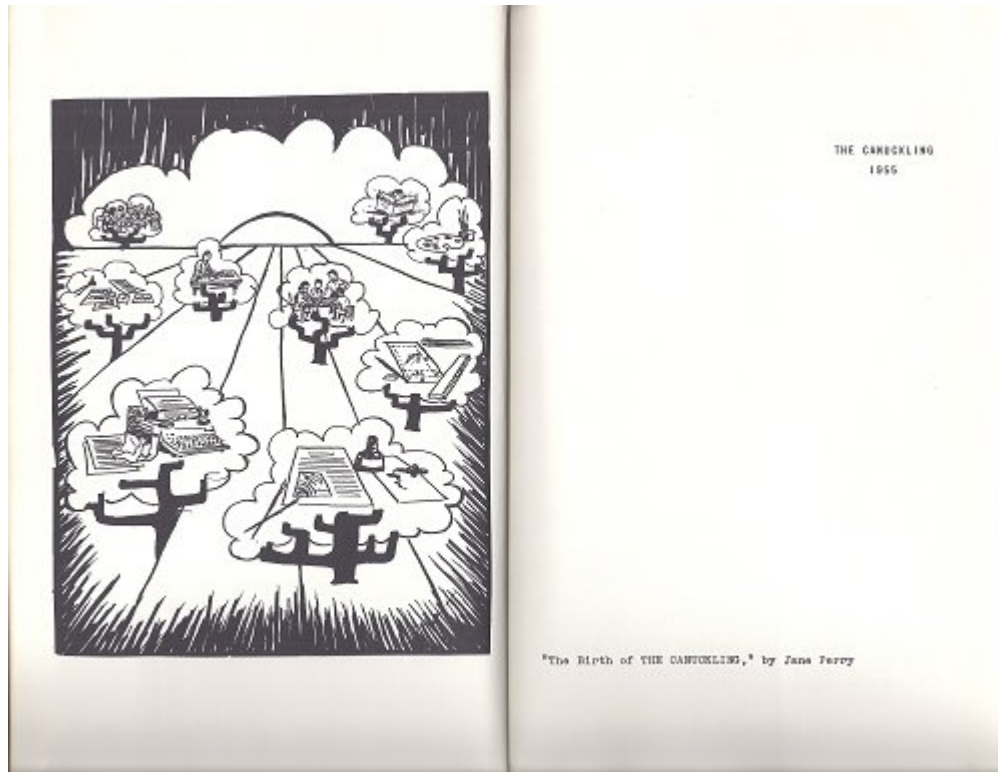


# CANUCKLING 1955

## INTRODUCTORY PAGE OF THE FIRST CANUCKLING



## A SHORT STORY FROM THE VERY FIRST ISSUE

### DUM DE DUM DUM

by TERRY HAINES

*(Whenever the girls' gym class is doing something extra, Terry is bound to be there. She is very active in after school sports and is president of G.A.A.. Terry has been accepted at Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts.)*

Today I determined to ice-skate! Even though I secretly held some doubts, I was, at least, going to try.

Knowing my ankles to be akin to elastic bands in strength, I first strapped on some stiff oddly shaped pieces of brown cardboard, theoretically tagged ankle guards. Knowing also that the skates fitted me like my dad's boots, I put on three pairs of heavy woolen socks. Then, because I had forgotten to put the skates on outdoors, I proceeded to clomp through the house, leaving indentations on the rug, and to slip ignominiously on the linoleum floor.

Between the house and the pool lies a flagstone path. Not wishing to dull the blades of the skates, I covered the terrain by crawling on the ground and at last reached the site of the soon-to-be catastrophe.

Bravely I stepped onto the ice, hoping that some mysterious spirit would guide me through a beautiful, swirling, graceful afternoon. Alas! No mysterious spirit was handy so I spent the afternoon at the other extreme. (Or, perhaps I should say on the other extreme.)

The minute I stepped onto the ice my feet insisted on going their separate ways. Desperately attempting to co-ordinate them, I quickly achieved a sedentary position. Never to be daunted, I arose and took three little steps without mishap.

"At last," said I to myself, "I am learning!"

But my ankles did not believe it. They were happily swaying as the proverbial flag in the breeze.

"All right," I grimly told myself, "don't give up. Let's see if we can make it to the other side."

The first five feet I glided on the blade. The second five feet, I glided on my ankle and the third five feet I didn't glide; I tripped.

Gone was the do-it-or-die-trying spirit. I gave up!

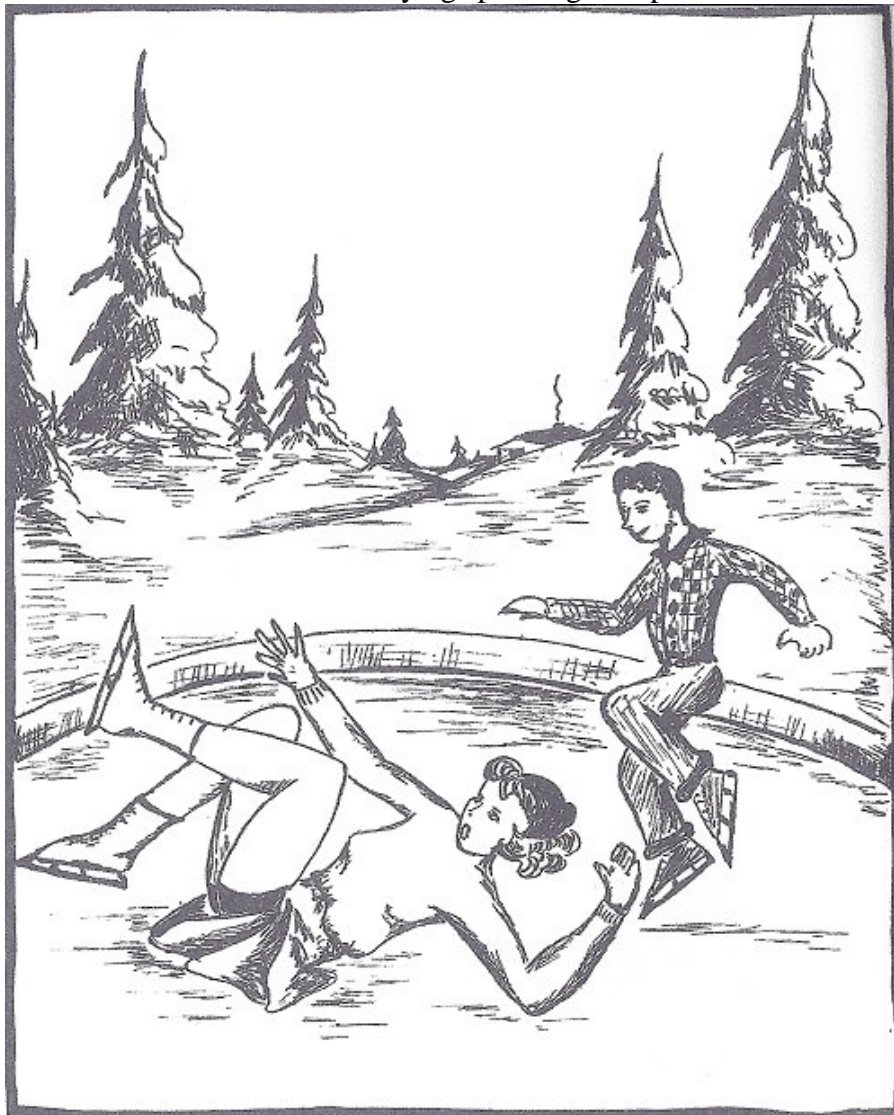


Illustration by Margaret Koumjian