

the notch, the granite was the very finest, with excellent cracks for direct aid and adequate holds for difficult free climbing. On the fourth pitch a nicely exposed piton traverse led to an overhanging traverse at a corner, really the crux of the route. A delicate openbook led to a final open chimney which worked upward to the summit block. In all, we used 36 pitons and 7 bolts.

FRED BECKEY

*Index Town Wall, Town Crier Route.* A spell of dry weather at Christmas in 1965 prompted Seattle rock climbers to seek out a *direttissima* on this large cliff behind the town of Index, less than an hour's drive from Seattle. At various times Eric Bjornstad, Mark Fielding, Bob Phelps, Dave Beckstead and I explored the crack possibilities, finally reaching the half-way point on the 550-foot vertical wall when snowfalls doomed the continuation of the climb. When spring weather returned, Leif Patterson, Beckstead and I solved the complicated triple overhang, one of the most difficult problems I have seen. It was followed by an exposed hanging belay and then a most stubborn piton crack. Beckstead and I completed the climb on April 17, clearing the last pitch in the night. Iron used on the climb totaled 103 pitons and 19 bolts.

FRED BECKEY

*Three Fingers, East Face Couloir.* On August 16, Jim Stoddard, Ted Carpenter and I made the first ascent of Three Fingers via its east side. From High Camp at timberline above Squire Creek we contoured south over easy terrain, continuing across snow slopes below the east face of the mountain to a point just beyond the south peak, the culmination of a massive wall almost 2500 feet high. Here a long broad 35° snow couloir (hidden to view from the north) rises diagonally north, cleaving the east face into two great segments. This couloir was ascended directly to its steepened upper end which exits onto the snowfield on the high northeast shoulder of the mountain. We crossed the snowfield to the notch between the middle and north peaks from where I climbed the north peak by the chimney of the usual south ridge route. Jim and Ted traversed below the normal route onto the west face proper, climbing a tricky, flaring Class-5 chimney which connects with the heather ledge above the chimney of the usual route.

JOSEPH VANCE

*Early Winter Spires, South Spire West Face.* The unclimbed wall on the west side of the highest of the Early Winter Spires had been bypassed by