

Lake. The ridge begins at the col between "Tiger Tower" and Wolf's Head, which would most easily be reached by climbing over "Tiger Tower" from the notch between it and Pingora. However, we reached the start of the ridge by climbing directly up the south wall of the Wolf's Head-Tiger Tower col by means of a series of diagonal ledges and cracks.

The first couple of pitches on the ridge were gentle and easy but very exposed, as the ridge is here less than two feet wide and drops abruptly for several hundred feet on either side. Above, the ridge rose more steeply for a few rope-lengths of pleasant climbing to where it became a fairly horizontal cockscomb of blocky granite gendarmes. The first of these was bypassed easily to the south into the open chimney separating it from the next. Passing through this chimney onto the north side of the crest, we reached the crux of the climb, a 15-foot traverse with no handholds across the 70° face on a half-inch ledge. The next few towers were easily climbed or traversed until our progress was nearly stopped by another great, overhanging block. However, this obstacle was overcome by descending a short rotten chimney to the south, followed by a balance traverse into a corner; then an airy downward hand-traverse into a strenuous chimney, by means of which the crest was regained. This completed the difficulties, and the summit was easily reached in two or three more moderate pitches.

A few days previously, on August 25, we climbed a new, direct variation on the east face of Warbonnet Peak, and on the descent, via the south slopes, made what we believe is a first ascent of the easy pinnacle near the base of the south ridge, which we called "The Gray Feather."

WILLIAM J. BUCKINGHAM

Winter Ascent of Gannett Peak, Wind River Range. What appears to be the first winter ascent of Gannett Peak (13,785 feet) was made last winter. Late on December 20, Patrick Caywood, Eliot Goss, Walter Gove, Albert Nickerson and Leif-Norman Patterson left Burris to cross Horse Ridge and to ascend to the Dinwoodie Glacier in hopes of making winter ascents. From their second camp at the Ink Wells, Caywood and Patterson climbed rapidly on December 22 to the Dinwoodie Glacier to receive an airdrop, while the others relayed loads. Patterson (Harvard Mountaineering Club) describes it as follows: "At 10 A.M. Pat and I arrived at the upper end of this valley and placed ourselves in different strategic positions. The weather was cold (10°F.), clear and without wind—seemingly perfect for airdrops. When the plane arrived around noon, we were disappointed to see it pass too far north and too high. It made three or four passes, dropping boxes, flew right over me in the return and dropped a last box from perhaps 1500 feet

up, which hit the opposite mountainside like a bomb. Thus only one of our seven boxes was recovered." They camped near timber line at the junction of the Dinwoodie and Gannett Glacier Canyons. On December 23 by 10 A.M. "we had passed over the moraines and crossed the lower part of the Dinwoodie Glacier. The snowshoes were handy since deep snow had accumulated between the boulders of the moraines. The glacier was also snow covered, although plenty of rock debris was visible. The few crevasses one observes on its lower part during the summer were all snow covered. The conditions on the mountain were very favorable—hardly any more snow than in summer. Only the wind, which became more chilly as we moved upward, reminded us of the season. The weather improved. Retreating clouds let the sun warm us as we quickly worked our way up the lower part of the southeast ridge." The big gendarme, the Gooseneck, was the only real obstacle. This they bypassed on the left. They reached the summit at 3 P.M. but did not return to camp until well after dark. Christmas Eve was spent searching in vain for the unskillful airdrop. Dwindling food supplies obviously counselled a return to civilization, much to their disgust because they are enthusiastic about the region for winter climbing. They retreated to the Inkwells on Christmas in a snowstorm that piled up one to three feet of snow. They reached their car the next day to find that groundless fears had arisen for their safety.

Colorado

Hallett's Peak. On July 27 Yvon Chouinard and Ken Weeks started up the north face of the third buttress. Instead of climbing the prominent chimney, we went straight up the face and rejoined the regular route at the next to the last patch. No direct aid was used. This variation was considerably more difficult than the regular route.

YVON CHOUINARD, *Yosemite Climbing Club*

The Diagonal, East Face of Longs Peak. The "Diagonal" spans the east face of Longs Peak between Stettner's Ledges and Craig's Chimney. This smooth, vertical or overhanging face rises diagonally to an altitude of 13,200 feet. In 1958 George Lamb and I twice got a few hundred feet off the glacier only to be forced down by violent hail and electrical storms. By mid-July last summer, Layton Kor and I had made two attempts on the wall, but although each try pushed the route a little higher, both had been cut short by a storm at mid-day. On every assault, however, every foot gained was secured by leaving a continuous series of prusik ropes as we rappelled down.