

*Thorson Peak, South Buttress.* A party of eight, including Arnold Bloomer and Keith Spencer, approached the peak via the Jefferson Lake logging road early in the season. A mile above the lake the mountainside was ascended to a chute at about 4000 feet. This led directly to the buttress, which was ascended to the false summit. The exposed ridge was followed west-northwest to the rocky summit.

KEITH SPENCER

*Inner Constance Pinnacles.* The easternmost of three pinnacles lying on a spur ridge extending northwest from the north end of the Inner Constance Ridge was climbed June 17, by Pete Schoening, Brian Gordon, and Jim Lindsay. The pinnacle was named "Rottenrockelspitz" and is easily identified by a huge split which bisects it completely. A chimney stem led to the east ridge in two leads over rotten rock. The other two pinnacles are believed to be still unclimbed. The ascent was made during a traverse of the entire Inner Constance Ridge with Dan Northcutt, Doug Barrie, and Dave Laster.

DAVE LASTER, *Mountaineers*

### *California—Sierra Nevada*

*Middle Cathedral Rock, Direct North Buttress.* For several years Yvon Chouinard and I had looked at the true north buttress of Middle Cathedral Rock and wondered—if, who, when. What was climbed in 1954 and called the North Buttress route lay, actually, on the left side of the north face. A serious look a year ago showed a possible route on the extreme right edge of the northeast face, only a few feet from the prow of the buttress. One clear September dawn in 1961, we roped up at the base, carrying three days' supplies. Because of difficult class 5 and 6 climbing (a maximum of 5.8 and 6.7), we made relatively slow progress. The route up the lower section was somewhat nebulous from the ground, although things fitted into place as we got to them. We started in a difficult (5.8) chimney and jam-crack, and climbed almost directly above this for some 700 feet. I took a 35-foot fall at the 700-foot level, but without serious results. By a double pendulum traverse to the left we gained a large ledge at the base of a 1000-foot crack system which led to the notch behind Thirsty Spire, the higher of the two towers of the true north buttress. We bivouacked on a large ledge that night. Our chances for success, however, were ruined when a quick un-Yosemite-like storm moved in during the night and turned the wall into a sheet of water. We escaped off onto the northeast face and the Kat Walk, reaching the valley floor by late afternoon. Early in the afternoon of June 13, we found ourselves at our old high point. Thanks to the three bolts we had placed before and to our