

ridge. The first of three overhangs was passed on the right, the second on the left, and the third required one piton for direct aid in order to pass it on the left. Dick Bonker and Willy Gonthier on August 11 made the second ascent by a different route, the southeast face. About nine pitches were involved, three requiring the extensive use of direct aid. In both cases it required fourteen hours to make the ascent and return.

Big Bluff. Probably no one who has camped at the Platforms in Garnet Canyon has given any thought to climbing the overhanging cliff directly above, that is until Royal Robbins and Joe Fitschen climbed it on August 12. This may represent the climax of the rock climbing efforts which have been concentrated in the lower portions of Garnet Canyon in the past five years. They started from the gully to the west of the overhang and ascended easy ledges to the broad terrace below the 150-foot overhang. Next, a red flake was attacked and passed to a sloping ledge where the first bolt was placed. From there the next extremely difficult lead traversed horizontally 30 feet to the right and then upward to a quartz-like rock formation where the second bolt was placed (it fell out after being used). The final pitch of difficulty diagonals upward to the left and emerges from the overhang to the level ground above.

Thor Peak, Northwest Face. After studying aerial photographs all winter, Leigh Ortenburger was convinced that Thor Peak had a 1200-foot northwest face which should at least be investigated during the summer. An additional attraction to this route was the problem of approach; it appeared that no one had ever penetrated the side canyon of Moran Canyon that separates Mount Moran from Peak 10,950+. After much talking he was able to convince three others, Leon Sinclair, Raymond Jacquot, and his wife, Irene, that this unknown face harbored a worthy new route. A day of hard work was necessary in order to establish a bivouac in the above-mentioned side canyon at about 9400 feet near a stream west of Peak 11,117. Early on the morning of August 13 the bottom of the face was reached by first climbing to the saddle between Thor and Peak 11,117 and then descending into the cirque on the northwest side of Thor. Here, an apparent glacier was discovered; it possessed various characteristics of a glacier such as bergschrund, crevasses, moraines, but we were not able to examine the stream draining the snowfield in order to determine whether or not it was milky. The face above, which proved to be unnecessarily rotten, was attacked from the top of the moraine slightly to the left of the center of the face. The difficulty was not severe, and except for one pitch, all of the pitons were placed because of the instability of the rock. The route ended on the northeast ridge about 150 feet below the summit, which was easily reached

by scrambling. Descent was made via the southwest couloir to the saddle previously mentioned, and thence down the gully to Leigh Canyon. Repe-
tition of this route can scarcely be recommended; the rock is not good!

The Jaw, North Ridge. Loring Woodman and Duncan Cameron made the first ascent of this route on August 21 from the saddle between the Jaw and the Outlier (Peak 10,628). After the first vertical step, 90 feet of scrambling brought them to a slight overhang leading to a prominent pinnacle which was passed on the right. The last pitch, a jam crack followed by a hand traverse, proved to be the most difficult of the climb.

LEIGH ORTENBURGER

Pinnacle Peak, Gros Ventre Range. On June 18, the first ascent of Pinnacle Peak was made by Jake Breitenbach, Stu Krebs, Stan Shepard, Pete Sinclair and me. For several years there had been rumors that this small peak appeared very difficult on all sides. From the old coal mine in Little Granite Creek, we climbed forested slopes on the north to high meadows leading to a col about two miles east of Pinnacle Peak. We followed the long ridge westward over a gentle summit (Point 10,628) to the base of the peak. A rotten chimney on the south and a short, exposed scramble of moderate difficulty on the southwest ridge brought us to the summit plateau. The actual summit is a little 15-foot tower of crumbling limestone.

WILLIAM J. BUCKINGHAM

Wyoming—Wind River Range

Flake Buttress and North Face, Squaretop. Squaretop Mountain bears a striking similarity to the Devils Tower. Upon our arrival at Lower Green River Lake, Ron Niccoli and I clearly observed the giant "flake buttress" that ended in the north face some 300 feet below the summit (11,679 feet). Dick Pownall and Dick Emerson had attempted this route in 1958. On September 5 at four A.M. Ron and I left the campground at the lake. After a nine-mile hike up a fine trail, we found a log across the Green River and climbed 1000 feet to the base of Squaretop. From here on we had the choice of climbing in a giant cleft or on the large flake buttress to the left to a ledge where they melt into the north face. Pownall and Emerson chose the former until they were 200 feet below the ledge where they traversed to the ridge. We chose the latter and enjoyed some fine Grade III and IV climbing on good granite for some 1000 feet. Difficulties increased considerably 250 feet below the ledge. A difficult pitch (—VI) on the right side of the ridge brought us to a piton with a rappel sling, located under an overhang. This marked the end of the earlier attempt.