

VARIOUS NOTES



WYOMING ROCKIES

Teton Range

Although the 1937 climbing season in the Tetons was shorter than usual (June 24th-September 17th), a large number of mountaineers visited the region, concentrating upon Grand Teton and Mt. Owen. Six of the eight established routes on Grand Teton were utilized by various parties, while on Mt. Owen four of the five known routes were employed. With the exception of Mt. Wister all of the major peaks were climbed. The annual outing of the Mazamas was held in late July, followed by the outing of California Alpine Club in early August, both groups encamping at String Lake, with a total of more than 100 climbers and hikers. The guide service was again conducted by Paul Petzoldt, assisted by Eldon Petzoldt and Glenn Exum.

Only one original climb was reported—an ascent of Grand Teton from the head of Teepe Glacier on the S. W. side by William House, Paul Petzoldt and the writer. Free of ice in late season, the route proved less difficult than anticipated and required little more than five hours from timberline. Descent was made by the E.-S. buttress, the route differing in part from that of 1931.

A third ascent of the N. corner of Grand Teton (Fryxell-Underhill, 1931) was accomplished by Adams Carter and Paul Petzoldt; and the ascent of Mt. Owen by the N. arête (Fryxell-F. Smith, 1931) was repeated by Jack Durrance, Percy Rideaut and George Sheldon. The approach to the arête, however, was made from the N. shoulder of Grand Teton, involving a first crossing of Gunsight Notch.

PHIL D. SMITH.



COLORADO CLIMBING NOTES, 1937

The Colorado mountaineering season of 1937 started with the usual New Year's Day trip up Pikes Peak. This is the regular annual trip of the Ad-Am-An Club of Colorado Springs, who each year climb Pikes and initiate one new man (add-a-man) into the club to the accompaniment of a brilliant display of fireworks, which on a clear night is visible from points one hundred miles distant. A solo climb of Longs Peak was also made on New Year's Day by Ernest Fields, a ranger in the Rocky Mountain National Park.

As the winter progressed, week-ends found crowds of skiers roaming the mountains in the vicinity of Berthoud Pass, 60 miles W. of Denver. On one of these trips a party of two young men was engulfed and killed by an avalanche, within a quarter of a mile of the auto road, their bodies not being found until late in May.

With the advent of summer, numerous climbing expeditions were roaming over the state, some with the intention of making some of the few remaining first ascents, others to climb by seldom-used or new routes up the better climbs. July in particular saw several unusual ascents. A party consisting of Robert Ormes, Jack Seerley, Lloyd Griffiths, Melvin Griffiths and David Lavender, spent the first two weeks climbing and exploring in the Needle Mountains. On July 5th, Elwyn Arps, Harold Popham and Carl Blaurock climbed Capitol Peak in the Elk Mountains by way of the W. face, a first ascent up this side and by the same route which defeated the party the previous year due to lack of proper equipment. On the 17th of July, Robert Ormes and Jack Seerley climbed the E. arête of the Crestone Needle in the Sangre de Cristos, a second ascent, Albert Ellingwood and party having made the first ascent in 1925. Later in the month Melvin Griffiths and party succeeded in climbing Index Peak in the San Juans near Telluride, after having made previous attempts.

On August 2nd, Jack Stickles of Loveland, Col., made a first ascent on the W. side up Chimney Rock, a 250-ft. sandstone butte on the Colorado-Wyoming line. This was followed on August 10th by a second ascent up the S. side by Robert Ormes and Roy Murchison.

During the final two weeks in August, the Colorado Mountain Club held its annual outing in Chicago Basin of the Needle Mountains, during which all the major peaks were ascended. The outstanding accomplishments on this outing were the traverse of the long jagged ridge from Jupiter to Mt. Eolus, by Jack Seerley, and the tedious long day's trip up Pigeon and Turret by Elwyn Arps and party.

Among the outstanding accomplishments of the season was the climb of all fifty of the 14,000-ft. peaks in the state by Carl Melzer, his son Bob, nine years old, and Junius Johnson in thirty-nine climbing days. Last year this same party traversed the Continental Divide from Wyoming to New Mexico. On both these expeditions a remarkably beautiful record of kodachrome movies was made.

On Labor Day, Mary Cronin and Carl Blaurock made a second ascent of Blanca Peak via the N. E. ridge and face of the peak. Then on the 19th of the month a party of six made a first ascent on the N. E. face of Navajo Peak in the Front Range.

The summer climbing season closed with another attempt on Shiprock, an 1800-ft. volcanic remnant in the desert near Gallup, N. M. The party, consisting of Melvin Griffiths, Gordon Wil-

liams, William House and Robert Ormes, after a great deal of difficult climbing were defeated within 300 ft. of the summit, but have in mind another attempt this year.

This is merely a synopsis of some of the more interesting mountaineering carried on during the past season, and does not by any means enumerate all the serious climbing which occurred in the Colorado Rockies. There were numerous trips up the E. face of Longs Peak by various established routes, as well as other climbs throughout the state which lack of space precludes mentioning. Now that the winter season is here again numerous skiing ascents are being planned by the Colorado Mountain Club and individual members.

CARL BLAUROCK.



ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF CANADA

A Note on the Chaba Glacier. On July 7th, 1933, being encamped in the eastern fork of the Chaba, E. Cromwell and the writer reoccupied the glacial observation station made by the Harvard party of 1927, at which time (July 28th) the ice was within 45 ft. of the station. At the time of our visit the ice had retreated an additional 559 ft., roughly 62 ft. annually. Photographs were taken from the station, and a record left with the figures of the 1936 measurements.

On July 6th our party had ascended through the main icefall to the summit of the present Chaba Peak, expecting it would be a first ascent. We found, however, the record of E. Schoeller, of Breslau, and the guide, Julius Rähmi, of Pontresina, who ascended the mountain on September 6, 1928, while on a hunting trip. The peak was not attempted by the Harvard party of 1927.

As already stated in the *Climber's Guide*, this is not the peak to which Habel gave the name "Chaba." On July 8th we ascended the peak 10,300 ft., one mile further east, and found Habel's record of August 1st, 1901, on the summit. Habel was accompanied by the packers, Fred Ballard, of Banff, and Dan Campbell, of Michigan, their climb having been made "on a beautiful cloudless day." The fact that, following Habel's account (*Appalachia*, x, 34), we were able to proceed directly to his peak and find the record is sufficient refutation of Wheeler's statement (*Alta.-B. C. Boundary*, Part II, 73) that "the the description given is too vague to permit the certain identification of either ['Mt. Eden' or 'Mt. Chaba']."



Saskatchewan Glacier. No measurements were made, but the upper course was examined from Castleguard meadows on July 1st, 1937. The glacier has receded more than 200 ft. from the S. lateral moraine where horses were taken on the ice in 1923. This is