

begun to well upward upon a cold wind. Through veiled windows in the clouds we could look briefly to the spot on Heliotrope Ridge where we had been that morning, and beyond to Coleman Glacier with the ant figures of climbers descending. The next 150 feet, requiring great caution, was climbed singly over loose blocks, a 40-foot rotten stemming chimney, and an exposed narrow crack of reasonably solid rock. The top of the tower proved interesting in that it revealed the presence of the true summit 80 feet higher and separated by a troublesome 40-foot gap which required a rappel plus a fixed rope on the return. The summit tower was exposed, but apart from uncertain rock, not as difficult as anticipated. At approximately 3 P.M., well chilled and cheated of a view, we emptied a sardine can as a register and affixed a jaunty red ribbon to our cairn.

The descent was a race against oncoming dark, spiced by rockfall and handicapped by the great caution required on the steep unprotected snow. A final rappel onto the glacier was followed by an interesting glissade and the long, unhappy slog back over Heliotrope Ridge to Kulshan Cabin. The round trip required more than 15 hours. Had greater difficulty been encountered, the climb would not have succeeded. The elevation of the West Butte is 8500 feet, although on at least one map it reads more than 9000. Basically, the climb is a problem in route-finding, but the attendant hazards more than compensate for any lack of technical difficulty. None of us would care to repeat the climb or to recommend it.

HERB STALEY

Wyoming

Northeast Face of Disappointment Peak, Tetons. In mid-July, Willi Unsoeld and Richard Pownall made a new route of severe difficulty on this remarkably smooth face. After a few rope-lengths up the east ride of Disappointment Peak from the notch above Amphitheater Lake, they traversed out on the very broad ledge which cuts across half of the face about half-way up from the bottom of the face. From near the end of this ledge, three hours of direct-aid climbing were required to pass the first pitch. The difficulty of the remainder of the 500 feet of climbing did not perceptibly decrease. Although not entirely direct aid, the climbing remained constantly severe until the crest of the east ridge a short distance from the summit was reached some ten hours later.

LEIGH ORTENBURGER

South Face of Symmetry Spire, Tetons. The Teton Range, in general, and Symmetry Spire, in particular, have been so thoroughly climbed in