

*Yosemite Climbing Club.* The Yosemite Climbing Club was formed in 1959 for the purpose of bringing together devoted climbers interested in raising the standards of American climbing. Another purpose is to assemble a collection of varied, specialized equipment which is required on major climbs and expeditions. There are two meetings a year held in Yosemite Valley to elect new members and conduct general business.

Although the club has only 17 members, they have accomplished an impressive number of fine climbs. Bob Kamps, Charles Pratt, and Steve Roper made the first ascent of the north face of Middle Cathedral Rock in two and one-half days. This climb, done without bolts and with a minimum of direct aid, is one of the finest in Yosemite Valley. Charles Pratt and Warren Harding did the first ascent of the overhanging east face of Washington Column, the last part taking four days. Dave Rearick and Tom Herbert made the second ascent and first winter ascent of the Totem Pole. Mark Powell and Charles Wilts made the third ascent of the southwest face of Half Dome in 10 hours. Tom Frost, Royal Robbins, and Joe Fitschens made the eighth ascent of the Sentinel's north wall, with all but two pitches done without artificial aid. Herb Swedlund and Warren Harding accomplished the first ascent of the west face of Mount Conness in three and one-half days. Bob Kamps made several new class 5 routes on Devils Tower.

YVON CHOUINARD

