

which splits into the face. Here we had difficulty at times from loose rock, and found particular trouble overcoming a chockstoned chimney full of loose sand and mud from melting snow. Higher, the rock improved and we had some delightful climbing; we used about 14 pitons on the ascent. We began the ascent from a camp near Middle Fork Lake, and descended directly to Rainbow Lake.

FRED BECKEY

*"Dragon Head", East Face.* One of the most impressive walls I have seen in the range is a triple-buttressed east face in the valley above Middle Fork and Noel lakes, which rises in a 1200-foot sheer sweep to an unnamed 12,140-foot summit. In keeping with many other creature names, we gave it the name of "Dragon Head". Layton Kor, Dave Beckstead, and I started up the face on July 16 and after a bivouac just under a gigantic overhang, completed the climb early in the afternoon of the next day. The route follows a huge open-book for eight leads, ascends a spectacular overhanging crack which diagonals left to a buttress, then continues up the airy buttress to the summit. Loose rocks in the open-book made the climb very dangerous, since the leader had to take great care not to dislodge them. Layton led most of the climb and managed the overhang in great style, using a wide variety of pitons and runners. Dave, who inherited the task of prusiking the pitches with a trailing load, had the finest thrill of the summer when gravity swung him 30 feet horizontally, as he climbed up to the overhang. Most of the open-book was difficult and exacting free climbing, with the exception of three overhangs that required aid. The great overhang began as a 20-foot ceiling and both Kor and I agreed it was one of the most sensational roofs either of us had encountered. The final few leads on the buttress were delightful, exposed and on marvelous rock. We used about 75 pitons on the climb.

FRED BECKEY

*Spider Peak, Northeast Face.* In mid-September Jerry Fuller, Alex Bertulis and I entered the northeast end of the range to climb one of the faces of Spider Peak, a high peak of some reputation which apparently resembled Sqauretop. Although the long hike up Bomber Creek was not without brush and swamps, it was not nearly the ordeal that other parties had claimed. We camped close to the near end of Goat Flat, where the main valley veers westward, and the next morning hiked up rockslides and open timber to a large, turquoise-blue lake. The lake with its sandy shores, small trees, alpine meadows and in the background, the majestic sculpture of Spider Peak, is certainly one of the most beautiful mountain views I