

via a spur further east than the one pioneered in 1958. Though feasible, this spur is a Cascade "horrorshow" and should be avoided. The descent via the 1958 spur was comfortable, as we stayed almost exclusively on animal trails. Since the proper crossing point onto the spur is obscured by heavy forest, we attached a six-inch aluminum disc to a small fir tree where the departure from the trail should begin and the river can be crossed (about 100 feet beyond this marker is a five-foot cut through a fallen cedar tree and a 90° bend in the trail). About 150 feet upstream is an animal trail leading uphill. Normally, this climb involves three days. Proper route-finding will make this trip a pleasant two. Class 3 and 4. Grade II.

ALEX BERTULIS

*Mount Formidable, Northwest Face.* On June 28, Gordon Adams and I climbed the northwest face of Mount Formidable. We approached via the primitive Cleve Creek Valley. The route went up the center of the 45° face mostly on névé just left of a rock fin. A couple of exposed traverses of cornice flutings were encountered near the top.

JOSEPH E. CATELLANI, *Wallingford Alpine Club*

*Mount Shuksan, Price Glacier Winter Ascent.* On January 16, Lowell Skoog and I climbed Mount Shuksan via the Price Glacier. Our approach from the Mount Baker Highway was via White Salmon Creek. From the end of the valley we cramponed hard snow to the base of the north face, then angled up toward a rock tower at 6500 feet. Here we descended a hidden chute before continuing east to the Price Glacier. Snow conditions continued to be good and we quickly reached the col and the Crystal Glacier. After front-pointing the summit pyramid we reached the summit just after sunset, 10 hours out from our car. Regaining our packs below we built an igloo for our bivouac under a full moon. Our descent the following day was via the White Salmon Glacier, in developing storm.

MARK BEBIE, *Unaffiliated*

### California—Sierra Nevada

*Mount Prater, Hidden Couloir.* In late September 1980, Del Johns and I approached the unclimbed east face of Mount Prater (13,329 feet) by way of Tinemaha Creek. At first it appeared the route would be all rock; however, part way up the face a deep north-facing, ice-filled couloir appeared. The rock of the east face above quickly was forgotten, and about 800 feet of typical 45° Palisade ice climbing led to the summit ridge, south of the peak. We descended by an easy gully north of the summit. F4 to F5.

WAYNE N. SAWKA, *U.S.G.S.*