

*Cuernos, Paine Group, Patagonia.* In January, Paul Dix, Jim Mack and I entered the Paine massif, hoping to climb the Cuernos (Horns, c. 8000 feet). We were turned back 100 feet from the summit by bad rock and bad weather — and with profound respect for this very big mountain. Several expeditions have attempted this peak, all being stopped by the 500-foot summit block.

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*Central Chile.* The 1964 climbing season witnessed the conquest of most of the peaks over 13,000 feet that remained unclimbed, particularly in the Rancagua and Colchagua districts. The main expeditions in Central Chile were the following: by Club Mañke, which operated around the sources of the Cachapoal River, Rancagua area and climbed the following peaks: Torrecillas, 12,467 feet (January 17), Aguja Verde, Aguja Roja, Pilar Occidental (two ascents) and Aguja de Roca, all c. 12,800 feet (January 17-18); Corona del Diablo, 15,026 feet (January 18), Gran Torre del Cortaderal, 13,616 feet (January 1), Nevado Penitentes, 14,600 feet (January 2), Hermandad, 13,452 feet (February 2), Cola del Cisne, 14,239 feet (February 3), Nevado Cisne, 14,272 feet (February 3), and Aguja Roja again, new route, (February 2); afterwards the camp was transferred to the southern district of the sources of the Cachapoal and the following ascents were made, by members of the same club: Portillo, 16,339 feet, and Alto de los Arrieros, 16,404 feet on February 7, the latter being a second ascent. Also the 5th and 6th ascents of El Palomo, 15,912 feet were made, and then a third base camp was transferred to the area south of El Palomo, from which a number of unclimbed peaks were successfully attempted: Lágrimas, 13,484 feet (February 12), unnamed, 13,452 feet (no date given), Mesoncito, 12,959 feet, Colmillo, 13,124 feet, and Nevado Sierra Negra, 14,764 feet; the last three on February 12. Members of the universities' mountain clubs made the following ascents: Mirador de la Torre de Flores, 15,912 feet by W. Espinoza and P. Durán, on December 20, 1963, who also traversed to another unclimbed peak, Punta Ventisquero, c. 15,100 feet the same day. Miguel Gómez led a group to the border peaks of the León Negro group and made the following climbs: Doris Sur, 17,061 feet, Expedición, 16,733 feet, Don Juan, 16,800 feet, Benicadell, 16,909 feet and an unnamed peak, 16,568 feet, all first ascents and all in mid-February; they also climbed Central, 16,978 feet and Doris Norte, 17,093 feet, both third ascents. All these peaks of the León Negro group are located on the border of Argentina, or inside Argentinian territory. An expedition of the Club Andinista Internacional operated in the massif of Cerro Plomo, due east from Santiago, and

climbed eight peaks; mention should be made of the climb of Punta Expedición, 16,240 feet by H. Oteíza, C. Julio and P. Castillo on February 20, a first ascent, and of Punta Verde, c. 16,400 feet, by H. Oteíza and C. Julio, on February 21, a new route from the west.

GASTÓN SAN ROMÁN H., *Federación de Andinismo de Chile*

*Central Chile.* In March 1963 four University of Chile students led by C. Marangunic climbed in the group between the Christ the Redeemer and the Gemelos from a base in the Navarro valley and ascended as firsts: Navarro (14,961 feet), Zoológico (15,584 feet), Cola de Mono (15,847 feet); and a new route, the south ridge, of Valeria (15,748 feet). Three students from the same campus made the first ascent of the Puntilla Alta or Torre Pangal (14,820 feet) where the Whitelocks had previously failed. The group was under Eduardo García. They also climbed for the first time Puntilla III (13,780 feet) and Cabeza del Glaciar (14,108 feet). O. Corón and H. Honorato made the first ascent of Punta Campamento (13,780 feet) on February 14, 1963.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA C.

*Northern Chile.* A light archaeological expedition sent by the Santiago section of the Club Andino de Chile travelled to the Antofagasta area and from a base camp at 13,000 feet on the flat pampa near the ancient Indian village of Toconao, made a number of scientific investigations. A group, formed by H. Tapia and W. Ihl, detached from the main party and camped at 17,000 feet on the western slopes of Volcán Lascar, semi-dormant; on November 16, 1963 the top, on the crater rim (18,540 feet), was reached by the pair, who encountered fierce winds and were soon forced to descend because of the sulphur fumes.

Club Andino de Chile

*Payachatas, Northern Chile.* An expedition of the Club Andino de Chile, Santiago Section, traveled in October to Africa and then to the mountain towns of Putre and Murmuntane. From a 14,500-foot Base Camp on the northeastern shores of the great lake of Chúngara the expedition split into two groups and set out to climb the twin Payachatas volcanoes which rise on the Bolivian frontier. The first group, Bión and Oscar González and Claudio Lucero, placed two camps at 16,000 and 17,400 feet on the southern Payachata, which the maps call Parinacota, and ascended on October 11 to the top, finding an impressive crater, a mile wide. At the same time, the second group, Sergio Kunstmann and Claudio Maier, set out for the second Payachata, which the maps name Pomerape and the