

Cascades. One, a new route of difficult standard, the southeast buttress of The Temple, on Kangaroo Ridge, was accomplished by John Parrott, Louis Pottschmid, Herb Staley, and Fred Beckey. The crucial portion of the ascent was an exposed chimney with divergent, smooth, flaring walls. On the nearby Liberty Bell massif, John Parrott and Fred Beckey made the ascent of the only unclimbed summit of the five in the group, Concord Tower. The climb involved a certain amount of tension climbing in addition to the use of three bolts to overcome some short, crackless overhangs.

In the Cashmere Crags the "White Feather" of Three Feathers was scaled by John Parrott, Bob Lewis and Fred Beckey. After several hundred feet of class 4 climbing, the summit monolith rises flawlessly above an exposed granite crest. Its ascent was entirely artificial, requiring the use of 10 bolts—a very full afternoon's work in slings.

Numerous pinnacles on the west ridge of Mt. Stuart and Peak 8700, one mile to the east of Stuart, were climbed by Art Maki and Fred Beckey. Although some of these summits appear difficult from the distance, none imposed any problem. In fact, the rope was seldom required.

Waterfall Column, adjacent to Drury Falls on the south side of Tumwater Canyon, was climbed for the first time on June 6 after several preliminary attempts. A long, exposed final overhang required the use of pitons, bolts and wooden wedges for direct aid.

FRED BECKEY

*South Face of Brazos Peak, New Mexico.* An excellent climbing area exists on the south face of Brazos Peak in northern New Mexico. The face varies in height from 500 to 3,000 feet, the angle from 60 degrees to vertical. The cliffs, which are readily accessible from a road leading to Corkins Lodge by leaving U.S. Highway 84 at Park View, extend for several miles and are composed of extraordinarily sound rock. Two routes have been completed on the face. Known as "Easy Ridge" and the "Great Couloir," they are the most prominent ridge and the couloir leading rather directly to the summit. Each involved about 2,000 feet of roped climbing and the use of about 10 pitons, mostly for safety. Each route was completed on the third attempt. Most of the face remains to be explored, but I do not hesitate to recommend the area as a playground for rock climbers. The peak can be ascended from the north by jeep almost to the summit.

GEORGE BELL

## CANADA

*Mt. Robson.* Fred Ayres and Dick Irvin made a variant of Kain's original route up Mt. Robson in the summer of 1955. Instead of climbing the

steep, often ice-covered rocks above the Dome to reach the southeast ridge they kept to the right as you face the mountain and climbed the hanging glacier in its center. It is less steep and, particularly early in the season, it is merely a question of kicking steps. They feel this route is both easier and safer.

H. A. C.

*Mt. Kitchener, East Ridge.* We had been attracted by the advantages of a new and shorter route up Mt. Kitchener which would avoid hours of toil on the Athabaska tongue and the Columbia Icefield. In the early hours of July 25 we (Fred Ayres, Don Claunch, and Dick Irvin) set out over the terminal moraines of the Dome Glacier, which separates Snow Dome from Kitchener, and toiled up the deceptively short glacier. Finally after reaching a point below the col between Kitchener and its easterly neighbor, K2, we labored up the monotonous, broken shale slopes to the col. In gathering clouds we ascended the steep but not really difficult east snow ridge, crossing several crevasses, until apparently not far from the summit we clambered over the rocks onto a flat platform where we found a small cairn but no message. Beyond was a gap in the ridge and beyond and above, more mist shrouded rocks—we were on a pinnacle! Our distant reconnaissance of the route had disclosed no gap or irregularity in the ridge; a poor joke on the part of the mountain, we thought.

The cleft was of distinctly inferior design with both sides composed of loose vertical shale, and the bottom, 75 feet below, a steep ice chute capped by an unstable cornice. Fortunately the mists were now thick enough to prevent our seeing the total exposure. Belayed by Fred, Dick moved down the rocks to an icy patch, chipped tiny holds for fingers and spikes, then crossed to more rock and let himself carefully down onto the snow of the cornice. The snow seemed solid enough, so he crossed the gap and sunk in his ice axe for a belay. It went in distressingly easily; to his dismay he discovered that it went right through the cornice! Knowing that you cannot have everything, he called for Fred to join him. You can imagine his surprise when he saw Fred slip and start to fall. Don held the slip and Fred joined him at the belay spot. After encouraging Fred to find a better place for his axe, Dick started to lead up the west side of the notch. The first few steps were snow, followed by ice, then rock where we had to shed crampons, gloves, axe, pack and goggles. There was just enough rope to reach a welcome belay spot at the top of this pitch. It is difficult to understand how rock can be so loose and so steep at the same time. Occasionally I have my doubts about Newton. Fortunately our fear of more gaps did not materialize, and a short scramble took us to the ice.