## THE AMERICAN ALPINE JOURNAL

Dragontail Peak, Stuart Range. Two new routes were made on Dragontail Peak, the highest mountain of the Stuart Range in the area of Colchuck Lake, early this summer by Dan Davis and me. We climbed the north face, with its "Piz Badile"-like slabs, by a long crack system, mostly fourth class, but with a few safety pitons; we climbed it to its logical conclusion, that is to say to the north summit, which may never have been reached before. We ascended the highly impressive west face, an estimated 1700 feet high, in a direct line from the glacier to the true summit. The route led past two snow patches set in granitic bowls and continued up two fifth-class pitches which offered only friction holds with poor protection. Once a dangerous shower of rock fragments hurtled down between leader and belayer, falling from a third snow patch higher on the face. Eventually these dangers decreased and a deliberate effort was made to keep the route on the central rib. Although the angle remained steep, the rock was well fractured with good holds, and it was possible to complete the remainder of the long ascent fourth class. The climb compares in length and difficulty with the northern faces of Mount Stuart and, except for loose scree piles under the snow patches, has excellent rock.

FRED BECKEY

The Monument, Cashmere Crags. A new route on this accurately named monolith was made by Dan Davis and me via a solitary crack system on the east flank. About ten pitons were used for aid, and the final block was scaled as on the original ascent—with a rope thrown over the top and a prusik climb.

## Fred Beckey

South Face of Prusik Peak, Cashmere Crags. Although we had reserved the first ascent of the 900-foot south face of Prusik Peak for the visit of the French climbers, Guido Magnone and Jean Coure, poor organization on the part of their sponsors and their decision to retreat because of lack of time only 200 feet from the summit prevented their completing the climb. From a camp near Enchantment Lakes established by an air-drop, Magnone, Coure, Les MacDonald and I had pushed the route up the beautifully clean granite slabs and cracks of the face. An interesting free chimney began the ascent, followed by a pitch of continuous chickenheads on a sheer slab. The day's climbing was all fifth class with the exception of 100 feet of aid at the high point, 200 feet below the summit. Several days later Dan Davis and I climbed back up the route and found that between the high point and the summit notch there were only two pitches requiring just three pitons for aid and several more for safety. One hanging belay was used. The final summit horn was done by a new variation; we used a bong-bong crack for aid instead of lassoing the final horn. This