

left until we had crossed a short F7 steep section which allowed us to run along easy ledges back to the right rib with minimum exposure to icefall. The rock became easier and looser up the two double bands where finally the route is exposed to a relatively small section of the ice cliff above. The bands were fairly difficult on pretty good rock. Above, for several pitches, the rock was loose, almost gravel mixed with snow and ice, and exposed to the ice cliff. The final four or five leads under the cliff were excellent limestone on a sharp F6 to F7 arête, delightful climbing. The ice cliff offered 130 feet of overhanging aid with a very steep, insecure mixture of ice, snow and air in the remains of an old crevasse. We bivouacked just above the ice cliff and climbed easy ice directly to the summit the next morning. Objective hazard was relatively slight due to the dryness of the year. NCCS IV, F7. (The only aid was on the ice cliff.)

GEORGE H. LOWE, III

*Mount Athabaska, Canadian Rockies.* In August, François Plenier, Yvon Chouinard and I made a new route on the north face of Athabaska, roping up below the gully and climbing through the rock band, without cutting steps.

PETER T. CARMAN

*Narao Peak, Canadian Rockies.* Yvon Chouinard and I climbed the southernmost of two 800-foot ice gullies on the east face of Narao Peak, south of Kicking Horse Pass.

PETER T. CARMAN

*Mount Peskett.* East of Mount Murchison a number of summits, only some of which have been climbed, rise to over 10,000 feet. Late in July we entered by way of Spreading Creek, turning southeast up its second tributary to camp at timberline above the third series of waterfalls. Our party consisted of Brooks and Ann Dodge, Dieter von Hennig, Victor Mahler, Dr. and Mrs. Edgar Holmes, Arnold Wexler, Rudi Gertsch, Leo Grillmair and me. Hans Gmoser and I had planned this trip for some months, but he could not make it. From our first camp we ascended the prominent cirque to our east, passing through the 1000-foot cliff band by

a series of ledges just below what is left of the glacier. Mount Peskett is the northernmost of the three peaks that form the east wall of this valley. We reached the ridge south of the middle peak and the entire party then made that ascent. After lunch on the summit we split. Grillmair, von Hennig and I went north along the ridge to Peskett and back in only two hours, although we had a bit of a scramble to get down over a notable step at the north end of the middle peak. Meanwhile the rest of the party had without difficulty gone south to the third summit, which is slightly higher than the two northerly ones. We moved camp to the extreme head of Spreading Creek under the southeast towers of Mount Murchison. From here Brooks Dodge, von Hennig and I made a long trek to the northeast to climb the peak which forms the west side of Spreading Creek and is hairily spectacular from that side. Meanwhile Gertsch had scampered over a couple of summits south of our camp to see what he could of our main objective, "Totem Tower". Having a favorable report, we moved en masse to the col at the south of the peak, which is clearly seen from the Banff-Jasper highway at the Totem Creek crossing. Our route, somewhat on the west side, had two interesting and very exposed pitches on which Gertsch did the honors. They can be readily spotted as steps in the south ridge.

WILLIAM L. PUTNAM

*Peaks Above "Swan Lake".* Ten miles southeast of Maligne Lake the headwaters of the Brazeau River's north fork coalesce into a two-mile-long lake. In early August Arnold Wexler, Morgan Broman, Frank Mettrick, Gene Boss, Lowell Putnam, Brad Swan and I packed in from the landing at Coronet Creek in one rather strenuous day; then we spent most of a pleasant week camped near the southwestern end of this lake, overlooking the Brazeau valley with Mount Poboktan's inspiring north face dominating the southern vista. From this camp we made two ascents and explored various valleys. The 10,400-foot summit ("Cornucopia Peak") at the extreme northeast head of the drainage was our first objective. A two-hour hike saw us safely across the streams tributary to "Swan Lake" and above the moraines and ice on the névé at our peak's southern base. It appears that the Dominion Topographical people must have been there, for much to our chagrin a suitable cairn already adorned the peak. The other ascent was a 10,500-foot summit two miles east of our camp, which we reached by going south along the east side of the Brazeau valley and turning up the tributary which enters next below Swan Lake. We ascended our peak