

above the Quebrada Yanganuco from a bivouac on the 19,200-foot saddle. Huber, with a Peruvian porter, meanwhile made the ascent of the 20,853-foot West Peak, which had been ascended a year before for the first time by our members Ortenburger, Irvin, and Matthews, and of the 20,981-foot main (North) peak, a third ascent. On July 19 Koch and Huber made the fourth ascent of the Nevado Pisco (18,875 feet), and on August 2 Huber, Schmidt and the Peruvian porter Pedro Méndez, reached the 22,205-foot summit of Huascaran, Peru's highest peak, just a day before Hoppenon, Walton and Sowles' ascent.

In August they climbed the 16,400-foot main summit of the Chaccha group in the Cordillera Negra, reconnoitered the northern slopes of Chacaraju, and climbed 16,700-foot Pucaraju, two 16,500-foot peaks of the Pyramid group and across the Rio Morañon, Acrotamba (15,750 feet). In September they reconnoitered the as yet unexplored Cordillera Raura, where they climbed the 10,000-foot north peak of Yarupa and 18,000-foot Pucaroura.

*Sierra Vilcabamba.* On July 21 the Germans, Dolf Meyer and Martl Schiessler, climbed the Nevado Chamas Chico, which is over 16,500 feet, but had to turn back the next day on the Nevado Chamas Grande (19,350 feet). Meyer alone later climbed Coropuna.

*Cordillera Blanca.* A Peruvian group left Huaraz on August 3 to spend the night at Camp Ishinca at 16,400 feet. The next day they climbed high on Palcaraju (19,750 feet), but did not reach the summit. The group, which included four women, were as follows: José Ayllón and his wife, Alberto Morales Arnao and his sister Elena, Elsa Garrido Klinge, Elena Lumbreras, Jorge Lumbreras, Mariano Romero, and Fabian Suazo. On the same day Jorge Fernández Stoll and César Morales Arnao reached the 18,537-foot southwest summit of Lasuntay.

## BOLIVIA

*Cordillera Real, Huayna Potosí Group.* The Chileans Sergio Alvarado and Oscar González made the second ascent of Cunatin Coto (18,280 feet) on September 5, 1955.

## CHILE

*Paine Group, Patagonia.* Although the Patagonian peaks are low when compared to the more northerly Andes, they rise sheer from sea level into murky and stormy skies and are often fantastically rugged and massive. Their glaciers end in ice cliffs in the sea. The towering granite spires of the Paine group have seen much climbing activity in the last several years. In December 1953 an Argentine expedition of the Club Andino Bari-

loche entered the region, hoping to climb Paine Principal, whose altitude is reported at varying figures from 9,000 to 10,000 feet. They were harassed by even worse than normal weather and had only two really good days in a month. Avalanches thundered down throughout their stay. Their reconnaissances revealed no easy route. On January 4, Birger Lantschner and Heinz Kaltschmidt attempted the highest of the Cuernos (Horns) of Middle Paine, a difficult rock spire. The late hour and a storm turned them back about 300 feet from the summit (7,800 feet). On January 15 Otto Meiling and Kaltschmidt made their second attempt on Paine East, which they reported to be 9,050 feet high, and climbed it by the southeast ridge. This is the only mountain in the region which had been previously climbed, having been ascended in 1937 on the northeast ridge by the Germans Teufel and Zuck. The expedition's final attempt on Paine Principal over Paine West ended in tragedy when Heriberto Schmoll and Tonchek Pangerc were overwhelmed by an avalanche that broke off a hanging glacier above and swept the whole slope. Their bodies were not found then or in a second expedition sent out to search in April. Meiling and Augusto Vallmitjana were again in the region in November 1954, reconnoitered the western cliffs of the group on which they thought there were four possible routes and reached 7,500 feet, below the col between Paine Principal and Paine North.

An expedition of the Federación de Ski y de Andismo de Chile, under Eduardo Meyer, came to climb in the Paine Group in mid-January 1955. They attempted unsuccessfully the main peak and its 300-foot lower northern neighbor on their northern and western slopes above the Olguín Glacier, where they established three camps. Bad weather and vertical rock plastered with snow stopped them still 400 feet below the col between these peaks. They reported that mushrooms of ice would have guarded the summit slopes, had they gotten higher. On February 10 they changed their objectives to what they called Paine South (apparently the Argentines' "Paine West") and the summit that lies between this and the main summit, for which they give altitudes of 8,530 and 9,050 feet, respectively. Two days later from a 6,000-foot bivouac they climbed a couloir on the west face to a col between the peaks; on one vertical stretch of rock they used three pitons. From there they climbed first the South (or West) Peak and up the eastern ice face to the other central summit.

*Central Chile.* On December 8, 1954, Jorge Chaparro and Raúl Vouriot made the first ascent of 13,616-foot El Paso.

*Volcano Llanin, Lake District.* Two Italians, Enzo Mazzoldi and Giovanni Wiese made the first ascent of the formidable south face of the