

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

the ridge and was entirely a glacier and snow climb. On July 8 ascents were made of two peaks southwest of our campsite, estimated at somewhat under 10,000 feet, and lying on the divide between S-3 and S-4 Creeks. The night of July 9 our party bivouacked in a cave on top of the ridge, and next day, after a long slog across glaciers, climbed the second highest peak of the group by the northeast ridge. This good-looking peak lies on the divide between S-4 and the North Thompson River and provided some interesting and varied climbing. Estimated elevation is 10,200 feet. The four peaks climbed are unnamed and were all first ascents. Camp was broken the morning of July 12 and a day of backpacking took us out to the cars.

ROGER NEAVE

Coast Ranges

Squamish Chief, via "Angel's Crest". Hank Mather, Les MacDonald and I made the third major and complete route on the Squamish Chief in a two-day push in June. The "Angel's Crest", as we called this major buttress on the north face, involves some 1200 feet of technical rock climbing. In two days in 1959 Don Claunch, Frank Tarver and I climbed to within 350 feet of the summit rim, but we did not find time to return until 1962. The key to the climb is a rotten chimney that leaves the deep couloir on the left side of the crest and takes one to the base of a very steep and exposed 150-foot step. This is a difficult pitch of mixed aid and free climbing. A second step crosses into a shallow groove with poor piton protection. With every climber passing, there are fewer twigs and moss tufts to hang onto. One then clambers through a scrub-fir jungle that leads to some wild gendarmes on the crest. A roped forest traverse brings one to two leads of 75° slab, all free but continually difficult climbing, some with minimal footholds. There a two-foot ledge provided an excellent bivouac spot; we found enough brush to build a small fire and spent a comfortable night in down jackets. Before retiring, we had climbed a difficult jam-crack, and at dawn had a rope to prusik up. Higher a gable of pure slab brought us against the final 200-foot vertical thrust. The exposure was magnificent here. Because the only crack systems were far apart, and sometimes on opposite sides of the crest, we often had to traverse and zigzag in the three slow leads of this section. The first pitch went up an overhanging crack with insecure flakes, then up a mossy crack that took pitons poorly and again worked right on an interesting traverse; most of it was direct aid. The next pitch looked ominous but, apart from two aid pitons at its beginning, zigzagged its way with some entertaining free climbing. We were trapped by a great flawless summit block here but luckily found a traverse around the nose to the left. Everything overhung