

*Chimborazo, Pico Nicolás Martínez.* Of the four peaks of Chimborazo, its lowest (c. 5570 meters, 18,275 feet) is the most attractive and most difficult. It was named "Nicolás Martínez" after a great Ecuadorian pioneer of the early 1900s. In 1983, two new routes were made on its flanks: O. Morales and M. Purúncajas climbed the southeast glacier or "Glaciar Boussingault" (June 26). The second new route was made by J. Anhalzer, R. Cárdenas and R. Navarrete, following the northeast ridge (July 3).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Cotopaxi, First (?) Ascent to the Highest Point, 1929.* On page 164 of the A.A.J., 1962, Professor Evelio Echevarría states about Cotopaxi: "It has been debated whether this peak has been so far climbed, because all expeditions have reached the rim of the crater and not the culminant aiguille on its north, said to be 150 feet higher than the points usually attained." As Ascent N° 11, it is further noted: "A Swede probably reached the rim." Investigation has now turned up documents which prove that the Swede was Gunnar Eklund. Eklund left Sweden in 1929 for Ecuador, where he was sent by the Swedish L. M. Ericsson Telephone Company. According to a cable sent to the Svenska Fjällklubben on November 10, 1929, he scaled Cotopaxi on November 4, 1929, stating that he had reached both "the crater and the very top." These facts are also registered in *Till Fjälls*, 1930, the annual of the Svenska Fjällklubben. There is no doubt that Eklund was a most able mountaineer and that he scaled the final rock needle forming the highest summit of Cotopaxi. In 1931 he made the third ascent of the Volcán Tolima in the Colombian Andes. Eklund was born in 1900 and died in Cuenca, Ecuador in 1947, at the age of only 47.

ANDERS BOLINDER, *Svenska Fjällklubben*

*Illiniza Sur, Southwest Face.* After two previous visits in poor weather we made a new route on the southwest face of Illiniza Sur on September 13, 1982. Our team consisted of Jorge and Delia Montopoli and me. The approach to this face is much more lengthy than to the traditional and shorter north-face route. From the pass (c. 3600 meters, 12,000 feet) at Loma de Huinza on the Latacunga-Sigchos road we walked approximately eight hours to the base of the westernmost glacier located just north of the prominent, crumbling rock towers that divide the south and west sides of the mountain. Before dawn we followed the heavily crevassed but not steep glacier on its left until we found a snow ramp (40°) that inclines further left and carried us above the first rock walls. We climbed a steep couloir (75°, 50 meters) that is evident to the right, angling to the right at its top along a mild ridge until we encountered a short ice wall (85°, 5 meters). This left us 100 meters below the final southwest knife-ridge which brought us to the summit (5266 meters 17,277 feet). The ascent took five hours for 900 meters and required complete ice equipment. Variation: rather than