

Olympic Skiers Explain How to 'Get Up the Hill'

Dick Durrance Describes Ski Tows Used in East

The long and short of ace Olympic skiers—Warren Chivers, who tops six feet, and Dick Durrance whose thick-soled ski boots fail to raise him to Chivers' shoulders—were in Minneapolis today with the answer to a vexing skiing problem.

How to get back to the top of the hill.

Ski Tows

"What you need out here is something we've had in the east for several seasons," Durrance explained.

"We use ski tows. We rig an endless rope up the side of a hill. It is driven by a gas engine. Skiers just grab hold and slide right back up the hill on their skis.

"Some are more fancy. You sit in a sort of chair arrangement and ride up the hill. Some go so fast it's almost as thrilling as skiing down hill."

Olympic Winners

Durrance who went to school five years at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the scene of the winter Olympics, is known as the best downhill skier in the United States. Competing with the best of European skiers, he finished in the first 10 in the Olympics. Chivers won several places in Olympic competition.

You have to catch ski jumpers young to train them, Chivers advised, but downhill and cross-country skiing is a sport for every one. Skiing is dangerous only for the beginner who thinks he has to take as many chances and go down hill as fast as the man who knows how. Take it slow until you are sure of yourself, he warned.