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NESTLED AMID hills, the Winter Wonderland near Little Falls presents an attractive setting. A comprehensive program is arranged for this weekend.

Little Falls Host At Winter Wonderland

Little Falls (Special)—Blue Mirror lake, a real fantasy in blue, located near Little Falls, will play host to the state today and Sunday as its second annual Winter Wonderland carnival gets under way. And at least three St. Cloud entertainers will help to make the program a success.

Among local persons who will attend the two-day program are Leone Jaensen, Aquatennial queen; Shirley Eisenreich, soloist; and Genevieve Truzinski, baton twirler.

The Cold Spring Choral club will also perform, as well as the dance band from St. John's university, and William Ibes, Dutch pianist now attending St. John's.

Ski Esta Inn, completed this year at a cost of $7,000, complements the lake, ski slide and toboggan runs. The 72 by 24 foot structure is finished with knotty pine and contains two large fireplaces, rustic furniture and is equipped with four eight by four foot thermo pane frostproof picture windows for observation. Loudspeakers located at the top of the inn carry music and messages, and a new 5,000-watt electric plant produces current for the facilities.

Other features include the lake which is sprayed with blue-dye water every two weeks. Located in a natural bowl, it is protected on all sides by high hills. The toboggan run is 1,700 feet long and a lift can carry as many as 12 persons to the top at once. Buena Vista, a 2,000 foot ski trail is newly opened this year, and at present an endless ski rope tow is being installed along the trail.

No charge is made for the use of any of the facilities. Expenses are borne by the citizens of Little Falls. A group known as Winter Wonderland, Inc., supervises the program. Among its distinguished members are Rev. T. Leo Keaveny, former pastor at the Holy Angels church, St. Cloud.

Last year, the cost of operating Winter Wonderland was $1,485, with this year's budget set at $4,500. A total of 34,000 hours of recreation was tallied at the close of the 1948 season, while this year the figure is expected to climb to well over 50,000 hours.

The Wonderland, long-time dream of Rev. E. C. Ramacher, manager of the institution, began back in 1945 when the Catholic priest, surveying the land saw the possibilities for a winter playground and proceeded to make his dream a reality.

Highlights of the two-day play festival include:

Today: Skating races, hockey contests, Chief Mannisnota costume ball, with final judging of queen contestants.

Sunday: Parade, skiing and toboggan races, Winderland Ice revue by St. Paul Figure Skating club, new Wonderland queen to be crowned by Bebe Shopp, Miss America of 1948-49, Wonderland banquet, musical variety show at Little Falls High school auditorium.

New Litchfield Mayor in Chair

REV. E. C. RAMACHER, Little Falls, organized and developed the Winter Wonderland playground near that city.

Willmar's Fire Loss Is $9,700

Willmar—A total of 71 fire calls were answered by the Willmar fire department during 1948, according to the annual report of Chief Harold Nelson. The city's fire loss for the past year was $9,700, somewhat lower than that of preceding years.

Of the total number of calls, 20 were to fires outside the city limits, and the rural fire loss was set at the $8,846.

Largest fire of the year was the B and C cafe, where the loss was $3,000. Second and third largest were

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