

dangerous. We placed Camp III at 19,700 feet in the middle of the snow ridge. The final steep part of the ridge, partially rock, was started on the eastern side towards the Llanganuco, but we finished the climb on very difficult rock and ice (partially artificial) on the west face, following a deep dihedral, which we reached by a spectacular pendulum some 50 feet to the right. Four climbers reached the summit at 4:30 P.M. on July 25.

COSTANTINO PIAZZO, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Huascarán.* On July 31 Andreas Brückner, Caspar Vogel, Mark Ebnetter and I reached the summit of Huascarán Sur. Since last year, the route to the Garganta goes over a ramp directly below the south peak, climbing a steep ice wall to the right of rocks for 100 feet before following left to the Garganta. Above the Garganta one climbs on the left side before traversing right and continuing up.

CHRISTIAN BRÜCKNER, *Schweizer Alpen Club*

*Chopicalqui and Neighboring Peaks, 1973.* The Swiss Tiziano Bacaglio, Renato Simona, Enrico Malli, Ugo Zaccheo and Armando Castellani of Locarno climbed Chopicalqui by the normal route on June 11, 1973. Primo Mella stayed in Camp II with respiratory difficulties.

*Huantsán, Attempt on East Ridge.* Our attempt on Huantsán (20,981 feet) failed on the summit rock band at about 20,500 feet. We arrived at Base Camp in the Quebrada Huantsán with six climbers: Bill Lahr, Chris Chandler, Craig McKibben, Malcolm Moore, Patrick Padden and me. We placed Camp I on the col after a few days in Base Camp and began moving up the ridge without ferrying loads. At Camp II Chandler got a slight case of pulmonary edema and Padden volunteered to descend with him. At Camp III McKibben's cut hand became so severely infected that Moore descended with him. That left Bill Lahr and me. We occupied Camp IV at 18,000 feet. The next day we proceeded to Camp V at 19,700 feet, at the base of the summit rock band. Our summit push from Camp V failed because of the lack of pickets and ice-screws to protect the leads on very soft, deep snow over rock as well as to provide anchors for a safe descent. It was a hard decision to turn around only 500 feet from the top when we were still in fine condition. I believe that we were higher than the high point of last year's French expedition. (They reached 19,700 feet.—*Editor.*) We followed their shredded fixed ropes except above Camp V for the summit push, where there was no evidence of anyone having been that high. The climb was a modified alpine-style. We used caves and schrunds except for the two tents on the col. Three of us used half sacks and the other three were sleeping in two bags zipped together, a real weight saving. We used only dehydrated food at high camps. We did carry 600 feet of fixed rope as far as Camp III. Half

PLATE 56

*Photo by H. Adams Carter*

**Huascarán, Cordillera Blanca, Peru. The  
Northeast Ridge of Huascarán Norte is  
the left skyline.**



of us fixed a few pitches above the new camp each day while the others dug a cave.

RICHARD RIDGEWAY

*Huantsán, East Ridge.* August 8 saw the meeting of two separate expeditions at the foot of Huantsán. One group comprised 13 French, nine men and four women, and the other, three French, two Americans, an Australian and a Peruvian porter. Thus with a manpower of 20, the east ridge was subjected to a Himalayan-style assault. Using 7000 feet of fixed rope and four camps, the two principal lead climbers, Frenchmen Michel Parmentier and Marc Bartard, reached the summit at one P.M. on August 17 from Camp IV at 20,150 feet. On the next three days another 11 climbers reached the top, including Dave Neff, Gordon Seibel, Americans and me, Australian. Overall the ridge was long and steep and the climbing sustained. We stayed mostly on the north slope of the ridge, except around Camp III (18,500 feet), where the route followed beneath the cornices, and the last few pitches near the top. Rope was fixed almost continuously from Camp II (17,000 feet) almost to the summit. The crux of the climb was some 600 feet below the summit, where the Americans had stopped a month or so before us. During the early stages of the climb there were heavy snowfalls, but this gave way to more stable weather. However, much climbing was done in white-out conditions. At the end all ropes and hardware were removed and the mountain left relatively clean.

MURRAY JOHNS, *Club Andinista, Cordillera Blanca*

*Chinchey, Pucaranra, Peak in Cayesh Group, San Juan.* Our expedition consisted of Richard Dietz, David Neff, Ben Pfeiffer, John Spezia, Gordon Thomas and me as leader. On June 16 we located Base Camp on a small grassy pampa at 14,000 feet at the head of the Quebrada Tulparaju. On June 26 we established Camp II on the saddle between Chinchey and Pucaranra. On June 27 we picked a route through the lower crevasses, then almost directly up the center of the west face of Chinchey to the notch between the north and south summits. The crevasse which turned back climbers several years ago was well covered and all six of us reached the summit at 2:30. We left a four-foot-deep trench in the deep snow of the upper 50° face. On July 3 Neff, Spezia and Pfeiffer returned from Camp I to the saddle, where they climbed to 18,500 feet on the north side of Pucaranra's east ridge, which connects it to Chinchey. A snow cave was constructed on the 50° slope. The next morning at 5:30 they climbed through a difficult rock band and then up the east ridge, keeping on the north slope. Snow conditions were good. Reaching the east summit, they climbed the ridge to the main peak, arriving at three P.M. Most of the descent was in the dark with headlamps. They got back to the snow cave at three A.M. We believe this to be the