

many of the ice fronts were triangulated. Extensive mapping was done around Muir Inlet to indicate the changes caused by the recent extensive recession and shrinkage of Muir Glacier and the neighboring remnant icefields. Along the coast to the southeast of Glacier Bay the interesting glaciers of Taku Inlet, Tracy Arm, Fords Terror, Endicott Arm, and Thomas Bay were also visited and the positions of their termini established.

Dr. Lawrence continued the ecological studies made by Prof. William S. Cooper of the University of Minnesota in 1916, 1921, 1929, and 1935. Field continued his own observations of the glaciers of this part of Alaska started by him in 1926 and 1935 as part of the series of periodic observations begun by John Muir in 1879 and carried on by various observers since then.

In general the results indicate continued recession of the glaciers of Glacier Bay, though as important exceptions, the termini of two large glaciers are now advancing. Of the other large glaciers visited, for which comparative observations are possible, two have advanced in the last decades, two have undergone little change, and six have receded. Nearly all the small glaciers and low-level icefields which were seen appeared to be shrinking rapidly.

The party experienced unusually good weather for this part of Alaska which made it possible to work without interruption. In addition a very complete photographic record was made which includes both still and motion pictures in kodachrome.

MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN ALASKA

The general name, Brooks Range, covers the several mountain groups in Alaska N. of the Arctic Circle. The highest triangulated peaks, now known, are probably Mt. Chamberlin in the Franklin Mts., and Mt. Michelson in the Romanzof Mts., both about 9200 ft., and in Lat. $69^{\circ} 17'$, Long. $144^{\circ} 53'$ and $144^{\circ} 15'$ respectively. Neither are impressive in appearance.¹

Robert Marshall, author of the book *Arctic Village*, tells in a later pamphlet of reaching Mt. Doonerak (Lat. $68^{\circ} +$, Long. 151°) 70 odd miles N. of Wiseman after a stiff back-packing trip. He estimated Doonerak at 10,000 ft. and reported that it would be a very difficult climb. His party, containing no experienced mountaineers, didn't seriously attempt it.

My curiosity aroused, by Marshall's report of so high and formidable a peak in a region which had been popularly supposed to contain no peaks over 6,000 ft. and no glaciers, I determined to see for myself. Accordingly on August 12th last, I flew N. from Fairbanks to Wiseman, distant about 175 miles, and thence N. again to the Endicott Mts., first crossing the range until we could look down over the flat plains only 100 miles from the Arctic

¹ See U. S. G. S. Professional Paper 109 on *The Canning River Region, Northern Alaska*.

Ocean. We had passed a good-looking rock peak on the way N. which was still below us as we flew at slightly over 8000 ft. We then swung to the E. seeing many more peaks and several small valley glaciers up to three miles in length flowing toward the Arctic. There were broken cumulus clouds, but we flew between or above them at 10,500 ft. We saw no peaks approaching 10,000 ft. After an hour of flying over this remote unmapped range we returned to the peak seen on the way N., circled it several times taking photographs, determined its altitude at roughly 7500 ft. and flew back to Wiseman. There we talked with Harry Snowden (an Eskimo whose native name is Nutirwik), who had been with Marshall, and he said at once that we had picked the right peak for Doonerak. It seemed to me that the peak, a rock tower rising boldly on all sides, would afford a good climb of 3000-4000 ft. from the lake in a basin at its W. foot. The outlet of the lake goes over a high cliff. Were the lake slightly longer to assure a safe take-off after landing with pontoons, the climb would be worth making. It is hardly worth the back-packing involved now (at least one week in each direction), until more accessible peaks have been done. Few, if any, of the other peaks seen would present any climbing difficulties.

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WYOMING ROCKIES

Devils Tower. Without the permission usually required for an ascent of a National Monument, the summit of Devils Tower was gained by parachute on October 1st on a wager by George Hopkins, a former instructor of the R. A. F. Unfortunately, Hopkins seems not to have considered that his mountaineering experience was insufficient to enable him to descend. Ropes, food, clothing and a tent were dropped to him, and, after six nights on the summit, he was brought down, his rescuers being Jack Durrance, Meril McLane, Paul Petzoldt, Harold Rapp, Chappel Cranmer, Henry Coulter, Henry Field and Warren Gorrell. Weather prevented the proposed use of a blimp or an autogyro as a method of extricating the marooned man.

ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF CANADA

The following data correct and supplement the 1940 edition of the Guidebook.

Approaches to Mt. Assiniboine. This peak is 23 miles in airline S. W. of Banff, but considerably further by trail. Mt. Assiniboine (11,870 ft.) is the highest summit S. of the C. P. R., the name signifying "stone-boiler," from the tribe's practice of cooking by means of hot stones dropped in a vessel of water. Four routes of approach, each requiring two days with horses, are commonly used