

illness is brief and limited. Specific treatments are described. The list of supplies and medications suggested for a first-aid kit and for a larger medical chest is appropriately based on the author's experience and bias. It's a handy little book to slip in your pack for a trip where help won't be easily available.

In contrast to the preceding, the small looseleaf booklet by Dr. Koester and associates is little more than a checklist to remind you what to do in case of serious illness or injury. Minor problems are not included, Availability of resources like a radio, helicopter rescue, oxygen and a blood pressure cuff are assumed. I was surprised that the first page did not emphasize the ABC of first aid, and that no list of surgical supplies (splints, slings, bandages) is shown, although a small medical kit is. Twenty pages describe oxygen delivery systems, use of a helicopter, trauma and burn scoring and other subjects more appropriate for an aid center or hospital. This booklet won't help you care for your companion far from help, but it will tell you what to think about. It would be most helpful for rescue personnel.

CHARLES S. HOUSTON, M.D.

Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue. Andy Selters. Illustrations by Jennifer Hahn. The Mountaineers, Seattle, 1990. 154 pages, 60 illustrations, 5 black-and-white photographs. Paperback. \$12.95.

This clearly-written and well-illustrated little textbook covers the essentials of glaciers. If one knew nothing about how to travel over glaciers and get out of crevasses—a possible predicament for all climbers—this would be the best single source on the topic.

The chapters (there are only five) and sections within them are arranged in progression which begins with a description of the nature of glaciers and their hazards. The second chapter, on glacier travel, covers everything from party travel to navigating in white-outs; from rope and knot management to appropriate campsites. The sections don't really follow a logical order, but it doesn't matter. This is not the kind of work you need to read from front to back. The next chapter is devoted to rescue techniques and is followed by a chapter called "Additional Techniques," which should read, "Advanced Techniques!" There are at least two days' worth of instruction here.

Chapter Five covers moving over glaciers on skis and with haul sleds. The latter have become a very popular and standard method of moving big loads, and going into crevasses with them seems to have become equally as popular. There are only four pages of text devoted to this topic. That's probably because, as the author acknowledges, "No perfect system for setting this [haul sled] up has yet been devised that offers all the safety and convenience we'd like to see."

The Appendices include "Rescue Practice Sessions," which is just a page telling us the kind of area in which to do this activity; and "Some Useful Improvisations," which is merely a description of three knots. Maybe these were afterthoughts, because they belong in the section in Chapter Two called, "Knots and Harnesses."

I would think the primary users of this 5 x 8-inch paperback, especially given the price tag, would be students/clients taking basic and intermediate courses in mountaineering. It should be recommended reading for all the would-be Mount McKinley and Mount Rainier aspirants—maybe even required.

JED WILLIAMSON

Historia del andinismo en Chile. Gastón San Román. Quickprint Y Cía, Santiago, 1989. 210 pages, 40 black-and-white illustrations, 7 sketch-maps. *La dirección del sector deporte.* Gastón San Román. Quickprint y Cía, Santiago, 1989. 221 pages, 21 black-and-white illustrations. *Cincuenta años en la montaña.* Gastón San Román. Ediciones Tacora, Santiago, 1989. 372 pages, 195 black-and-white illustrations.

For more than half a century Gastón San Román has been closely related to the development of mountain sports in Chile. He began at the age of sixteen by founding a hiking club and continues active to this day. In 1977 he published a hiking guide for the Andean hinterland of Santiago. In late 1989 he launched almost simultaneously these three books dealing with different facets of the mountain sports in his country. *Historia del andinismo* straightforwardly describes the origins and growth of Chilean mountain climbing and hiking, seen chiefly through the development of their institutions, particularly the clubs founded in Santiago, the place where all such sports were born.

Generally speaking, San Román's second book deals with the kind of organization that should be applied in all sports but particularly in the mountain sports. The subtitle of his book indicates that it is "a compendium of knowledge for the sport leader, specially in mountaineering." Chilean sports, as portrayed in this second book, differ from those practiced in many other countries in that each sport is governed by an all-embracing federation, in turn controlled by the Dirección Nacional de Deportes, dependent on the state for its support. By profession a bookkeeper, San Román is intimately familiar with the economic side of the entire Chilean sportive scene.

The third of these books is a pioneer of its kind in Latin America: it is the biography of a mountain club. The Club Andino Aguila Azul was founded in Santiago in 1937 by San Román himself and a handful of youths interested in mountain hiking ("excursionismo") rather than in ascending mountains. Incidentally, the institution drew its name from "Blue Eagle," a fictional American Redskin that bravely defended his native soil. The story of the club is meticulously reviewed by San Román, who after each period of some six or seven years pauses to analyze the failures and accomplishments that are the lot of a typical mountain club. This institution has since become the third largest in South American mountain sports. My only adverse remark to this book is that its numerous illustrations were reproduced rather too darkly, a defect fortunately not found in the other two books.

The usefulness of these works is evident. They can be said to be exemplary