



A FEW MORE THOUGHTS ON THE SNOW TRAINS

As I look through the photos and advertisements in the Boston and Maine Railroad Snow Train brochure of 1940, I am amazed by one feature of every picture: no one seems to be dressed very warmly. Especially compared to the way we dress for skiing today – no hats, no windproof jackets, and loose pants that look like the wind would just blow right through. People weren't too worried about getting perfectly equipped, in general. Most of the skiers taking the Snow Train from Boston would rent all their equipment before leaving. Rental of everything was available from the Armstrong Company located right in North Station, from skis and poles to jackets, pants, goggles, socks, and mittens (there was an extra charge for cable bindings or skis with metal edges).

How did the skiers of 1940 stay warm? Admittedly, ski promotion photos are always taken when the sun shines, but these folks just don't seem to be worried about getting cold. There are photos of skiers shedding extra layers and hanging them on tree branches. The winters certainly weren't warmer back then. According to the weather archive of the *Farmer's Almanac*, which goes back to 1945, February days in Plymouth, NH were pretty cold (in the 20s most days).

Well, you might say, they could look forward to warm evenings in the ski lodges. Not necessarily! Steam heated rooms were a novelty and budget-minded skiers would think twice about renting them. One ad for the Kerry Patch Cabins in Intervale tries to tantalize: "We have the only insulated cabins with steam heat in the Eastern Slope region...our Main Dining Room is also HEATED and the chef knows how to satisfy your appetite with plenty of good food...the rate is \$4.00 up per person and worth it."

HEADLINING *the Ski Season*

SLALOM Ski Wear

Whether on "golf club slope" or expert trail, you'll enjoy your skiing more in this smart, comfortable ski clothing. The new season brings a complete new line of garments and accessories for men and women... authentically correct in design and materials. "Slalom" is ski wear as the skier wants it.

Write for new catalog B

B. F. MOORE & CO.
NEWPORT VERMONT

ON SALE AT LEADING STORES, SKI SHOPS AND DEPARTMENTS

All images are from the Boston and Maine Railroad Snow Train Brochure, 1940.

I think the answer is that skiing was harder work back then. There was a lot of walking and moving the upper body around along with your legs and feet (clad in flexible leather boots), to get those long wooden skis to turn. Also the lifts were very slow and the ride was short, so you didn't freeze from windchill going up.

And, as we all know, the generation of 1940 was just tougher. Maybe they didn't mind the outside cold so much, since it was usually cold inside, too. They certainly knew how to have fun on the slopes without much layering – you can tell from the photos!

When You Get to Cannon Mt. You'll find

BASS BOOTS

Like famous ski centers all over the country there's a preference at Cannon Mt. for Bass Boots... boots such as the Tempo, with its new imported leather, its high or low hitch heel, and its wide, strong ankle support strap. Skiers who know the importance of good boots wear Bass Boots by choice. Models start at \$6.00 for men and women. Write G. H. Bass & Co., 740 S. Main St., Wilton, Maine, for **FREE** illustrated catalog of many smart styles.

GOOD SKIING REQUIRES GOOD BASS BOOTS

BASS SKI BOOTS

ALL ROADS LEAD TO SKIING

Rent or buy your Ski Equipment

SNOW TRAIN SERVICE

IF YOU ARE PLANNING A TRIP — CALL US FIRST
Let Us Help You Plan

Our Ski Shop on Mezzanine Floor in the North Station over the Waiting Room (East End) open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Also "Sports Service Car" attached to "SNOW TRAIN."

A Repair Shop in the service car is in charge of competent repairs.

Shop and Save by visiting our retail department for everything new in domestic and imported ski equipment.

Check your own skis and poles with us at 25 cents a week.

YOU CAN RENT

For One Day plus Special Extra Charge for Each Additional Day

- Skis with bindings, properly adjusted \$1.25
- Ski Poles, per pair with Harness .50
- Snowshoes, per pair with Toggles (with cushions) 1.00
- Parkas or Jackets \$2.00 - 2.50 - 3.00
- Ski Trimmers .75
- Ski Boots 1.00
- Ski Caps 1.00
- Knapsacks 1.00
- Mittens .50
- Socks .50
- Goggles .25 and .35
- Auto Parks .25
- Additional charges for skis, cables and cable bindings, also rental poles. (See post necessary on rental equipment)

SPECIAL LOW RENTALS FOR WEEK-ENDS

THE ARMSTRONG COMPANY

MEZZANINE FLOOR NORTH STATION TEL. CAP. 5202