

miles long continues S. E. from this, bearing summits 10,000 ft., 10,000 ft., 10,200 ft., 10,400 ft. and 10,000 ft., the last being 5 miles N. W. of Chocolate Mtn. and the source of Isaac Creek. All of these rise E. of the stream draining the Brazeau glaciers to Brazeau Lake.

The most important unnamed peak in the terminal forks of Southesk River is 10,600 ft. and rises 5 miles S. E. of Southesk Lake. A peak of 10,200 ft. culminates the uplift between the main source of Southesk River and Isaac Creek.

An unnamed peak of 10,000 ft. rises between the highway and Maligne River, in the E. angle between Ranger Creek and Athabaska River. It can undoubtedly be ascended from the road.

There are a number of small lakes at the sources of Rocky and Southesk Rivers, while the glaciation of Maligne Mtn. and lesser summits northwestward along the local watershed between Maligne Lake and Rocky River is greater than recognized hitherto.

From this it is now evident that the Maligne peaks form the most important alpine area E. of the main watershed, and there is at least one good season's work to be done on unclimbed mountains near the S. E. end of Maligne Lake.

J. M. T.

*Cirque Peak.* Mr. George Weed informs us that neither R. F. Curtis nor C. E. Fay took part in the first ascent of this mountain in 1898. Fay and Curtis did not join the party of Nichols, Thompson and Weed during the 15 days beginning 30 July 1898, having left them at Laggan for their exploration of Yoho Valley and attempt to climb Mt. Balfour from that valley. See *Appalachia*, IX, 10-11, and the Guidebook (1940 edition).

#### MEXICO

*Four Peaks in Eight Days.* During May 1946 William Hackett and A. B. Wheeler ascended Mexico's four highest mountains in a period of eight days: 12 May, Popocatepetl (17,882 ft.); 13 May, Nevada de Toluca (15,120 ft.); 16 May, Pico de Orizaba (18,700 ft.); 19 May, Ixtaccihuatl (17,328 ft.). They had left Los Angeles by car on 8 May 1946.

*Popocatepetl.* The earliest English version of the first ascent on Popocatepetl, by Diego de Ordaz in 1520, is found in a chapter entitled "The hill called Popocatepec" in *The Pleasant History of the Conquest of the Weast India* (London, 1578), a free translation of the second part of López de Gómara's *Historia General de las Indias* (1552). This account is little known to mountaineers, and while it throws no new light on the event, its almost Old Testament quaintness justifies our presenting it here:

"There is a hill eyght leagues from *Chollola*, called *Popocatepec*, which is to say, a hill of smoke, for manye