

The next morning John Morrison and Briggs climbed the north ridge of the Middle Teton by 9:30 A.M. From there they traversed to Teepee's Pillar via the black dike. They disliked the looks of Hans Kraus's chimney on the northwest ridge and decided to vary the route by climbing to the right. Here, about 20 feet down from the col, Briggs traversed farther to the right and continued up a rope length to the base of a chimney, the key to overcoming two overhangs. After jamming up five feet of the chimney, he moved left with footholds on the lower and handholds on the higher. A five-foot traverse in this fashion led to cracks bypassing the upper overhang and leading to the ridge. There they joined Dr. Kraus's route and followed it to the summit.

WILLIAM BRIGGS

*West Face of the Devil's Tower, Wyoming.* In the latter part of July Jim McCarthy and I arrived at the Devil's Tower, Wyoming, hoping to put up a new route on one of the previously unclimbed faces. The tower is granite, with vertical fractures (resulting in the well-known hexagonal columns) which offer numerous possibilities for artificial climbing. We chose a route beginning in an inside corner between two columns on the west face. Using stirrups and double rope, Jim McCarthy led 120 feet, with one belay from stirrups, to a small ledge beneath an overhang. We continued by traversing right to a vertical V crack, which we ascended for about 150 feet to a large overhang, again using artificial aid. Fortunately there were two belay points available on the tops of broken columns. After a free pitch over the left of the overhang, we tried what looked to be an easy vertical crack. It proved unexpectedly difficult, there being a lack of both holds and piton cracks. The remainder of the climb was of only moderate difficulty, proceeding through the heavily broken area at the top of the tower. The climb required three days to complete, no climbing being done after noon because of the heat. We rappelled down, leaving the ropes, and reascended the next morning, using prusik knots. About 75 pitons were used. Jim McCarthy led the difficult pitches, using artificial aid entirely on the first 250 to 300 feet.

JOHN RUPLEY

*First Ascent of Open Door Pinnacle, Wyoming.* South of Grand Teton National Park, about 25 miles from the town of Jackson on U.S. Highway 187, a gravel road turns northeast up Granite Canyon. Eventually the road leads to a small Forest Service recreation area 10 miles from the main highway. The reserve includes a waterfall, a hot spring and several cabins. Naturally heated water from the spring supplies a concrete swimming pool. Delightful though these facilities are, the climber will likely be distracted