

this side and it took us six days to hack our way through virgin jungle. The ascent was more exciting than I had anticipated. We climbed the glaciated and crevassed east flank. Throughout our ascent we were bombarded by large rocks, thrown out by earlier eruptions, which set off down the slope as the ice around them melted. Since we completed the ascent in a sleet blizzard, we could not see anything on the crater but could feel the hot air of the vent and were nearly gassed by fumaroles. As I had been unable to get good pictures, I decided to climb it again, but we had now run out of food. We returned to Quito and then approached from the west by Riobamba and the Hacienda Aloa, in the direction from which Sangay had been climbed on previous occasions. (First ascent by P. Austin, R. and T. Moore, L. Thorne, 1929.) This much easier approach over heavily eroded grasslands took us three days. There was no ice on this side and the walk up to the crater was straight-forward. It pays to have a high camp at about 13,000 feet to save too long a plod to the crest.

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*Chimborazo.* On March 3 David P. Johnston and Peter H. Robinson climbed all the way from the refuge at 16,000 feet over "Punta Veintemil" and across the deep soft snow to "Punta Whympet" (20,563 feet), the farthest point from the center of the earth. Meanwhile I had to remain in the refuge sick with an infection from sunburned lips.

VIN HOEMAN

### *Peru—Cordillera Blanca*

*Huascarán Norte, North Face.* Our expedition, set up by the Himalayan Committee of the *Fédération Française de la Montagne*, left Paris on June 9 with the north face of Huascarán Norte (21,834 feet) as our objective. The expedition was composed of Lucien Bérardini, Georges Payot, Robert Jacob, Claude Jaccoux, Dominique Leprince-Ringuet, Fernand Audibert, Yannick Seigneur, Dr. Guy de Haynin and myself as leader. We reached Base Camp on June 14 at 13,125 feet above the eastern end of the magnificent lower Llanganuco Lake after a very simple approach, mostly by truck. The north face of Huascarán Norte is bounded right and left by tortuous ridges with impressive cornices. The center is concave; the bottom third is smooth and nearly overhanging and a veritable hell of falling rock, but on the right there is an enormous spur, which seemed to offer a route. Both Payot and Jacob succumbed to respiratory ailments and had to be evacuated to the lower altitude of Yungay.\* At dawn on the 18th Audibert and

\*This account has unfortunately had to be greatly condensed from the author's original version. From the symptoms described, it would seem that both suffered from high-altitude pulmonary edema from such a rapid rise to this altitude. See *A.A.J.*, 1965, 14:2, pp. 363-372.—*Editor.*