

Complete information on the ski centers is given in "Where to Ski in New York State," which may be obtained without charge from the State Department of Commerce, 112 State Street, Albany 7, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Malone and Mr. and Mrs. William Dingle of the Ware Road, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Arnold of West First St., South, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Barnard of Atlantic Avenue, and Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Grey of Pierce Drive were guests of Mrs. Farron Cooper, the Ware Road, last Sunday evening.

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