

bolts, all by hand on lead, and equipped each belay stance with two bolts. They then turned their attentions to the southwest face of the Lotus Flower Tower, which they climbed all free at VII+/VIII-. They made the 400-kilo-meter return via the South Nahanni River. (*An American team that attempted the climb gave up on the line in dismay, so offended were they by the unnecessary number of bolts placed by the first ascensionists. -Ed.*) (*High Mountain Sports* 159)

Bugaboos

North Howser Spire, The Shooting Gallery. In September, Christian George and I did a new route on the 3000-foot west face of North Howser Spire in the Bugaboos, British Columbia. The *Shooting Gallery* (VI 5.10 A2+), climbs the southwest buttress, starting 200 meters right of *Seventh Rifle*. The approach was far more serious than we had anticipated, requiring two carries and five days of effort. We believe that our route may intersect with the Southwest Face route at our 11th pitch, where we found an old piton. We placed a belay bolt and one rivet in 23 pitches, using a 60-meter rope. We fixed two pitches on the 23rd and then spent five days and four nights on the wall. We did find small ledges for our bivouacs, but were glad that we had brought a double portaledge. Our climb was predominantly free with many classic pitches in the 5.10 range. The only incident during our ascent was a major rockfall on the second night. The upper section of the cliff between the routes *Mescalito* and *Seventh Rifle* released some car-sized blocks, creating a massive rock avalanche which shrouded the cliff in dust for more than half an hour. Our portaledge was hit by many rocks, but luckily none were large enough to cause injury or damage. Climbers beware: This section of the cliff is very loose and definitely unsafe.

MARK SYNNOTT, *unaffiliated*

Pigeon Feathers, Lost Feather Route. It was reported that Gene Kisler and Todd Offenbacher climbed a new route on the previously unexplored Pigeon Feathers. They gave the ten-pitch route a grade of V 5.10 A3, but said that now that the route has been cleaned it would most likely go free at 5.11. (*High Mountain Sports* 156)

Canadian Rockies

Mount Robson, Ski Descent of the North Face. It was reported that Troy Jungen and Peter Spriceniaks skied the North Face of Mount Robson in September, experiencing tricky and dangerous snow conditions with around 18 inches of wind crust, transitional snow, and depth hoar over solid blue ice. The descent covered 3000 vertical feet. (*Climbing* 157)

North Howser Tower.
Christian George