

Canadian Coast Ranges

Lillooet Icecap Area. For Centennial Year the British Columbia Mountaineering Club decided on a ski-mountaineering expedition. On April 29 seven members of the club were flown to a 7500-foot pass west of the Manatee Glacier. This rugged little area is situated at the south end of the Lillooet Icecap, some 40 miles northwest of Pemberton, B. C. Heavy coastal glaciation provides open snowfields for skiing with spectacular granitic rock emerging at intervals to heights of 9500 feet. Base Camp was established on the pass and throughout our two-week stay snow caves proved very durable, especially during a storm which prevented activity for three days. On May 1 we were ready for climbing and the whole party made a ski ascent of Sirenia Mountain (9500 feet), highest in the group. Our climbing over the next ten days included a dozen ski ascents and a rock route on impressive "Wahoo Tower" (9450 feet). Manatee Peak itself yielded after two attempts. Other peaks climbed were given names like "Remora," "Bonito," "Albacore" and "Marlin"—the marine theme being retained in naming all the summits. All of the peaks were previously unclimbed. On May 11 our four-day walkout to Pemberton began on skis but these were jettisoned before the Lillooet River was reached. We finally arrived at South Creek where the local Ranger had been waiting with a truck. The members of the party were Esther Kafer, Judy Horgan, Paul Plummer, Alfred Mennings, Brian Howard, Hans Pater Munger and I.

JOHN CLARKE, *British Columbia Mountaineering Club*

Niut Range. A party of seven members of the British Columbia Mountaineering Club visited the Niut Range, located east of the Waddington group, for two weeks in late August. Approach was from Trout Lake up Quartz Creek and into the head of Fire Finger Creek. Several new ascents were made including Camel (c. 10,000 feet) and six of its outlying peaks, the west peak on Pagoda (c. 10,400 feet) by two routes, Rusty Peak (c. 9900 feet) and several unnamed peaks between 9600 and 10,000 feet.

D. BOYD, *British Columbia Mountaineering Club*

Coast Ranges. In the summer of 1967, two projects of the Geological Survey of Canada did initial mapping of the Coast Mountains from Monarch Icecap south, through the Waddington group, to the Homathko Snowfield. Although basically a helicopter operation, the climbers along did get in some mountaineering, and a good look at assorted unexplored

sections of the Coast Range. Peaks flanking the fjord zone on the west tend to be subdued by glaciation, and are seldom very attractive to climbers. Summits surrounding and to the north of the great Silverthorne glacial complex seldom get above 9000 feet, but several areas of sharp rock peaks were observed. Two peaks of class 4-5 difficulty were climbed during a forty-mile foot traverse from the mouth of the Sheemahant River to the Klinaklini River. Detailed attention was also given to the eastern Niut Range, which yielded some fine first ascents south of Ottarasko Creek. Other new ascents on peaks previously named included Mounts Majestic, Consort, Mantle and Moore, of the Queen Bess area; Mount "Wiessner," and the west buttress of Mount Bell, of the Waddington group; and Mount "Elfrida" west of Monarch Icecap.

RICHARD R. CULBERT

Squamish Squaw, Right Wing Route. On June 24 and 25 Scott Davis, Al Givler and I made the first ascent of the Squaw via the crack system running through the main dihedral of the west face. Our first problem was locating the beginning of the dihedral at the head of the steep jungle growing against the Squaw's lower cliffs. Once found, we climbed three pitches directly upward, where the difficulty increased from fourth class to aid. From a spacious belay ledge two long aid pitches, separated only by a hanging belay, curved upward and right. Pitoning was always awkward and slow, as we were forced right by the overhanging left wall of the dihedral. A final vertical and overhanging pitch, again largely aid, proved an awkward if not fitting end to a classic route. We used 67 pitons; two bolts were placed at and above the hanging belay.

FRED BECKEY

Squamish Chief, Zodiac Wall. On the shadowed northern sections of the Chief, one great wall dominates; for 1400 vertical feet Zodiac Wall is the sheerest and most difficult of the Chief's many faces. The few possible route lines seem to blank out at regular intervals, bivouac ledges are few and overhangs are more frequent than cracks. The mere choice of route is taxing; I finally settled on a direct line that seemed to take advantage of the most cracks and one great bivouac ledge. The route's finish simply soared forward from a crown of overhanging capstones. Extremely bad weather and the lack of continuous time for climbing kept efforts in the fall of 1966 to four pitches, where there were some of the most awkward I have ever encountered. I struggled with a flaring