

climbed this 45° slope on alternating snow and ice. Snow bridges allowed us to cross most of the crevasses, but occasionally we were forced into the ablation moat on the left side of the icefall before we emerged on the crest of the south ridge at 7000 feet. To avoid technical difficulties on imposing gendarmes, we made a long traverse on the east side of the ridge across many large crevasses before we reached a rock gully leading back to the ridge beyond the last gendarme. Half a dozen rope-lengths of class-4 rock brought us to the top of the gully and within 30 minutes we had traversed the snowy ridge to the narrow corniced summit. The ascent required eight hours of continuous roped climbing.

WALTER R. VENNUM, *unaffiliated*

### *Washington — Cascade Mountains*

*Mount Rainier, Nisqually Cleaver.* On June 19, Fred Dunham and I climbed the ridge separating the Nisqually Icefall and the Nisqually Icecliff. We decided to climb the lower Nisqually Chute before traversing to the ridge because rotten, vertical rock at the ridge's base ruled out a direct ascent. Suncupping of the snow in the 45°-50° chute provided a staircase of steps. Just above the chute's narrowest point, we traversed left on snow and over small rock buttresses to the ridge crest. Several small icecliffs on the Nisqually Icefall side of the ridge were bypassed, and we soon reached the ridge's termination at 12,500 feet. A windless and warm day on Rainier's summit climaxed an enjoyable climb.

JAMES F. WICKWIRE

*Mount Stuart, South Ridge and Headwall.* On May 30, 1966, camp was made on the large alluvial fan in the Ingalls Creek Valley, and from here Darrell Sorenson and I climbed straight toward Mount Stuart's granite summit. We followed the couloir toward the ridge until we got to the headwall of the large glacier cirque basin with its impressive walls. Here several routes showed some promise, but the most direct was picked to get to the summit ridge. At the left of the middle of the cirque wall slabs we followed a large crack with free climbing 5th class on white granite. After a small ledge we ascended some free face-climbing, small chimneys, and a chute onto a large ledge overlooking the west face. With a golden sunset fading on the mountain we had a short slab traverse before scrambling on up the ridge to the summit pyramid and a darkening purple panorama of the mountains surrounding. We then descended in the starlight down the frozen Ulrich's Couloir for 4000 feet with one ice axe

and one pair of crampons, and to camp at midnight. Twenty pitons were used on the ascent of what to us seems to be the most enjoyable south-side route with its combination of ice, snow and good white granite!

PAUL MYHRE, *unattached*

*Finger of Fate, South Face.* In mid-October 1966, Fred Dunham, Dave Mahre, Tom Hargis and I climbed the 700-foot south face of this prominent spire on the ridge connecting Chimney Rock's north and main peaks. We reached the glacial cirque below the rock face by climbing the Chimney Rock Icefall, a route first climbed by Gene and Bill Prater in 1964. Several pitches in the icefall required difficult moves on hard ice, including one traverse of nearly vertical water ice *inside* a crevasse. On the spire's south face the first three pitches above the glacier proved to be the most difficult. The final five pitches to the notch between the spire and the North Peak were completed on third-class rock. We descended diagonally across the main peak's south face and reached the glacier below in darkness.

JAMES F. WICKWIRE

*Symposium Rock, New Practice Area.* This newly "discovered" granite buttress rivals the Castle Rock of Tumwater Canyon near Leavenworth. It has been named Symposium Rock and there are a variety of routes on fair to excellent diorite. It is located on the east side of Blewitt Pass Highway across from the Ingalls Creek Valley. Routes vary in length from 200 to 300 feet on the upper rock to one-lead climbs on the lower rock. The routes to date from left to right on the front of the rock are: (1) *Neurotic Route*, F5, climbed in April 1966 by Paul Myhre and B. Nelson; (2) *Central Route*, F6, climbed in April 1966 by Don Cramer and C. Anderson; (3) *Ecstasy Route*, F6, climbed in April 1966 by Paul Myhre and D. Cramer; (4) *Eagles Nest Route*, F7, A-2, climbed in May 1967 by Paul Myhre and R. Oborn; (5) *Psychotic Route*, F6, climbed in April 1966 by Paul Myhre and D. Sorenson. Several good routes on the north and south sides remain to be done, as well as variations.

PAUL MYHRE, *unattached*

*Peshastin Pinnacles, Butterbrickle Route on Martian Tower.* The south chimney was climbed in April by J. Brottem and me. The route begins at the south notch, climbs across the slab a few feet, and then up to a belay with bolts in place. Climb into and up the chimney to a ledge, and