

(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, *aeate* 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

and Mlle Nadine Simandl apparently slipped while carrying supplies to a high camp on the northwest ridge and fell to their death down a 3000-foot slope.

Italian Expedition to 74° Parallel. This Italian expedition, under the leadership of Guido Monzino, visited the west coast of Greenland. After arriving by air at Søndre Strømfjord on June 16, they left Egedesminde on July 21 by a special motor yacht *Franz Terzo*, the floating Base Camp of the expedition, but when Monzino received word of the accident to the Belgians (see above), he promptly offered his help and disregarding his program, they arrived at Umanak on July 24. They were sent ahead, and *Franz Terzo* anchored in Satukujuk Bay on July 26, near the site of the Belgian Base Camp. The expedition members established camp at about 1800 feet. On July 27 the four Valtournache guides, Jean Bich, Pierino Pession, Leonardo Carrel and Antonio Carrel, started to search the mountain and the north face, in the area where the Belgians had probably fallen. Despite the continuous danger of rockfall, after a long search, they found the bodies of Alzetta and Focquet, but no signs of the others. After long, difficult and dangerous work, the guides carried the corpses to the foot of the wall. The next day the guides searched the north-northeast ridge and established camp at 5400 feet and on July 29 the four guides, with Guido Monzino and Mario Fantin, followed the ridge and reached the summit of Sneepynamiden. On July 30 the search for the Belgians ended. After this rescue operation, the expedition on board *Franz Terzo* reached 74° North Latitude, hoping to be able to climb the Devil's Thumb, ascended by Longstaff and Baird some years ago, but ice conditions at sea obliged them to turn back when the granite tower was only a mile distant.

PIETRO MECIANI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Northern Staunings Alps. Our expedition was not a mountaineering one. It comprised twelve members and four research groups, two of geology, one of zoology and one of botany, each led by a lecturer from Leicester, Cambridge, Oxford and Cardiff universities. We flew in to Mestersvig, c. 72° N., on July 8 and returned on September 9. Most of our time was spent around the periphery of the Staunings Alps, particularly on the northern side; transport was by two 9½-foot dinghies, one rubber and one wooden, in which we covered about 1000 miles. W. B. Heslop, M. Roberts and I broke new ground with an overland traverse from Alpefjord to Nordvestfjord, which we reached near its head about 150 miles from the sea. This fjord is the innermost branch of the Scoresby Sund fjord complex. We went via Spaerregletscher, Lake Furesø, Violingletscher and