

Eastern S.D. Ski Resort Is Open

Yankton Group Prays for Snow

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YANKTON, S.D. — "Pray for snow! The first South Dakota ski resort east of the Missouri river is open for business."

So plead those interested in Yankton's newest and most recently completed recreational facility, Holiday Hill, on the north shore of Lewis and Clark Lake, six miles west of Yankton.

FRESH APPROACH

This latest development might well put this area on the national map as a year-round vacation spot. Winter sports, and skiing in particular, present a fresh approach to a community crying for utilization of the natural physical resources found around the lake in a season as attractive as summer to many folks for a vacation.

When the snows came last winter, the hills around Lewis and Clark Lake were dotted every weekend with skiers and tobogganers. "Why, reasoned the Ed Englishes, "wouldn't a ski run prove popular here?" Talk around town proved favorable to the idea and thus Holiday Hill, the baby of

Holiday Village's growing family, came into being.

And what a baby it is. Cuddled close to the year-old Timberlane Golf Course, the hill has four runs. The longest one, 2,200 feet with a drop of 270 feet, compares favorably with the much older ski runs found in the Midwest. An expert slope, two intermediate slopes and a "Bunny Duster" slope for beginners promise to give the enthusiasts plenty of opportunities to work out.

PAPERS FILED

Incorporation papers were filed just before the Christmas holidays, naming Edward J. English and Jean English together with Robert L. and Nancy Burgess, as owners and directors.

Mr. Burgess, department store manager here, will head a contingent of expert ski instruction personnel, who will provide free lessons to skiers at Holiday Hill on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. when the slopes are snow-covered. Regular announcements of snow and ski conditions will be made through the Yankton Chamber of Com-

merce, Burgess said.

A former ski instructor for Argus personnel in Germany, Burgess assumes this role with more than average ability. He is an expert skier, a former member of the U.S. Army Olympic ski team, and is familiar, as is English, with the operation of resort enterprises. He will be assisted by a group of Yankton College students — skiers from Vermont and New Hampshire resorts — in carrying out a program of organized instruction at the Holiday Hill runs.

TO BE PATROLLED

The near half-mile run will be serviced by a polypropylene rope tow, of the type used in all but about five of the 50 ski resorts in the Midwest. This tow will be patrolled by members of the National Ski Patrol.

Located at the bottom of the Hill is The Chalet, a spacious, rustic lodge featuring a large, circular, central fireplace. A lunch counter, tables and chairs complete the comfortable setting, where skiers and spectators may warm themselves and view the

slopes through picture windows. Skis and boots are available for rental at the Chalet.

Access to the Yankton resort is by way of the Lewis and Clark Lake Road, S.D. Highway 52, past the Yankton Boat Basin, approximately six miles west of Yankton.

MANY INQUIRIES

Already a goodly number of inquiries regarding the Holiday Hill opening have been received. The initiation of skiing in the Yankton area is welcomed by winter sportsmen who have travelled hundreds of miles to enjoy this sport. The nearest other resort is near Pipestone, Minn., at Benton Lake. Of the 50 ski resorts in the Canadian border and five-state area made up of South and North Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, only 19 exceed the Yankton run in length and drop, some only by a few hundred feet.

Terry Peak, near Deadwood, in the Black Hills, the only other resort in this state, has an 8,000-foot run, a 1,000-foot drop and is one of five of the 50 in the Midwest that is over a mile long.

THE MAP SHOWN here was designed and drawn by Miss Jeanne English, 15, whose parents are co-owners and directors of the new Yankton ski resort. Dark areas are trees with the ski route veering to the north and northwest at a fork directly north of the Holiday Village turnoff on U.S. Highway 12, about two miles upstream from Gavins Point Dam and the Yankton boat basin.