

twin-hulled raft and this enabled us to site a camp high up the Turner Glacier, although it was now snowing frequently. Mount Asgard, the throne of the Norse gods, climbed and named in 1953 by the Swiss members of the Arctic Institute expedition, dominated the camp. Opposite Asgard stands a mountain massif supported by several sheer rock buttresses and topped by two snow summits. By a long route involving some steep ice, we all climbed the more southwestern of these virgin summits. In spite of very severe conditions and difficulties on steep, ice-covered rock pitches, we managed to climb within 450 feet of the summit. One more peak, at the end of the Turner Glacier, lower than Asgard but dramatically shaped to a pointed summit, was attempted, but minor frostbite caused the party to turn back. The survey work was then completed prior to evacuation down the South Pangnirtung Valley. We had resolved to complete the move in one journey, with the result that our loads were initially 120-130 lbs. each. The R.C.M.P. Peterhead boat took us aboard near the head of the fjord on September 2, reaching the Eskimo settlement of Pangnirtung that evening. After a week there, aboard the icebreaker *C. D. Howe*, we sailed to Frobisher Bay, whence we returned by air to Montreal on September 15.

ROBERT E. LANGFORD, *Alpine Club*

GREENLAND

Birmingham South Greenland Expedition. Between May and September, the three members of the expedition Michael Kelly, Michael Rhodes and I, spent eleven weeks in the Tasermuit Fjord region of South Greenland. The fjord lies 75 miles northwest of Kap Farvel, Greenland's southernmost point, and extends for 50 miles from Davis Strait to the Inland Ice. To the northwest lies a series of complex ranges of no particular merit rising to 4000 to 5000 feet, and above them rises the splendid unclimbed peak of Napassorsuaq (5100 feet). To the southeast the country is higher, rising to 7000 feet, and it is a heavily glaciated, alpine terrain. The chief mountaineering interest lies in the granite aiguilles and peaks, which provide 2000- to 4500-foot face climbs. The main purposes of the expedition were to make glaciological, surveying, meteorological, and glacial-geological studies of the 12-mile long Sermitsiaq Glacier at the head of the fjord and to make a primary geological survey of the region. We found time to climb seven peaks in the area, including the three highest climbed to date in this area of southern Greenland. We three climbed "Akerna" (6720 feet) on July 2 from a 3700-foot camp on Sermitsiaq, following an ice couloir on the southern side until a 120-foot pitch of class 4 rock led to the southeast ridge. We followed this to the east summit

(6700 feet) and then the half-mile long, heavily corniced summit ridge to the main summit. "Lapworth Peak" (6200 feet) was climbed on the 10th by all three from the same camp. The col between "The Cathedral" and "Lapworth Peak" was gained from the north on snow and ice, and then the southeast ridge produced some pleasant climbing (class 4-5) to the summit. Rhodes and I climbed "Chaos" from sea-level on August 10. The route consisted of a 4000-foot rock climb up the southeast face with many pitches of 4+. The other four peaks were between 4000-5000 feet and were rock climbs of no particular difficulty or merit.

ROGER H. WALLIS, *Birmingham (England) University*

Umanak Fjord, West Greenland. A party from England sailed in *Mischief* to this region at latitude $71^{\circ}30' N.$, leaving May 14 and arriving at Igdlorsuit July 18. This is a small Esquimo settlement on Ubekendt Island, but for a party which has to hire transport a better starting point would be Umanak. From an anchorage at the root of the Qioqe Peninsula in a bay called Kangerdlugssuakavsak, E. H. Marriott and I attempted Peak 1996 (metres) but came to a halt about 500 feet from the summit, being unable to go any further. We returned to the boat at 11 P.M., having started at 8 A.M. (The highest peak on Qioqe (2310 metres) was climbed in 1960 from sea level in an 18-hour day by an Italian party led by Piero Ghiglione, *æetate* 77.) After moving the boat to an anchorage at the northwest tip of the peninsula, the same party, from camp at 1000 feet, climbed Peak 1864 (6116 feet), an interesting climb of which the crux was the crossing of a steep ice couloir. The rock sections of the climb were very loose. Finally from a camp at 2000 feet we climbed Peak 1961 (6434 feet), some seven miles up the Quvnertussok Glacier on Upernivik Island. There are several good peaks on this island and we felt that we had made a mistake in not spending all our time there. *Mischief* sailed for home on August 12 and arrived September 26. On account of the number of fine mountains packed into a small area, the excellent weather which generally prevails and the 24-hour long days, this region can be recommended. N.B. It was not easy to reconcile the peaks on the ground with those on the map (Maps 71 V 1 and 71 V 2 1:250,000, Geodetic Inst. Denmark), so that some of these identifications may be wrong.

H. W. TILMAN

Belgian Greenland Expedition. Tragedy struck a Belgian expedition consisting of nine people when they were attempting to climb Sneepyrampen (7336 feet), on the Akuliaruseq Peninsula, about 40 miles from Umanak. On July 16, the leader Jean Duchesnes, André Focquet, Giovanni Alzetta