

The place was an incredible mess. The debris yielded rusty carabiners, cigarette cartons, Courvoisier bottles: climbers' spoor no doubt. There are enough climbers coming here now to make a significant impact on this wild, beautiful valley. We should have the courtesy to treat the South American wilderness with the same respect as our own. Two attempts on the south ridge of Jancarurish were turned back by deep powder snow. About the middle of June, Wagstaff, Gerdes and I ascended Alpamayo Norte with a little help from our Polish friends who ascended it the day before. We traversed most of the summit ridge but did not climb the mushroom on the south summit. The rock on the north ridge was covered by a layer of hard snow this year.

ROBERT BOYD, *University of California, Davis*

Ulta, Alpamayo Norte, Pucaraju and Other Peaks. The South African Andean Expedition arrived in the Cordillera Blanca in June and established itself in the Quebrada Ulta under Chopicalqui near the New Zealanders led by McIlwraith. Roger Fuggle, Tony Dick and I first climbed Nevado Ulta (19,275 feet) via the "standard" route before Fuggle and Dick joined the New Zealanders on the southeast ridge of Chopicalqui (20,998 feet). The New Zealanders' stories of the east ridge of this peak made us change our minds about trying it. Conditions were very bad, deep soft snow covering what normally are rock routes. However Fuggle and Dick did climb the north peak of Alpamayo and Artesonraju before failing on the north ridge of Huascarán Norte (French route of 1966). I joined the New Zealander Maurice Conway and climbed a new route, the northwest ridge of Pucaraju (17,540 feet).

GREGORY MOSELEY, *South African Alpine Club*

Cancaracá Group. Nine members of the Royal Dutch Alpine Club, eight Dutch and one Peruvian, Dr. Dolf Noordijk, Fons Driessen, Daniel Paz y Geuze, Robbert and Hannie Vermeer, Jan and Anna van Royen, my wife Liesbeth and I, made a very interesting round trek through the Quebradas Honda, Illauro, Cancaracá and Ulta. We crossed the Portachuelo from the Quebrada Honda and Shillapunta (given as "Pasaje de Ulta" in Dr. Kinzl's map). Both are about 16,000 feet. The trail on the latter was destroyed over long stretches by the 1970 earthquake and we therefore crossed the pass without help of animals. We established two base camps. The first was on Yanacocha, the point of departure for the Copap group. The attempt on Perlilla (18,330 feet) by its northeast ridge failed at about 17,250 feet for lack of time (we had only one high camp but needed two) and anticipated severe technical difficulties on ice and rock on the ridge. A second base camp was established in the little-known Quebrada Huichajanca. A reconnaissance of Copa's north slope was not followed by a real attempt because of

bad weather. There also seemed to be severe threats of sérac avalanches. Instead, we established camp at 16,000 feet on the north of the valley, high above some beautiful lakes. On consecutive days, June 23 & 24, we made two first ascents. Noordijk, Robbert Vermeer, both van Royens, Emilio Angeles and I climbed P 5310 (17,422 feet) over its glacier-covered south side. Jan van Royen and Driessen climbed P 5260 (17,257 feet*) via the lower southwest ridge, diagonally across the west face to finish up the steep upper northwest ridge.

FRANK H. SCHREVE

Chopicalqui, Ulta, Contrahierbas, Cayesh, San Juan, Pucaraju. The New Zealand Andean Expedition climbed in the Cordillera Blanca from May to August. Members of the party were Maurice Conway, Stuart Allen, Steve Dawson, Olly McCahon, Trevor Caines, Walter and Neil Fowlie and I. The following is a summary of the climbing. *Quebrada Ulta:* The main objective was the unclimbed east ridge of Chopicalqui (20,998 feet). The climb was abandoned at 19,500 feet after three days of alpine-style climbing on this formidable ridge of endless mushrooms. Perhaps a bad season made it worse than usual, but we doubt that it will ever be very easy. Dawson and I also attempted the unclimbed northwest face of Nevado Ulta (19,275 feet) failing after three days on the face about 300 feet from the top where the snow changed from bad to impossible. We did complete the following: Contrahierbas (19,803 feet) on May 21-23 by Conway, Caines, W. and N. Fowlie; Ulta (19,275 feet) via north rib on May 28-31 by Conway, Caines, W. and N. Fowlie, 3rd ascent; route repeated on June 1-3 by Dawson, McCahon, McIlwraith; Chopicalqui via southeast ridge on July 1-5 by Conway, McCahon, W. and N. Fowlie with South Africans R. Fuggle and A. Dick. (This was completed on its second try in typically bad snow conditions after the first try turned into a rescue when a cornice broke under me and I fell 100 feet before being held by Neil Fowler who went down the other side of the ridge.) *Quebrada Quilcayhuanca:* Here Allen and Dawson succeeded in the second main objective of the expedition when they reached the top of the unclimbed west face of Cayesh (18,770 feet) between July 11 and 15. The route on the face involved three days of sustained mixed climbing, the rock giving difficult free climbing requiring aid in places. The climbers came out two or three pitches below the summit on the ridge and spent another two days descending by the ridge.

* The topography of this particular region seems to be somewhat different from what appears on the Austrian map, where in fact dotted contour lines seem to indicate that the mappers were not sure of all details. Schreve states that P 5310 was definitely lower than P 5260. The location of the peaks climbed is however very clearly shown on the map.