

another bolt. From there on the climb was only a route finding problem. The ascent took most of the day and about 30 pitons. Descent was made by the southwest face.

FRED BECKEY

*North Face of North Early Winter Spire.* This new route, the second on the imposing North Early Winter Spire, is almost on the opposite side from the original climb of 1951. It is an excellent 400-foot climb on good granite. On August 31 Joe Hieb and Fred Beckey climbed over the col north of the spire from the west heather slopes, swung around 100 feet and took a pitch of 5th class rock up to the left of a leaning pedestal. Here the climbing became artificial. Joe led, climbing mostly on slings up thin wall-cracks on the very steep face above the pedestal. A bolt was used for an anchor atop this pitch. From here the difficulties soon ended with an easy gully that became a chimney leading to the summit. Though technically difficult, it was the best rock we have encountered in the Liberty Bell group.

FRED BECKEY

*South Face of Cutthroat Peak.* This climb could well be done in a more leisurely fashion, but Don Claunch and Fred Beckey made this new route on a fall weekend from Seattle, approaching via Twisp River and Copper Pass. We found the actual climb not as difficult as anticipated because of well-broken granite and enough bushes for rapid rappels. The route began on the southeast ridge, which merged into a steep wall. It involved about five leads of 4th class climbing, made more difficult by a veneer of fresh snow. Eventually we encountered a difficult rotten chimney that required the use of several pitons and wedges. A deviation to the right might have avoided some of the problems, but because of the late hour we had to hammer our way up the crux of this wet groove. Above, a sand-slope led to a rampart over which we climbed; then followed a short wall and a final jam-crack which called for full use of arm and leg muscle. This is the third route on Cutthroat and the third ascent. The aftermath was an all-night hike to the road and drive back to Seattle.

FRED BECKEY

*North Face of Golden Horn.* Golden Horn, at the head of the scenic west fork of the Methow, is an imposing rock castle from the north and east. Unfortunately for the climber it lies a long way from the Methow road and the granite is a very scaly, loose substance. Hiking in via Horse-

heaven, Duke Watson and Fred Beckey camped at a lovely double lakelet at timberline in the shadow of the northwest amphitheater of the Golden Horn. From camp the climb appeared quite difficult, but on July 27 we detected a great angular gully bisecting the north wall. From the ridge north of the peak we climbed up the gullies and loose rock-walls alongside this great gully, generally unroped. The crucial point was a left traverse onto a great chockstone; two pitons were placed for safety here. Above, the climb was straightforward. Descent was by the same route.

FRED BECKEY

*Coleman Glacier Face, Mount Baker.* A new variation of the Coleman Glacier (northwest) face route was made in May by Hank Mathers and Les MacDonald of Vancouver, B. C. From the ice funnel at the base of the 2000-foot summit wall they climbed directly upward, keeping left of the two routes made in the fall of 1957. They had to negotiate some very dangerous and loose ice-rubble. Two walls required ice pitons for aid. They reached the upper north ridge where it converges with the west summit.

FRED BECKEY

*Cruel Finger.* This narrow, spindlelike spire of granite lies in the Nightmare Needles of the Cashmere Crags, above grotesque "Fire Spire" and "Little Snowpatch," some 2500 feet above the deep valley of Ingalls Creek but still below the snowy crest of the McClellan Peak massif. On May 17 we hiked some six miles up the valley, then up brush and wooded slopes and a long, steep, snow-filled gully. Since Fred Beckey had worked on this spire on a previous weekend, slings and a rope were still there. There were still 120 feet of extremely difficult 5th and 6th class climbing involved in this first ascent. The first half was basically a long 5th class crack, in some ways resembling the famous Mummery Crack on the Grépon, but a little wider and more like a chimney. Beckey led the whole climb. The upper block was dizzyingly exposed and completely direct-aid climbing except for the final six feet where we pulled ourselves up a narrow rib and straddled to the very crest. The drop on the right was one of the most precipitous I have ever seen. Some six to eight direct-aid pitons and a couple of bolts were used. None of the pitons seemed too secure, but there were many of them.

DON G. CLAUNCH