

which consists of free-climbing and another pendulum. Done this way, the face may be climbed free except for the two straightforward tension traverses. (NCCS IV+, F8+, A1.)

GENE L. FRANCIS, *Unaffiliated*

Canadian Rockies

Mount Geikie, North Face, Ramparts, 1979. (This route was mentioned but not described in *A.A.J.*, 1980.) Dean Hannibal and I did a new route on the north face of Geikie in late August, 1979. We followed the prominent buttress in the center of the face and then directly up a shallow buttress in the center of the bowl in the top half of the face to end about 100 meters west of the summit. The total time up was about three days with a late start on the first and an early finish on the fourth. The lower buttress had many pitches from F7 to F9 with a total of 15 to 20 points of aid. The rock was better than the usual Canadian kind and the buttress was sheltered from rockfall. We stayed slightly left of the crest until we reached the top of the red rockbands. In the lower-angled upper bowl the rock was looser with sections of gravel overlying slabs where the ice had melted due to a very dry season. This was generally F5 with sections of mixed ground and hard, short steps. The final two steep pitches were on unavoidable water-ice in the usual storm. We descended what was probably also a new route, down the south ridge.

GEORGE H. LOWE, III

Mount Dennis, Northwest Face, and Other Ice Climbs. At the end of March, Peter Monkkonen and I set up camp under Weeping Wall and from there did four day-climbs on ice. These climbs were in the finest Scottish tradition, with midday starts and midnight descents: Weeping Wall, Polar Circus (first four icefalls), Distant Blue, and the Northwest Face of Mount Dennis. The most arduous of these was Dennis whose first two icefalls had already yielded to Spring warmth and had to be bypassed to the left with mixed climbing. Above, an upended ocean of ice was still intact. Countless pitches later, well after dark, we finally started down through the woods to the right by bushwhacking and rappelling while continuous spindrift avalanches created a moonlight maelstrom over our ascent route. The most pleasant climb was Distant Blue which we espied from the Icefield Highway. Distant Blue is a terraced curtain of ice two miles up the Beauty River on the north wall of Tangle Ridge. An accursed approach on snowshoes was followed by four aesthetic, vertical pitches and a light-hearted descent back to the highway.

RICHARD LOREN DOEGE