

working our way in snow over a zigzag pattern, arrived back at the ridge about 1000 feet above this annoying gap. We plowed our way in the snow along the broad ridge to the south summit of Carnes Peak. It was a long slug and rather uninteresting and easy. On the south summit we were able to determine that Carnes North was about 40 to 50 feet higher. We made out Bridgeland's cairn on that summit. (It had been visited by a geological party only a week before us.) Thus having completed what we thought might have been a first ascent but was in fact a third, we worked our way back down, taking time along the rockier parts of the ridge to eliminate many hazards to future mountaineers. On the following day we moved camp from the A & E Cabin back down to the valley and up the northern side to a rocky slope below Bridgeland Peak. From this camp on July 24 after another fearsomely early start, we worked our way across the ice-covered lake below Bridgeland and up the dwindling glacier in the southwest cirque of this peak. Our route lay up the southwest ridge and broad south face. There was an occasional problem with the new snow, which was still sliding, but we arrived in good time on the west summit and traversed our way over and up to the east, which is the highest point, where we constructed a cairn, removed hazards and ate lunch. The descent was climaxed by a glorious glissade and the construction of a fitting memorial on the shores of the lake. One day later we descended the overgrown Kelly Creek trail and had dinner with Ed Wallis at Downie Creek, thanks to Jed Williamson's artistry at hitch-hiking.

W. L. PUTNAM and BENJAMIN G. FERRIS

*Mount Cooper, Selkirks.* Mount Cooper (10,135 feet), the highest peak of the Southern Lakes Group of the Selkirks, lies 10 miles due west of the north end of Kootenay Lake. The Spokane Mountaineers made two exploratory trips in 1961. The chief problem seemed to be that of access, the obvious approaches via the main drainage streams being made difficult by brush as dense as that in the Cascades, and no trails. In 1961 Bill Fix and Terry Bech scouted Meadow Mountain (8362 feet), northeast of Cooper, which had a fire trail leading to extensive meadows above timberline. It seemed feasible to cross Meadow Mountain at 7500 feet, then to descend to McKian Creek (3500 feet) and to follow the unnamed stream which drains Cooper's largest glacier on its northeast side. In June, 1962 two parties failed to reach the peak, but the route was proven and almost 11½ miles of trail cut through the worst of the 15-foot-high vine alder. We reached an elevation of 6500 feet near the foot of the northeast glacier. On August 8 Lorna Ream, Terry Bech, Dick Hahn, Jack Steele,

Ed Boulton, Gary Johnson and I drove to the end of the Meadow Mountain logging road. The next day we packed in 12 miles almost to timberline below the glacier, traveling until 9:30 P.M. The one-day trip to the base of the mountain had been made possible only by the previous trail cutting and route finding. The climb from camp at 4200 feet to the foot of the glacier at 6700 feet was made on August 10 through brush and over glacier-scoured rock. We avoided then the main stream of ice by climbing to its right just below the rocks to 9000 feet, where the main problem of the climb, the icefall, awaited us. We started up it at noon and found the way slow and tedious. The tenuous condition of the snowbridges made us feel that the icefall would have been impassable in two weeks. At 4:30 we crossed the last crevasse and stood at the foot of the smooth snowfield northeast of the summit block, which led to the summit without further difficulty. At 5:30 we stood in the fog on the top of Mount Cooper. A cairn was quickly erected and a rapid retreat made in the hope of passing the icefall before dark. This was done at 8 P.M. and we reached the foot of the snowfields an hour later. We now descended a lateral moraine until eleven o'clock when the first wood was found for a fire. The following morning we arrived at Base Camp and spent that day and the next returning to the cars.

WILLIAM S. BOULTON, *Spokane Mountaineers*

*Premier Group, Cariboo Mountains.* On previous visits to this area a semi-circle of unclimbed peaks had been noticed lying around the large glacial basin at the head of S-4 Creek, a southern tributary of the upper Canoe River. The highest of these peaks was estimated as about 10,500 feet. Other climbing parties had attempted to ascend S-4 Creek, but had been turned back by the dense bush and precipitous canyons of this side valley. While climbing in this area in 1961, a possible alternative route into the S-4 basin had been observed. This approach was by way of S-3 (Long) Creek and over a high, but fairly easy ridge into the S-4 basin. Our 1962 expedition, during the first two weeks of July, used this route successfully. The party consisted of Ruth Henderson, Helen Devereaux, Dave Fisher, Wally Joyce, Pat Boswell, Gerry Neave and I. Cars were taken up the Canoe River logging road almost to S-3 Creek. Four days were then spent in backpacking supplies and equipment up S-3 Creek and establishing a climbing camp above timberline in snow-covered alplands below the ridge leading over into the S-4 basin. On July 7 we climbed the ridge, descended to the glacier on the far side and made the ascent of the highest peak of the group. This peak is immediately to the south of