

Waddington by a 1200-foot variation of the original route. First climbed in 1936 by Fritz Wiessner and William House, the face had seen many attempts but no complete ascents since the second ascent by Fred and Helmut Beckey in 1942. After an airdrop on the Dais Glacier, in three days we approached Base Camp at 6800 feet on the Dais Glacier by way of the Franklin River and Glacier. On the fifth day Tackle, Jeff Jones in support and I had placed a high camp at 9975 feet at the foot of the 3300-foot granite face. On July 27, with beautiful weather, Tackle and I left the tents at 12:30 A.M. Jack took a 35-foot fall when the unstable snow on the bergschrund wall collapsed. We made good time in the couloir for the first 1500 feet. Except for a short vertical section, we climbed unbelayed up the 60° ice and onto a ramp system for 2000 feet to the base of the prominent tower on the face. After traversing the triangular snow patch for four pitches, we left the original route and began our variation to the summit, a steep, ice-filled chimney system which leads directly to the amphitheater below the summit. After two difficult pitches, avalanches forced us to find cover under an overhang for seven hours, but by dusk I had led an F9 pitch up difficult rock and Jack continued up a vertical ice runnel. Again rotten, hollow ice gave way and Jack fell 35 feet, losing a crampon. We bivouacked on a platform chopped out of the ice and rappelled down in storm in the morning. After several days of bad weather, we again climbed the couloir without belays, this time on excellent ice and traversed to the start of our variation. We continued up, climbing the crux rock pitches for four rope-lengths to the ice of the amphitheater below the summit rock, where we bivouacked. We ascended the left chimney system for three pitches directly to the summit ridge. A traverse of 1½ pitches put us on the summit snow cone at two P.M., nearly 38 hours after our start. Eight rappels and a traverse brought us to the base of the tower and our second bivouac. Eleven rappels took us down the couloir. On August 1 we climbed the 1100-foot north face of Mount Jester by a direct route to the summit. On August 10, we ascended a 2000-foot ice route up the prominent, left-leaning, corniced couloir on the northwest face of Mount Sockeye and on the 12th the 2300-foot west face and summit couloir of Mount Agur to the southernmost summit and thence over the other summits. All three were new routes.

KENNETH CURRENS

*Homathko Icefield Traverse and Various First Ascents.* According to reports, no one had ever crossed the Homathko. Jim LaRue, Phil Hocker, Ben Haverty, Chip Ausley, Eric Richardson and I spent the last three weeks of July finding out why. An Appalachian Mountain Club group had explored the eastern approaches in 1957, reached the head of the Jewakwa Glacier and turned back. We decided on a similar approach

via Chilko Lake but determined to see it through to salt water at Bute Inlet about 40 miles west-southwest of the lake and to Waddington Harbor. We left Chilko Lake Lodge via boat and headed for the mouth of Nine Mile Creek, 30 miles down-lake. A recent burn and a sketchy prospector's trail made for easier going than expected and we crossed the divide into Allaire Creek in three days, two days ahead of schedule. Camped below the Alph Glacier, we found the snout melted back a full quarter-mile from its position in aerial shots 10 years ago. What can only be described as a Sasquatch track turned up in camp next morning and reminded us that the 1957 party, too, had found tracks several miles up the glacier. The Alph forms a highway onto the eastern edge of the Homathko via Sasquatch Pass, discovered in 1957. At our camp in the pass, the weather cleared. Fine weather remained unbelievably for the rest of the trip. A first ascent was made of Burghley Peak (8500 feet; NCCS I, F4; 9 leads) by LaRue, Haverty, Richardson and me and the climb of Mist Peak (8500 feet; cairn found) by Hocker and Ausley. Our next destination was the head of the Heakamie Glacier, 15 miles to the southwest. A long day on the ice got us halfway there, below two nunataks. Hocker soloed the northeast ledges of an impressive tower running north from camp. La Rue, Haverty, Richardson and I climbed the northwest face of the granite fin south of camp nearly to the top. Another long day found us looking down the Heakamie, one relentless icefall from head to snout, losing 3500 feet in five miles. Fortunately a brushy traverse about 500 feet above the north edge of the glacier allowed us to avoid the worst of the séracs, but it was late before we got off the ice. A long day of boulders and slabs brought us to the first timber we had seen in nearly two weeks. As we finally rounded the corner from Heakamie Creek into the Homathko River valley, the brush appeared, a mere three miles from the abandoned logging road which was our highway to the sea. An entire day later, we reached the road, completely exhausted. Two days later we got to Waddington Harbor.

VINCENT R. LEE

### Canadian Rockies

*Mount Bryce, Center Peak, Northwest Face.* Hale and Winner climbed this peak's 3600-foot northwest face in August. Approach was made via the Saskatchewan and Castleguard Glaciers. Instead of descending to Bryce Creek, a traverse was made left from Castleguard Glacier toward the northwest face of the massif. A hanging glacier gives access to the base of the face. The climb began between an obvious chimney to the left, and a waterfall. The first pitch was enjoyable F7 on sound rock, and the remaining 1000 feet or so of rock was third class. Conditions on the upper face began as water ice, but quickly changed to crusted snow, too