Year Book.—This publication was maintained, under the editorship of a committee, with Mr. Wesche as Chairman, at its usual high standard and complimentary remarks have been passed upon it in America and in Europe. Financially, also, the book was a success

Annual Dance.—The Ski Council Ball was held on the 6th October, 1938, and again was very successful. 388 tickets were sold and the Dance Committee presented a report, showing a profit of £62/1/8. The Council congratulated the Dance Committee upon the success of the function and thanked them for their services.

Australian National Ski Federation.—Such of the work of this body as was done was done by agreement between the Council and the Ski Club of Victoria. During the year, Mr. Hall retired from the Secretaryship, which has been taken over by Mr. Jamieson. From past experience of Mr. Jamieson's work in other matters connected with ski-ing, the Council feels that the work of the A.N.S.F. will be carried out with efficiency and enthusiasm.

F.I.S.—Miss P. Finlayson and Mrs. T. W. Mitchell were (by agreement between New South Wales and Victoria) authorised to represent Australia in F I S races in Europe and in any races for which they might be eligible during the 1938-39 season. Unfortunately accidents prevented both from running in the F I S races.

Obituary.—The Council learned with very great regret of the death of George Aalberg. Mr. Aalberg had been for many years a pioneer of ski-ing at Kosciusko and was well-known to all visitors to that resort. He had held the Summit Trophy and had skied over the Kosciusko-Kiandra and Kosciusko-Mount Jagungal traverses in remarkable times.

Millions Club.—The Council has again to thank the Millions Club for the use of its premises for meetings.

—**J. A. Lang**, Honorary Secretary.

F. Hurley. Courtesy, N.S.W. Railway Dept.

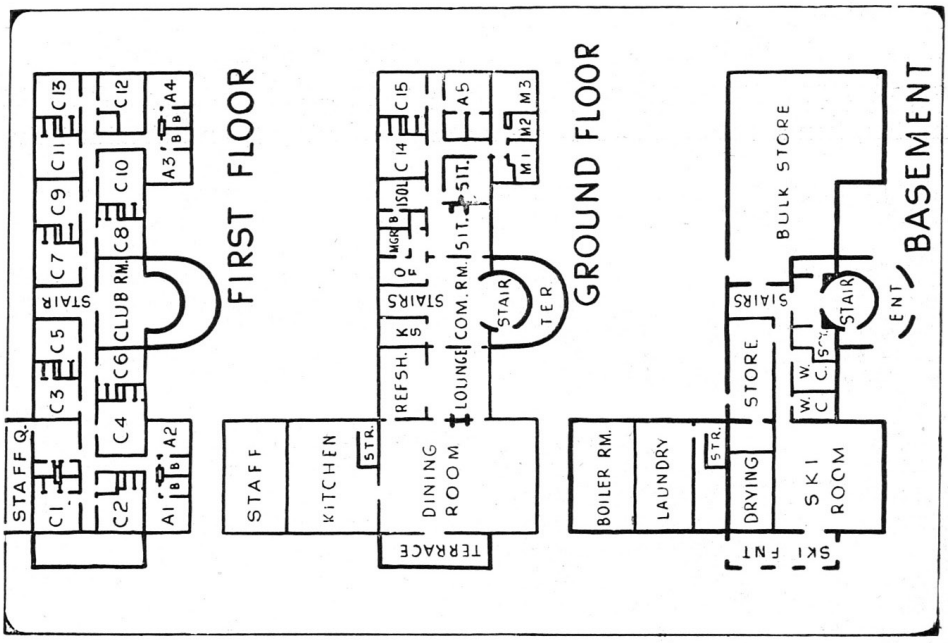
Composite photograph of the new Chalet.

THE NEW CHALET

WITH these notes from the Department we reproduce plans and an interesting composition by Captain Frank Hurley of the new Chalet at Charlotte Pass. The Department of Railways has shown complete willingness to incorporate all suggestions of a practical nature.

It can well be imagined that all sorts of advice has been freely offered and the difficult task of pleasing everybody and at the same time constructing a practical building was placed in the capable hands of the Department's architect, Mr. Hall S. Metcalf, who has presented a plan intended to fulfil every requirement consistent with the conditions. Careful attention has been devoted to central-heating and mechanical ventilation; all the sleeping accommodation and the public rooms have been insulated against heat-losses and for sound-proofing purposes. Ample heat radiation has been provided throughout the building—windows will not require to be opened as there will be constant changes of air mechanically provided. We have the architect's assurance that the keynote of the design of the fireplaces is warmth without smoke . . . to those of us who suffered the old Chalet fires this feature remains to be enjoyed to be believed!!!

Approaching the Chalet from the Betts' Camp end, one enters the north porch and removes ski, thence into a large ski-room which has drying rooms adjoining. One may then proceed via the central passage in the basement to the main stairs. Most of the ground floor consists of public rooms, there being a large dining room, lounge, common room, drawing room, refreshment (?) room, offices, kiosk, etc. The manager's quarters, a special suite, and two "C" rooms are situated on the south end of this floor. The first floor (excepting the club room in centre of plan) is for sleeping accommodation, the "A" rooms being two-bedded with appropriate furniture and separate bathrooms and the "C" rooms being provided each with three double-deck beds, chest of drawers, etc. A basin with hot and cold water is provided in each "C" room and there is a mirrored toilet fitting



Floor plan of the new Charlotte's Pass Chalet.

having six small drawers. Each "C" room has a shower cubicle and a toilet, both with exhaust ventilation. There is a bathroom at each end of the first floor.

A fire service is being installed with a good head of water from the new dam which has been constructed to hold 50,000 gallons of water. Six hydrants will be placed in convenient positions and escapes are being provided at the end of each corridor. There is little likelihood of a fire in the new structure, but the Department following "Safety First" practice has taken every precaution to safeguard the lives of guests and staff. The "A" rooms have telephones with communication (through the switchboard) to Sydney and other exchanges. A soundproof telephone bureau is on the ground floor for the use of other guests.

Care has been taken in the selection of furniture and furnishings. The Department of Railways is to be congratulated on its speedy design and construction of such a building under conditions of weather, housing, etc., of operatives and transport difficulties of which few of us have the vaguest idea.

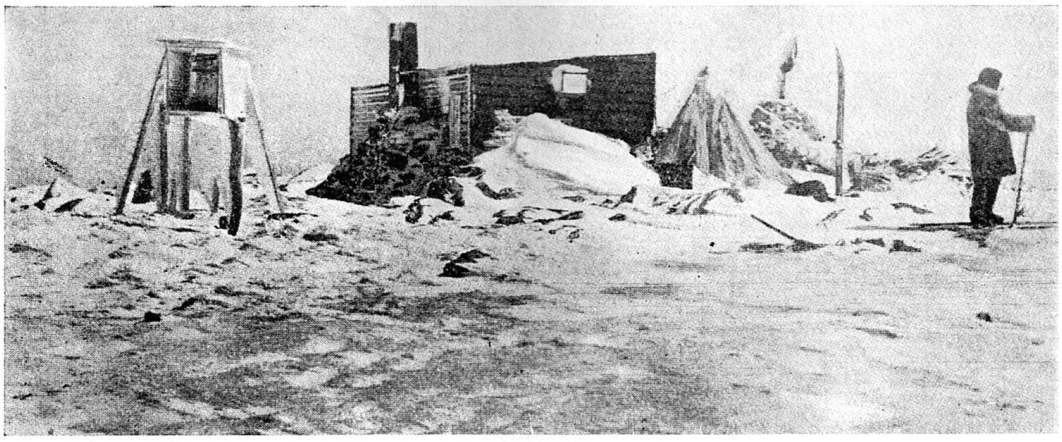
WRAGGE'S OBSERVATORY

By C. D. V. Heyde

IT is unfortunate that our alpine region is not well served with meteorological stations; the would-be investigator has very little data. The most interesting experiment was that established in 1897 by Clement Wragge (the famous "Inclemency" Wragge) on the very summit of Mount Kosciusko. The following summary of the records of this observatory for 1898 and notes on the experiences of the staff are drawn from writings by Wragge and particularly from his "Report on Mount Kosciusko Observatory and allied stations for 1898" (Queensland Government Printer, 1902), and his "Almanac for 1900". I am indebted to Mr. R. T. Ward for assistance in preparation of the data.

Wragge's Observatory at Mount Kosciusko:

Wragge, who had done meteorological work in Scotland, persuaded the Tasmanian Government to put an observatory on Mount Wellington in June, 1895. In 1897 he was Government Meteorologist for the Colony of Queensland (before Federation, hence before Federal control of meteorology), and obtained the ap-



From "Wragge's Almanac, 1900."

The Observatory, Spring, 1898.