

*Guye Peak, West Face.* The "Improbable Traverse" route was made on October 20 by Mike Borghoff and Dave Hiser, involving an ascent of a large corner on the left side of the face, then a traverse to the right on a blank-looking wall, followed by a left diagonal on the "ramp" to the upper portion of the face. This route is probably safer than the usual west face route.

EDWARD COOPER

### *California—Yosemite*

*West Face of Kat Pinnacle.* On April 2 Tom Frost and I forced a new route on Kat Pinnacle. This starts on the 110° north face and then follows hairline cracks on the west face to the summit. The entire climb was artificial and included a very difficult "zipper" pitch where we placed a line of knife-blade pitons and "rurp" pitons, made specially for the climb.

YVON CHOUINARD, *Yosemite Climbing Club*

*West Face of Sentinel Rock.* After one failure in May, Tom Frost and I returned in June to make the first ascent of the 2000-foot west face. We started the climb at the very base of the wall and during the first day the climbing was about half free and half artificial. We bivouacked at the first of the only two ledges on the entire face. The next day we practically never got out of our slings. The climbing ranged from difficult to some of the most extreme climbing that we have ever done. Two pitches stand out especially: one was a traverse which involved putting in pitons straight up under a 35-foot long, very thin flake; the second man had to repiton the pitch as most of the pitons had fallen out because the crack between the flake and the rock had expanded. On the other pitch, Frost made the finest lead I have ever seen up an 80-foot long 8-inch wide jam crack with only a wooden block for protection. We again bivouacked on a fine ledge about 300 feet below the summit. The top was reached before noon the next day. Out of about 16 pitches on the route, we had to belay in slings on about 10 of them.

YVON CHOUINARD, *Yosemite Climbing Club*

*North Face of Higher Cathedral Rock.* No one had ever really looked at this face with the thought of climbing it without using many bolts, but Robert Kamps and Charles Pratt returned from reconnoitering with some hopeful news. They had spotted a vague route straight up the middle of the wall. On June 30 I joined them and we started up the overhanging 1000-foot wall. The first day we did three pitches. The direct-aid climbing