

due to bad weather. Later the route was found to have been swept by an avalanche and the attempt was abandoned.

VASANT LIMAYE, *Indian Institute of Technology*

Nanda Devi Attempt. Our Australian expedition to Nanda Devi was unsuccessful. The team comprised Tom Miller, Gary Wills, Ed Neve, Hugh Foxcroft, Keith Egerton and me as leader. With 28 porters and 65 goats we departed Joshimath on August 23. Further five days of delay was caused by heavy rain at Lata Kharak and we finally reached Base Camp via the Dharansi Pass route on September 3. On September 7 Camp I was established on the 1981 Indian site at 18,500 feet. The position was relatively dangerous and at three A.M. on September 9 Neve was injured by rockfall while asleep in his tent. With difficulty we evacuated the concussed Neve to Base Camp and to Sarson Patal on September 16 to meet a helicopter. Tom Miller became unexpectedly ill and it was necessary to evacuate him too from Sarson Patal. Climbing resumed on September 18. Camp II at 20,500 feet was established on September 19 and, after heavy snow, Camp III below the rock face on September 25 at 21,750 feet. Egerton was suspecting retinal haemorrhaging while Foxcroft had not acclimatized well. Wills and I therefore prepared to establish Camp IV above the rock band. On September 27 throughout the day the weather worsened with increasing wind. We could not erect a tent and spent an open bivouac at 24,000 feet. On the 28th we dropped back to Camp III, where we discovered frostbitten fingers. We rejoined Foxcroft and Egerton on September 29 at Camp II and determined to give up the climb.

MICHAEL RHEINBERGER, *New Zealand Alpine Club,
Southern Australian Section*

Kalanka. We set out from Lata on September 11 and six days later reached Base Camp on a moraine lake north of the Uttari Rishi Gal. For three days we reconnoitered the approaches to Kalanka over the Uttari Rishi Gal but found it would have taken two days more up dangerous moraines, a tiring glacier and a difficult icefall. Moreover, the northeast face seemed too dangerous. The 4500-foot-high face has perpendicular rock sections and is overall very steep. The top ridge was guarded by giant cornices. We then set up an Advance Base below the south face at 16,750 feet. A first summit attempt on September 23 was stopped by bad weather. On September 26, Dr. Bernhard Lukas, Peter Färbiger, Manfred Hesse and Gerry Besl left Advance Base and climbed the steep hanging glacier of the south face directly up toward the summit. They bivouacked below the final summit wall at 20,350 feet, then they climbed the 55° to 65° wall, much of it bare, hard ice, and reached the summit (6931 meters, 22,740 feet) at five P.M. They descended the west ridge to the

Changabang-Kalanka col to bivouac. On the third day they traversed back to their first bivouac and descended. On September 27 Erwin Praxenthaler and I climbed the 3500-foot-high glacier to the right of the summit which leads to a col in the east ridge. The slope was 60° to 65° and the ice bare and hard. To save time we climbed the first 1000 feet unroped and above, the second man jumared. We reached the ridge at four P.M. in time to hack out a bivouac in the ice. The next day we climbed the ridge on difficult mixed terrain, reaching the main ridge at 21,500 feet. In deteriorating weather we got to the summit at 4:30 P.M. and descended the west ridge to bivouac in the col at six P.M. On September 29 we descended the south face in four hours.

KARL SCHRAG, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Changabang. Our group consisted of Elke Rudolf of West Germany, Brigitte Koch of Belgium, and Mark Moorhead, Rod Mackenzie, Jon Muir and me of Australia. At Lata we hired Dharam Singh, nine other porters and some 70 goats for the approach. We were delayed for four days at Lata Kharak due to heavy rain and arrived at Base Camp near the Ramani Glacier at 15,000 feet on August 31. For the next 18 days we climbed Hanuman (6075 meters, 19,931 feet) and other minor peaks for acclimatization. We four Australians began our first attempt on Changabang on September 20, leaving our Advance Base at 17,000 feet. We started up the snow slope on the left of the southwest ridge and just before the slope finished, we joined the ridge proper. We spent our first night at the first Japanese bivouac site at 19,250 feet. The next day we climbed difficult aid and mixed pitches to the second Japanese bivouac site at 19,800 feet. From there we traversed to reach the Italian south-buttruss route. We climbed a few more pitches of this route before tossing for the night on a miserable little ledge halfway up the conspicuous triangular snowpatch on the Italian route at 20,000 feet. Following two days of snowfall, we abseiled down the Italian route until we reached the col where the Italian route ascends from the Changabang Glacier. Below the col on the Ramani side is an 800-foot wall. On the lower 650 feet we left our four climbing ropes for a second attempt. The descent below the band to the glacier was interesting without ropes! We began our second attempt on October 2 and after reascending our ropes and climbing a few other pitches, we reached the col that night. The next day we reached our previous high point on the Italian route at 21,000 feet and left rope on the two pitches above it in the afternoon. On the 4th we reached the top of the snow dome at midday and spent the night about a third of the way along the gendarmed ridge to the summit. On October 5 we reached the summit and bivouacked there. It took us two days to descend to the Changabang Glacier via the east ridge, which was so covered with hard water ice that we abseiled 1000 feet down its southern side. From the Changabang Glacier we had planned to cross to the Ramani via Shipton's Col but because of snowy slabs and the likelihood of bad weather, we chose to walk back to Base Camp via