Put the Blahs on Ice
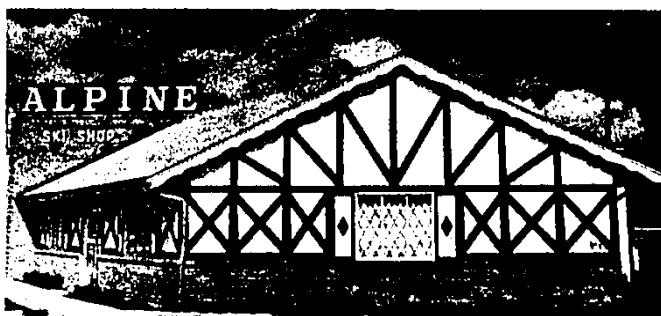
skating's great!

GRAB YOUR MATE--Grab your mate or make a date to skate. Don't sit at home when there is a winter white world waiting for you at places like Lower Huron Metropolitan Park near Belleville. Rinks are open daily until 11 p.m., weather permitting, and additional information on one of the three ponds in the park is available by calling OX 9-2921.

Feeling Blah?
find a town . . .

Tired of looking for lost galoshes, searching for missing mittens and hunting for long underwear?

Why not say "blah!" to it all and plan a summer vacation that includes the search for something worthwhile. Something like a town.

Michigan antique and history buffs no longer will have to seek blindly for the location of the hundreds of ghost towns that dot Michigan's lower peninsula, thanks to a new guide written by Roy L. Dodge, of Harrison.

Titled "Michigan Ghost Towns," Vol. 1, the new 120-page book identifies and describes more than 300 such towns--most of which sprang up, flourished and died during the state's lumber era between 1860 and the early 1900's.

Following Webster's definition, Dodge defines a "ghost" as 'a faint, shadowy semblance; inkling, slight trace'."

"Many of these ghost towns are little more than perhaps a faint depression in the ground, now covered with white birch and alder trees, yet these sites probably are the repository of many valuable relics of that robust period of boom and bust," Dodge said.

In compiling the guide, Dodge traveled more than 10,000 miles in Michigan, poring over such records as still exist, visiting cemeteries and libraries and many of the sites themselves.

The book is available, at $5 per copy, through the Amateur Treasure Hunters Association, 300 State St., Oscoda, Mich.