

starting to disappear, so we ran, stumbled, and glissaded back to our campsite in a flurry of snow, and restored ourselves on frozen orange juice.

The next day, the party descended to the Illecillewaet camp grounds to dry out and spend the night. The following morning the food supply was replenished, and we started up the trail to Mt. Sir Donald (10,800 feet), camping next to the Perley Rock Trail at 6,800 feet.

On the morning of the 26th we made a late start for Sir Donald. A creek formed the first part of our trail and led to a steep grass slope which we followed. Snowy ridges soon presented themselves, and we began the endless job of traversing them. The snow began to blow intermittently, later turning into a blizzard. We could not find the summit. Since the hour was late, we descended to camp. At the lower levels of our day's climbing, the sun had melted much of the snow and several avalanches broke near us. The constant rumblings of avalanches in other parts of the valley convinced us to descend on the rock facing the Illecillewaet Névé. The next morning clouds covered the mountains, and we returned to the Glacier railroad station and headed to our summer jobs.

THOMAS R. TIFFT

*Rensselaer Mountaineering Club.* Spring activities of the Rensselaer Mountaineering Club consisted largely of rock-climbing trips to the Shawangunk cliffs with the accent on the development of leaders. The club's annual ice climb of the dyke on Mt. Colden in the Adirondacks was thwarted this year when a 13-member party encountered two feet of new snow instead of ice in the dyke. This trip is intended to provide instruction to beginners in ice techniques.

The summer months of 1955 saw members of the R.M.C. in the Cascades, Sierra, Wind Rivers, Tetons, and Colorado Rockies, with the official club expedition being into the Wind Rivers. The six-man party camped for eight days at the foot of the Dinwoody Glacier and succeeded in ascending eight of the surrounding peaks, including Gannett via the northern snowfields. The trip served as an introduction to western climbing for three of the men.

The R.M.C.'s regular rock-climbing training program got underway in the fall with a class in the fundamentals of rope techniques, belaying, and signals followed by a practice climb at the Grafton cliffs near Troy, where these principles could be demonstrated under controlled conditions. Apt beginners were then introduced to climbing at the larger and more extensive Shawangunk cliffs.

The past year has been a successful one for the club with an unusually large influx of members. However, it will always be a problem to develop capable leaders in the span of a man's undergraduate education.

CARL HENRIKSON

*Sierra Club.* Mountaineering activities continued on many fronts during 1955. Group outings during the summer included High Trips or Base Camps in the Tetons, Glacier National Park, Mount Rainer, northern Yosemite National Park, and the Minarets and upper Kern River in the central and southern Sierra. A considerable amount of climbing was done on all these trips. In the Tetons ascents were made of Mt. Bannon, Buck Mountain, South Teton, and the Grand Teton. A large group from the Rainier trip climbed Mt. Hood. In the Sierra new ascents were made on the Sawtooth Ridge and elsewhere. Knapsack trips, smaller than the High Trips, also ranged far and wide. One visited the Franklin Glacier in British Columbia, where an ascent of Mt. Vigilant was made. Others went to the Cascades in Washington, to the southern and central Sierra, and to the Marble Mountains of California.

Individual trips by Sierra Club members covered many regions. Popocatepetl was climbed by Floyd Burnette, Ray deSaussure, Glenn Cushman, Mary Ann Corthell, and Bob Swift. Jim Wilson, George Whitmore, and Dave Rynin visited the Bella Coola region. Dirk Irvin participated in an ascent of Mt. Robson. Rynin, Irvin, Mark Powell, and Mike Sherrick were in the Bugaboos. A number of climbs was made in the northern Selkirks by Mary Ann Matthews, Dick Irvin, Don Goodrich, Dave Rynin, and Mary Kay Pottinger. Sully Cooper, John Ohrenschall, Mark Powell, and Merle Alley made a second ascent of Brussels Peak in the Canadian Rockies. Many other parties climbed in the Tetons and in the High Sierra.

Rock climbing continues a favorite sport of Californians. In Yosemite Valley many famous ascents were repeated, including the Lost Arrow and the north face of Sentinel Rock. New climbs included a traverse across the face of Middle Cathedral Rock by Dick Long, Bob Skinner, Jack Davis, and George Mandatory, and the east buttress of Middle Cathedral Rock by Warren Harding, Jack Davis, and Bob Swift. A new route on the Higher Cathedral Spire was made by Dick Long and Jim Wilson. A serious attempt was made on the vertical northwest face of Half Dome by Jerry Gallwas, Warren Harding, Royal Robbins, and Don Wilson. Some fine rock climbing was done on the towers of the Monarch Divide in Kings Canyon National Park. Other interesting climbs have been found along Highway 50, near Lake Tahoe.