

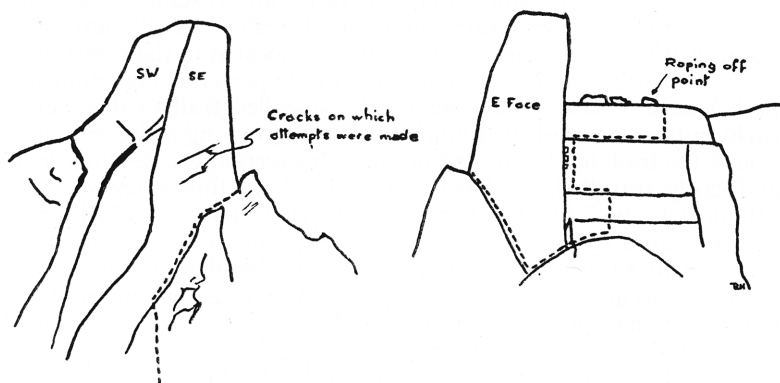
around the gendarme; Taurus Peak (first ascent) by three persons in one party. Further information concerning the new routes on Bugaboo Spire, Howser Spire and Taurus Peak will be found below.

Among A. A. C. members present were Pres. J. C. Case, Vice-Pres. B. B. Gilman, Sec. H. S. Hall, Jr., F. D. Ayres, J. F. Brett, J. E. Brett, E. C. Brooks, Florence Davoll, Beatrice de Lacy, Margaret Finley, Gen. W. W. Foster, C. P. Fuller, F. E. Gaebelein, Ethne Gale, Lillian Gest, E. R. Gibson, S. B. Hendricks, R. C. Hind, Marjorie Hurd, H. S. Kingman, A. H. MacCarthy, J. C. Oberlin, Polly Prescott, H. E. Sampson and D. M. Woods.

D. M. W.

*A New Route Past the Bugaboo.* The following note has been received from R. C. Hind:

"Climbing with the guidebook in my pocket is not a practice I indulge in. This omission, together with some misunderstanding during a discussion that Rex Gibson and Polly Prescott had on the subject, led to Rex and me making (on 18 July 1946) a new route around the big gendarme on Bugaboo Spire.



THE GREAT GENDARME

"Rex understood that this obstacle was to be passed on the right. Two pitons in a crack well up on the right side of the pinnacle seemed to add weight to this theory. I tried three times to cross to the right on very small cracks on the face of the gendarme, but had to give up. We were so sure that the route was to the right that we did not even consider what we have since discovered to be the usual route.

"More to see where my efforts would have led me than for any other reason, I climbed around the base of the gendarme to the right, as shown in the sketch. The dictum of no less a climber

than Conrad Kain was that this would not go, but we were still sure that we must go to the right. The corner behind looked hopeful, and I climbed up onto a flake and from there to two small ledges on a vertical face. The gendarme now towered on my left, forming a square corner with the face on which I stood. In this corner, about 7 or 8 ft. up, several rocks projected. These appeared quite loose but tested firm. About 10 ft. above was a broad ledge.

"Using the projecting rocks as handholds, and with my feet against the gendarme in a sort of modified layback, I worked my way up until I could reach the platform and haul myself over. A 10-ft. pitch above this brought us out on the ridge, where we discovered a piton and several rope slings. We had climbed up where more sensible people rope down!

"This is the most difficult pitch I have seen in the Canadian mountains and compares with the best of the British rock climbs. I did not get a chance to return and compare this route with the line usually followed, but from descriptions it sounds as if the latter is more delicate and possibly hardly justifiable in view of the exposure and lack of support from the rope."

*Howser Spire: New Routes.* On 23 July 1946 F. D. Ayres, J. C. Oberlin, Edward Little and D. M. Woods climbed Howser Spire (10,950 ft.) by a new route. From a bivouac at the foot of the W. ridge of Pigeon Spire, they left at 5.30 A.M.; and they made good time across the snow slopes to the base of the very large bergschrund of the E. face. They easily crossed this bergschrund and climbed the rock of the N. E. ridge to its crest, a distance of 200 ft. The snow crest of this ridge was then followed for 600 ft., an extremely steep, narrow and corniced snow ridge. Woods led to the spot where the snow ridge ended in a dark rock tower that forms part of the main ridge. Ayres led from this point on. The face of this tower was ascended, with two difficult pitches requiring pitons for safety. The difficult rock climbing was for a distance of 150 ft. A series of snow-covered ledges and chimneys now led to the main ridge, which was followed without difficulty except at a very large gendarme, passed to the left (E.). The ridge from here to the summit, although spectacular, was quite easy. The summit was reached at 3.30. No record was visible. Descent was by the same route, with two long rappels—one at the gendarme on the main ridge, and the other down the rock tower to the top of the steep snow slope. Each rappel required the two 120-ft. nylon ropes tied together. The snow on the ridge was unconsolidated, and the descent was made slowly with belays. The party arrived at their bivouac at 10 P.M.

On 24 July 1946 Rex Gibson led Tom Johnston, Dave Wessel, Alan Styles, Ethne Gale and Margaret Finlay on another new route on Howser Spire. They camped on a bench several