

## Nepal

*Altitudes of Nepalese Peaks.* The reader will notice that many of the altitudes of Nepalese peaks are different from what had previously been accepted. The new altitudes are those given the Editor by Dr. Harka Gurung and are based on the latest available maps. Dr. Gurung states: "The principal source was the Survey of India topographic sheets at a scale of one inch to the mile (1:63,360). The other important aid was the set of maps prepared for the Sino-Nepal Boundary Agreement of 1979. The latter series includes 57 area maps at a scale of 1:50,000 extending four to five kilometers on either side of the boundary line. For areas not covered by the Sino-Nepal border maps nor the one-inch maps, peak heights are based on Survey of India topographic maps at Quarter Inch (1:253,350) scale."

*Kanchenjunga, Solo Ascent.* Hoping to climb the normal southwest route on Kanchenjunga, Hanns Schell and I, accompanied by Dr. Hermann Krüttner and photographer Franz Haigermoser, set off on March 16. After a 17-day approach, we set up Base Camp on April 10 at 18,050 feet. Unfortunately we had much bad weather, hurricane winds, masses of snow and often avalanche danger. We set up Camps I, II and III at 20,175, 21,150 and 23,450 feet on April 21, 29 and May 4 respectively. Many summit attempts failed in bad weather. On May 24 Hanns Schell decided against continuing. As if to spite him, the weather turned better. I took advantage of this last chance and, with Sherpas, reached Camp III on May 26. On the 27th we climbed to establish Camp IV at 25,600 feet. The weather was beautiful, but the Sherpas did not want to climb higher. I set out solo at 5:30 A.M. on May 28 and stood on the summit (8586 meters, 28,170 feet) five hours later. The climbing on the upper part was rather difficult and I had to concentrate hard. The weather was completely clear and the view fantastic. I stayed on top for only ten minutes and an hour later was back in Camp IV. I descended that same afternoon to Camp III and the next day to Base Camp. I climbed without supplementary oxygen.

GEORG BACHLER, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

*Kanchenjunga Attempt from the North.* Our members were Alois Farber, Georg Hess, Franz Leutgäb, Walter Schmidt, Dr. Klaus Wiener, my wife Dieltinde as Base-Camp manager, and I as leader. We approached from Dhan-kuta via Dhoban and Ghunsa in 19 days and arrived at Base Camp at 5050 meters at the beginning of April. From there to Camp I at 5700 meters we followed the route of previous north-face parties. From shortly above Camp I the route, between the British route on the left and the Japanese route on the right, was completely new. We climbed the corner between the west face of the north col and the north face to 6600 meters. We fixed rope from 6000 to 6600 meters because of the steepness (45° to 70°) and occasional rockfall from the north ridge. Camp II was at 6600 meters in a snow cave, which protected it from