

Mt. Ashland Resort Work Is Progressing

High on the slopes of Mt. Ashland work is speeding along in an all-out effort to get the Mt. Ashland Ski Area ready for the coming winter season.

Construction crews employed by Batzer Construction Company of Medford, contractor on the ski lodge, and A. L. Harding, Inc., of Stayton, contractor building a road into the area, are fighting a struggle against time and the elements.

So far, they appear to be winning, despite a week's delay brought about when leaders of the Mt. Ashland Corporation temporarily abandoned hope that the job could be done in time.

A halt to work on the lodge was called shortly after the Columbus Day week end when corporation officials inspected progress on construction of the road — a 7.5 mile, two-lane

route from U. S. 99 at the Siskiyou summit to the north side of Mt. Ashland — and concluded that it would not be completed in time.

The road had been scheduled to get a crushed rock surface for the 1963-64 skiing season and then be paved during the summer of 1964.

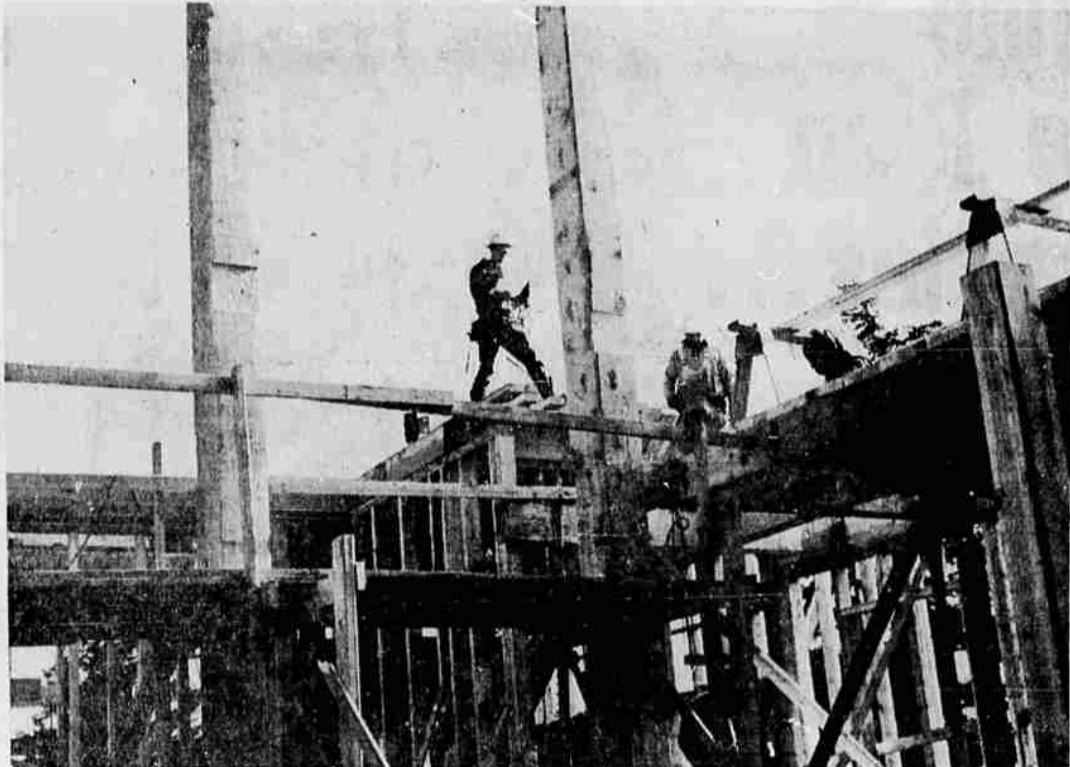
But one week later, the corporation announced it was resuming construction of the lodge, because it then appeared the road would be completed in time.

In the meantime, Claude Harding of the Harding firm had informed the corporation that his company fully intended to have a road with a gravel surface ready at least by mid-January if not sooner.

Harding put on two nine-hour work shifts and moved in addi-



When skiers visit the Mt. Ashland Ski Area this winter, they will be treated to vistas such as the above — with one minor change: the foliage in the foreground will most likely be more white than green. This photo looking south was taken last week on a day when the skies were partially clear and the top of Mt. Shasta could be seen (near the center of the photograph) sticking out of a sea of clouds.



Workmen are rushing to get the Mt. Ashland Ski Lodge ready for use this winter. This scene shows workmen on the third level of the lodge, which will be occupied eventually by the dining deck. Use of the lodge's facilities this first season is expected to be somewhat limited. A "skiers' grill" will be in operation, however.

tional road building equipment in a determined effort to get the work done.

Weatherman Is Cooperative

The weatherman has been fairly cooperative. Some snow has fallen at the ski area during the past month, but it has been followed by periods of clearing that were sufficient to melt the snowfall quickly.

The lodge is now more than 50 per cent complete, according to Alex Murphy, Mt. Ashland Corporation manager. The framework is up; the concrete floors have been poured.

The four towers which will adorn the top of the lodge have been constructed separately and are scheduled to be lifted into place this week.

A water supply system was installed during October. Water will come from a well and be pumped uphill to a 15,000-gallon tank which has been buried three feet underground (in order to keep the water from freezing) about 150 vertical feet above the lodge. It will then be pumped back down to the lodge by gravity flow.

Avoiding Short Cuts

"We're trying to avoid giving in to short cuts," Murphy said. He cited the fact that the water tank was buried under three feet of earth. Some individuals assured him that it would be all right to place the tank on top of the ground, he noted, while others said two feet underground would be far enough.

But Murphy wanted to be certain it was done right, so he went to the extra expense of burying the tank, and put it three feet deep to be sure.

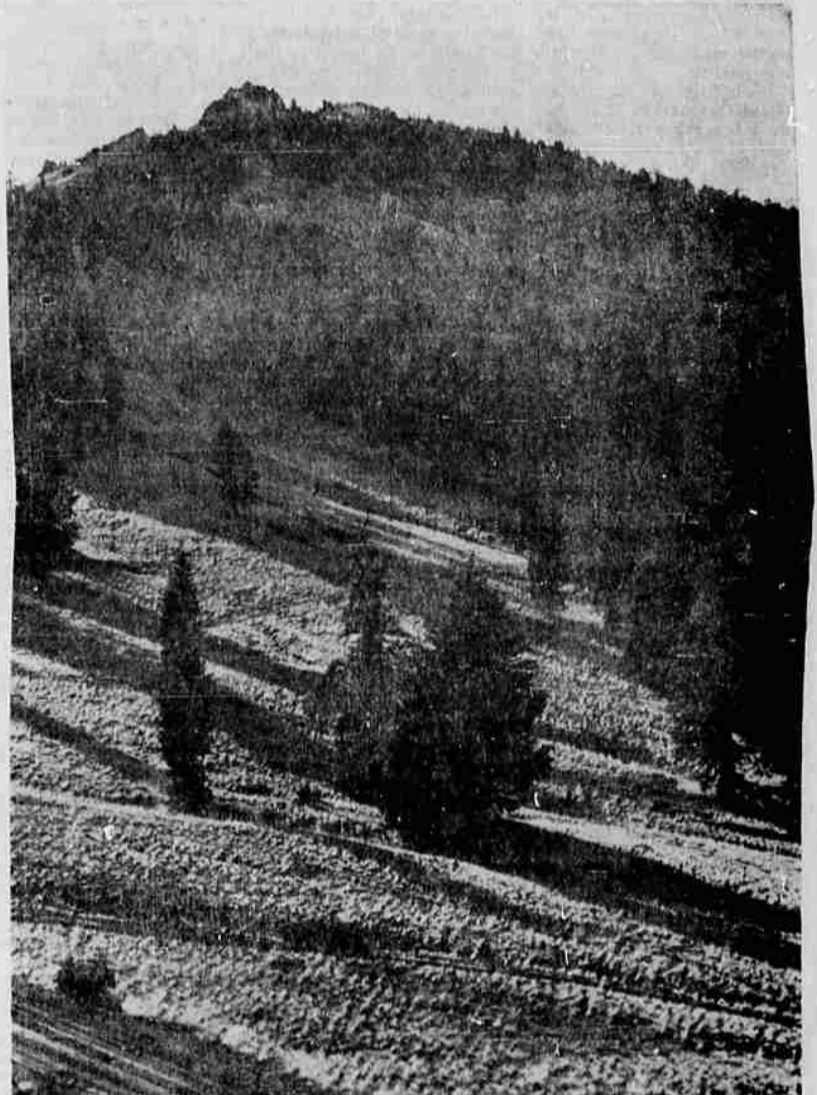
The lodge will have about 11,500 square feet of floor area. Ultimate facilities will include a dining area, warming area, lounge and bar, ski rental shop, storage area and manager's quarters. Murphy will live at the lodge after it opens.

"Skier's Grill" Open

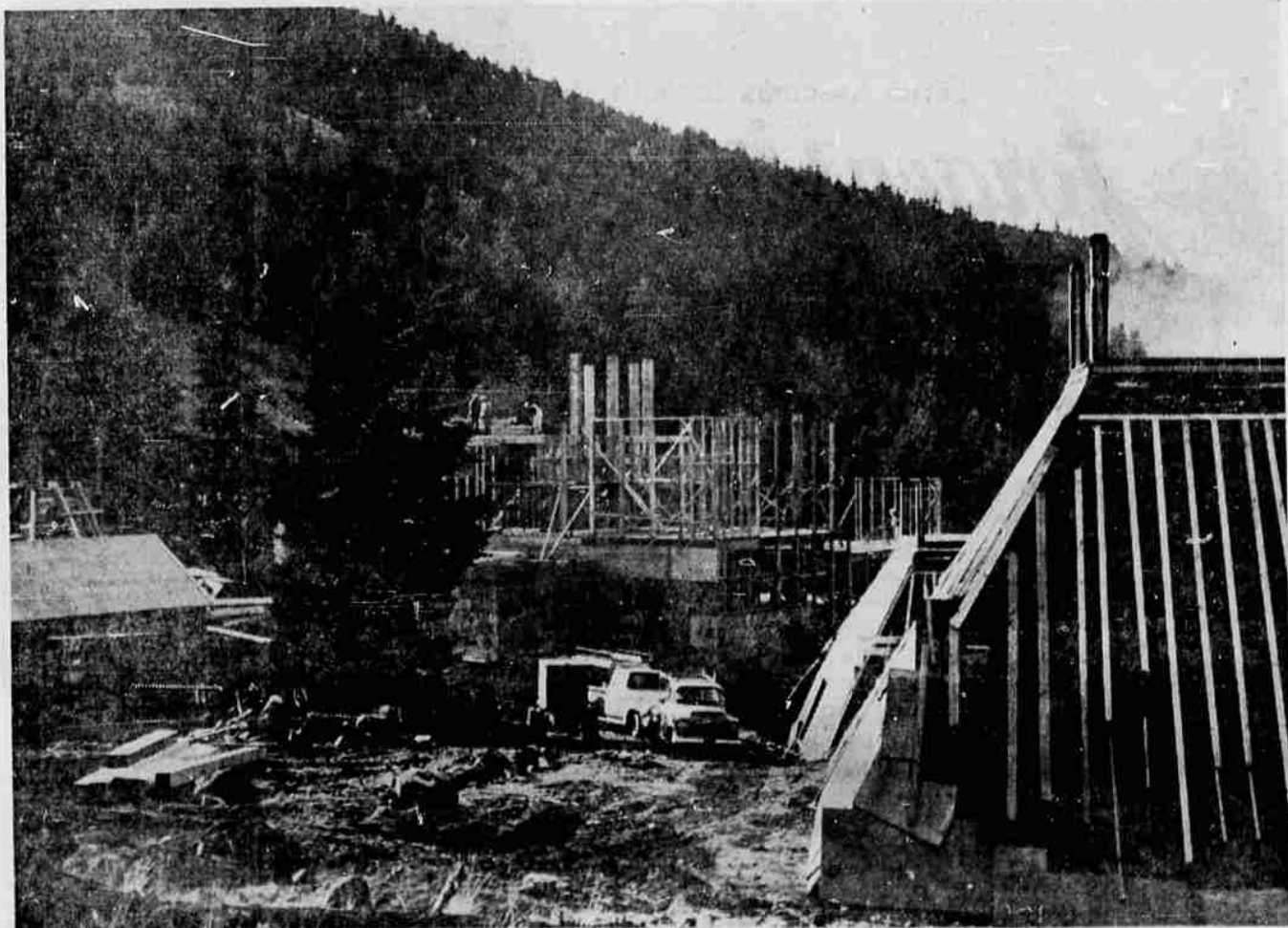
Not all of the facilities will operate during the first season, however. Murphy indicated that the main dining area will not be open, but a "skiers' grill" will be operated.

Installation of the main T-bar lift is nearing completion. It will carry skiers from a point 250 feet below the lodge up the slopes to a point near the summit. The T-bar lift will travel about 2,500 feet, rising 900 vertical feet.

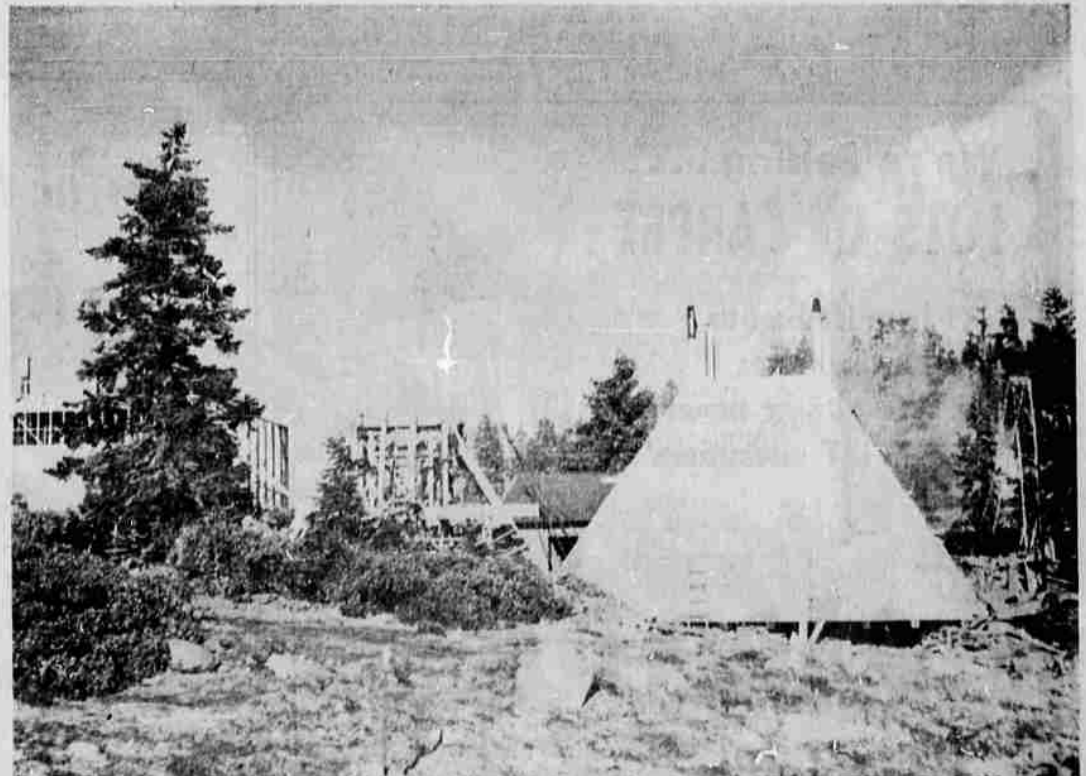
A second lift, called a Pomalift, designed for beginners, is ready for erection, a fairly simple operation, Murphy said. It will transport skiers 650 feet up a slope next to the lodge, rising 135 vertical feet on the trip.



Diners sitting on the northwest side of the Mt. Ashland Ski Lodge will be able to look out at this view of part of the main ski slope. Skiers will be transported to a point near the peak of the mountain by a T-bar lift, from where they may ski down either to the lodge or to the lower terminus of the T-bar lift, at a point off to the right of this photo, about 250 feet below the lodge.



The Mt. Ashland Ski Lodge, now more than half completed, may be seen in the center of this photo, taken from a vantage point on the southeast side of the project. At right are the other two of the four towers which will be placed on top of the lodge. The lifting of the towers into place is scheduled to take place during this coming week. The small building at the left is the contractor's shack. It will be removed when the construction firm, Batzer Construction Company of Medford, completes the job.



Construction of the ski lodge on Mt. Ashland is now reported more than 50 per cent complete. The top of the lodge will be adorned by four towers. They are being constructed separately, and two of them are shown in this photo (right and center). At left is the lodge itself under construction.