

would get a spell of bad weather. They didn't have sufficient extra clothing, Heibler ascenders, nor back up equipment in the event of their new equipment failing. When one designs and constructs his own equipment he tends to be overly optimistic about its results. They seemed to have put complete reliance on their single suspension bivouac hammocks for almost all foul weather comfort and safety. This now seems a very unwise decision. The testing of new foul weather equipment is best not done 2,000 feet off the ground on a new route that takes 11 days on a Yosemite wall in November. Single suspension bivouac hammocks, designed and made by party, leaked where ever the hammock and tent combination touched the wall and trapped the water in the bottom of the hammock to a point where the climbers had to puncture the bottom to let the water run out.

*Oregon, Mt. Hood.* On 11 September Raymond U. Stout (27) and Barry Carnley (27) had ascended Mt. Hood via the Cooper Spur route and were descending the South face route. Weather was windy and foggy. The two were roped but not belaying. They slipped and fell into a crevasse. Stout suffered a broken leg. Carnley was bruised and knocked out temporarily, but was able to extricate himself and go for help. Stout was rescued some 10 hours later.

Source: Newspaper clipping.

*Oregon, Mt. Hood.* On 4 May Terry Simonich (26), Linda Simonich (26), Robert Patterson (32), Terry Riddell (26), Dave Skinner (27), and Pam Skinner (24), set out to climb the WyEast route. All of the party had previous climbing experience with the exception of Patterson, who had attempted a Mt. Hood climb before but was unsuccessful. The party was well equipped and clothed. The climb started in clear cold weather and there were no difficulties on the first portion of the climb. Their route approached from the East side of the mountain. Weather report from the Meadows ski area was broadcasted clear and warm weather at 10:30 a.m.

They reached the summit at 11:30 or 12:00 and were greeted by a high wind, snow and very low visibility. During a brief break in the white out they were able to continue the route down the South side. Patterson on reaching the summit fell to the ground and seemed to be exhausted, and said that he could not go farther. Patterson had trained well by running 1½ miles a day but his condition seemed to have been brought on by anxiety not physical fatigue. Linda Simonich reported at the critique that the party groped their way down the chute and at about 1:00 the leader decided that it was impossible for them to go farther, as Patterson's condition had deteriorated and he was unable to stand. Terry Simonich decided that it was best that they remain where they were and that they should dig snow caves in which they could remain during the storm.

The first cave housed four and was completed in about one hour and the second housed the two Simonichs and took about half an hour to dig. Linda Simonich stated that Patterson's condition was very lethargic dur-

ing this operation and from then on. The night was spent in the cave and in the morning, 5 May, Terry and Linda left the cave for about fifteen minutes but found that the storm was still too severe and that due to their wet clothing, they were unable to travel in such cold weather, so they returned to their cave and spent the remainder of the day and Sunday night.

On Monday, 6 May, Terry Simonich, Dave and Pam Skinner left the cave at about 9:15 a.m. to go down the mountain to secure help. Patterson's condition at that time was critical. Terry Simonich told later that they had been gone about two hours but rescuers stated that they had not travelled much over 100 yards in a very zigzag course from the cave when reached by rescuers. Robert Patterson had succumbed and the remainder of the party suffered various degrees of frost-bite and hypothermia.

*Source:* MORESCO Newsletter.

*Washington, Old Snowy Mt.* On 13 September Dale R. Cowen (58), Mary Ellen Cowen (55), Bernice Stearns (43), Una Davies (65), and Garnett E. Cannon (62), had been out for one day and were on their second day. They had a good night's sleep and adequate food. They were experienced and had proper clothing. Trouble came to them on the second day on a north-ridge of Old Snowy. "Both Ding and Una had their wind pants on over their shorts," Bernice related. "I did not until later when we were mostly across. The sleet was stinging my legs so badly, it forced me to put them on." She was also younger than the others. She was wearing a short-sleeved blouse, wool sweater and parka. Her head was well covered. All had had a good breakfast.

At 11:30 a.m. all, with possibly the exception of Cannon, had a "nibble"—for energy—of dried fruit and candies. All of them had ponchos, Bernice said. The rising wind began to whip them cruelly. She was the only member of the party who had traversed this particular segment of trail.

It was on a narrow dangerous segment of trail, in whipping wind that Cowen first came upon Cannon leaning back against the cliff, stuporous, shivering violently. Said Cowen: "He was shaking like a leaf. His eyes were narrow slits. His hands were puffed up the size of boxing gloves. He was on his feet, standing there like this. (At a 30 degree angle.) I thought he was having a heart attack. I walked up to him and Mary Ellen started to massage his hands. Are you having a heart attack? I yelled at him. There was no response. I asked a second time, loudly. The third time I shouted. You have to tell us! Are you having a heart attack? "Finally he mumbled out, almost inaudibly: "I think my heart is OK." "So I immediately told Mary Ellen we were going to get down as fast as we could. Una and Bernice were ahead."

Cowen dropped his pack, caught up to the two women, and they counselled for a bit. They considered whether to go on over the ridge and get down into the Snow Grass Flats. Back out to the White Pass highway, although longer, was the "only choice," said Bernice.

Cannon, meanwhile, supported by Mary Ellen, was still standing, but