

Russell Glacier. From here it was easy traveling, under the watchful presence of Castle Mountain to Chitistone Pass, heather, color and smells. The following day dawned beautiful and although we were tired, we headed off and climbed P 8590 and P 8335, three miles south of the pass. On the 11th, we carried skis for all but 15 minutes. The hike down from Chitistone Pass to Chitistone Gorge was most definitely one of the highlights of the trip. Our senses responded to every smell, color and sound. The crossing of Falls and Toby Creeks provided some intensity to the final day, June 12. An ice bridge just below the Chitistone Glacier made crossing the Chitistone River easy. However, just five minutes after we were all across, the old ice collapsed. We stared at each other, knowing that this late in the season we should have gone up onto the glacier and not taken the chance. We crossed Toby Creek just before lunch and were picked up by Gary of McCarthy Air.

DAVID E. WILLIAMS, *Alpine Club of Canada*

*Mount Steele.* In June, Bertrand Poinsonnet, James Larabee, Steve Tyler and I repeated the 1937 Washburn-Bates route which leads from the Dennis Glacier to the broad ridge between Steele and Lucania. We skied 13 kilometers from our landing east of the peak, establishing at 10,200 feet a camp below the route, which is essentially a rib of ice of moderate to low angle on the south side of Steele. After putting in camps at 12,200 and 14,200 feet, we were easily able to climb Steele. We then put a camp below Lucania's northwest face, hoping to finish our objective the next day. After five days of poor weather, we left without much of an attempt. During correspondence with Brad Washburn, I became aware of confusion about the 1937 route. A much-used Canadian map, commemorating the centennial, shows several routes. It is in error, marking the south-southeast ridge as the Washburn-Bates route. That ridge leads directly to the summit of Steele. The original route, more to the south, does not. It is possible, due to the map, that the Washburn-Bates route had not been repeated for 55 years.

WILLY HERSMAN

*Mount Manitoba, First Ascent.* During the 1967 Canadian Centennial Celebration, a range of unclimbed peaks was found in Kluane National Park and given the name of the Centennial Range. Twelve were named after the provinces and territories of Canada, and a further one was called Mount Centennial. The largest peak in the area, on the border with Alaska, was named Good Neighbor Peak in recognition of the friendly relations between the USA and Canada. The Alpine Club of Canada spear-headed an ambitious attempt to climb all these peaks by organizing an enormous expedition of over 60 climbers, who were transported into this remote area by plane and helicopter. The expedition was a tremendous success with many fine first ascents. Five of the peaks, including Mount Manitoba, were not climbed, mainly because of bad weather and

dangerous conditions encountered during the nearly 24-hour daylight in July. (See *Canadian Alpine Journal*, 1968, and *Expedition Yukon*, edited by Ed. M. Fisher, 1972. The *Canadian Alpine Journal*, 1992 has a fine summary article about climbing in the St. Elias Mountains, which includes this area.) On May 17, 1992, in the 125th year of the Canadian Confederation, climbers from the Manitoba section of the Alpine Club of Canada made the first ascent of Mount Manitoba. We eleven members were dropped off by ski plane on the Logan Glacier at 60°48'N, 140°29'W, on May 9. We traveled six days to reach Base Camp at 60°57'N, 140°47.7'W along a previously untraveled route along the Logan, Walsh and Prairie Glaciers. (The 1967 party was dropped by helicopter close to the base of the mountain.) We first crossed to the Walsh Glacier, continued for three days on the south and then the north side of the Walsh Glacier and finally ascended seven kilometers for two days up the inappropriately named Prairie Glacier, which is anything but flat. Base Camp was in a stunningly beautiful location at the junction of four glaciers and surrounded by Mounts Centennial, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan (still unclimbed) and Alberta. The first attempt at night on May 15 in bad conditions almost ended in disaster when four of the party were swept down the slope for 300 feet by an avalanche. They tumbled head-over-heels over old hardened avalanche debris but only one person was injured, a broken rib. The successful attempt started from Base Camp at five P.M. on May 16, again in light snow. After we waited four hours in a snow cave, the weather cleared and we started ascending a prominent couloir on the southwest face at 10:30 P.M. This is probably one of the routes attempted in 1967. The couloir led straight to the summit, but the last pitch was very steep with dangerous sugar snow held in place by a thin sun-melted crust. The successful climbers were Tibor Bodi, Dr. Robert France, Pat Dillistone, Jeffrey Aitchison and I. A second attempt on the same route was turned back by dangerous accumulations of snow in the couloir.

PETER W. AITCHISON, *Alpine Club of Canada*

*Hubbard.* American Peter Videler, and Netherlanders Imke Grijpma, Bart van der Meulen and Martine de Bruyne climbed Hubbard via the Cathedral Glacier from July 4 to 21.

ANDREW LAWRENCE, *Kluane National Park Reserve*

### **Canadian Rockies**

*Waterfall Climbs, Canadian Rockies.* On March 22, I made what is perhaps only the second on-sight solo of the formidable Canadian Rockies' alpine waterfall "Slipstream," taking four hours for the Grade V ascent. Marc Twight made the first on-sight solo in the winter of 1988-9. Earlier in the season, on December 24, 1991, I made an on-sight solo of a route on the Upper Weeping Wall, referred to in the *Canadian Alpine Journal*, 1992 on page 80 as "Nasty Habits-Left," attributed to "unkown climber(s), winter 1991/2." My route followed the initial 100 meters of steep thin ice of Nasty Habits and then, after