

I had to ski like mad in order to keep warm. I suppose there was fifty degrees difference between sun and shade temperatures that day. A peculiarity of a dry, cold, windless climate like that of Lake Louise (it is too high for chinooks, and too sheltered) is that the snow does not pack. It crystallizes, or rather, the snowflakes recrystallize into plates as big as a coat-button. To travel through it is like walking through alum crystals. At night a freezing fog may settle over the lake. In the morning the trees along the lake shore will be coated with what looks like fresh snow, but it only extends twenty feet above the lake. Such fogs are known as "pogonips" in the western mountains. There's a fine myth that to breathe a pogonip means instant death!

"There is an ingenious little contrivance in Alberta known as the Chinook wind. A Chinook is a cold wind, regardless of what the textbooks say. But it is not as cold as the air it displaces, and as the Chinook dies down there are a few hours or a few days of magnificent weather. The mud puddles don't evaporate visibly, as I expected them to do, but the effect over a few days is certainly visible. For the cattlemen the Chinook is a blessing in winter, but the occasional summer Chinooks burn up the grass and dry up the springs. The wheat farmers would doubtless be better off without Chinooks, but who's to stop 'em?"—*Stephen B. Jones*, in a letter from Calgary, Alberta.

EARLIEST OPENING OF N. Y. STATE BARGE CANAL

The N. Y. State Barge Canal was officially opened this year on April 6th, reported to be the earliest in 103 years. The steamer *William Hengerer* and three barges left Buffalo for New York with bonded wheat on the 7th.

There was practically no ice in Lake Erie after March 29th. Navigation opened at Buffalo on April 3d, with the arrival of the freighter *Coralia* from Detroit, loaded with automobiles. The opening of navigation this year was 12 days earlier than the average.

These events reflect the mildness of the winter in this section of the country.—*J. H. Spencer*.

SOME OF OUR WEATHER

Motorists Stranded in Arizona—Phoenix, Feb. 15 (AP).—Three hundred motorists, mostly tourists, driven from auto camps at Wellton by a flood which followed a cloudburst two days previous, were fed at Tacna, east of Wellton, as they were stranded by impassable roads.

Violent Storm Off Virginia Coast—Norfolk, Va., Feb. 15 (AP).—The northwest storm that brought grief to half a dozen ships near Hampton Roads early yesterday had blown itself out today. Three ships that were beached remained ashore. Another, the *Fort Armstrong*, was still aground near Cape Lookout, N. C. The trawler, *Salvadore*, was badly battered by waves and the *Mallema* was still on Rock Landing Shoals in the James River.

Railroads Tied Up by Storm and Tide—Boston, March 5.—Complete paralysis of the Boston, Revere Beach, and Lynn Railroad for four or five hours was the most thorough job done by the storm in crippling transportation in Massachusetts. Rising waters of the 15-foot tide