

recorded a minimum of 29.5° below zero, while the one at Denali Pass had reached 67° below zero.†

ALASKA-YUKON BORDER

Success on Mt. Vancouver. On 5 July 1949 four climbers reached the summit of Mt. Vancouver (15,720 ft.), which had been the highest unclimbed peak in North America. The party consisted of Noel Odell, William R. Hainsworth, Robert S. McCarter and Alan Bruce-Robertson, members of the expedition sponsored by the Arctic Institute of North America and led by Walter A. Wood. We shall hope to publish an account of the ascent in our next issue.*

CANADA

Rocky Mountains of Canada. The following ascents were made in 1948 by Mr. and Mrs. E. Cromwell:

Mt. Hurd (9275 ft.), first ascent. From the road between Field and Leancoil, by steep goat trail up hard-baked and almost vertical gully, to open meadows above timberline and just below steep cliffs of W. face; thence contouring to S. face over shale and boulders for about one mile to big gully splitting S. face; up this gully (easy rock climbing) to westernmost and highest of three small summits. Ascent five hours. Rope not used.

Unnamed peak ("Andromache": 9800 ft. by contour, above the highway just N. of Mt. Hector and Hector Creek), first ascent. From No-See-Um Creek, immediately N. of the objective, via shale and boulder slopes to 9000 ft.; thence up N. ridge to upper slopes of Molar Glacier, which lies on N.E. side of the peak; over glacier (rope) in southerly direction to summit rocks. Ascent five hours. Miss C. Cromwell accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell.

Unnamed peak (about equal to the last in height, and half a mile to the S.E.), first ascent. From the highway to No-See-Um Creek to its source, climbing up a cliffy waterfall on goat trails to bench lake at 8000 ft.; thence S. across glaciated rocks to Molar

† Cf. *A.A.J.*, VII (April 1948), 48 n. and 57 n.

* For an account of the reconnaissance in 1948, see F. P. Magoun, III, "Mount Vancouver's North Ridge," *Appalachia*, XXVII (June 1949), 321-33. Cf. also "Glacier Expedition," *Life*, 11 July 1949, pp. 47-9.

Glacier and up a steep icy wall (1000 ft.) to col between "Andromache" and objective; thence S. to summit in half an hour's walking over easy boulders. Ascent five and a half hours.

Mt. Wilson (10,631 ft.), S.-N. traverse. From Saskatchewan Forks up long steep gully to notch in S. ridge. The Wilson Glacier once descended to this notch, but it has now greatly receded, and 1000 ft. of altitude are lost in reaching a deep glaciated trough before ascending icefall to upper névé just E. of main N.-S. ridge. The subsidiary S. peak is traversed to the main peak. Ascent six hours. Descent of the steep N. ridge requires stepcutting. From the N. end of the névé it is possible to swing S. and regain the route of the ascent. Under fresh snow the concealed crevasses make it desirable to have three on the rope.

J. M. T.

SOUTH AMERICA

Patagonia. During the early months of 1949, Maynard M. Miller and Robert L. Nichols participated with three Argentine geologists in a glaciological and geomorphological expedition to the Argentine Lake District. The party left Buenos Aires in the middle of February and journeyed southward to Lago Argentino by truck and jeep. Later, with two of the Argentine geologists, Miller travelled north to Tronador, whence they headed for Buenos Aires again late in April. The undertaking was under the joint auspices of the Argentine Museum of Natural Science in Buenos Aires and the American Geographical Society.

Aconcagua. On 19 February 1949 Lieutenant William D. Hackett reached the summit of Aconcagua in company with an Argentine officer, Lieutenant Jorge Mottet. Hackett thus became the first to have ascended both McKinley and Aconcagua. The five-man climbing party, which was supported by six Argentine soldiers and a civilian, left Puente del Inca with 19 mules on the 15th; camped at Plaza de Mulas (4200 m.) on the 16th and 17th; and arrived at Refugio Plantemura (6400 m.) at 3.20 P.M. on the 18th. On the following day, which was clear and cold (-27° C.), Hackett and Mottet left camp at 10.00 A.M. and attained the summit (6960 m.), having climbed the last few feet together, at 6.00 P.M. They reached Plaza de Mulas about midnight.