

her and found her conscious but bruised. Assistance was obtained promptly and she was evacuated by stretcher. She suffered cuts and bruises of her face and arms. An x-ray taken later showed a chipped vertebra from which she recovered after three weeks in bed.

*Source:* Michael Marx and Peter Robinson.

*Analysis:* In their report Marx and Robinson raise the pertinent points:

1. "Perhaps the danger of this particular gully has been greatly under-rated both in regard to falling rock and difficulty in climbing."
2. "It seems possible that climbers in general lay too little emphasis on climbing unroped and in unison over rocks, which are very easy, but exposed to fall."
3. "The dangers in carrying out rappeling have not always been fully recognized. They point out that not only is there danger in the rappel *per se* but also in the fact that the establishment of the rappel is frequently done unroped."

*Georgia—Stone Mountain:* On August 13, 1952 L. J. Williams (35) and a friend walked to the top of Stone Mountain, arriving at the summit late in the day. They inquired if there was a short route down and were told, "A set of steps leads directly to the base, right over there." Williams walked over to the designated area looking for the steps and apparently walked off the sheer side of the mountain. As he slipped he lunged for and caught with both hands one of the iron pegs which had supported part of the scaffold used by the sculptor John Gutzon de la Mothe Borglum while working on the Stone Mountain Memorial. Williams hung there first by one hand and then the other for 3½ hours 400 feet above the ground. Someone in the crowd which gathered below finally realized this was not a stunt. Elias Nour who had had previous experience was notified and effected the rescue by a rope from above. Williams was unhurt.

*Source:* Mr. Don Hubbard who interviewed Mr. Williams.

*Analysis:* Failure to exercise due caution in exposed areas.

*Colorado—Rocky Mountain National Park:* (1) On July 10, 1952 John H. Tallmadge (21) said he was going to climb Hallet Peak and Flat Top Mountain the same day. Employees at Bear Lake Lodge advised against this because of the length of the climb, and the lateness of the hour of his planned departure. He reached the summit of Hallet Peak where he talked with a party whom he had followed to the summit. He did not return with them by the easy route of ascent as he preferred to take what he called "a short cut." It was not until four months later that his body was found 1000 feet below the summit of Hallet Peak on the south side. He had apparently fallen 200 feet and had been killed instantly. Tallmadge had probably started his descent over the many steep cliffs on the south side. One of these probably led him

to a dead end, and while trying to find another way he must have fallen. The details are lacking, but as nearly as could be determined by the rescue group he fell 50 feet straight and then tumbled another 150 feet down the rock slope.

*Source:* Newspaper; Report Rocky Mountain National Park.

*Analysis:* Lone climber, inexperienced, attempting more than he should.

*Colorado—Rocky Mountain National Park: (2)* On July 13, 1952 J. Henry Fortenback (45), received a laceration of the temple caused by a dislodged rock above the cables of Longs Peak. Clifford Doty (30) also received a bruised left knee and leg from the same cause, and in approximately the same location. Such climbing hazards were remedied considerably following these two accidents. Park rangers removed as many of the loose rocks as possible above the cables in order to prevent subsequent mishaps.

*Source:* Report Rocky Mountain National Park.

*Colorado—Rocky Mountain National Park: (3)* On August 7, 1952 Charles Mahan (20), slipped on a steep snowfield on Ypsilon Mountain while on a Y. M. C. A. Conference hike. He slid into a rock pile, fractured his left collar bone, and lacerated his left knee. The aid of a number of rangers was enlisted in order to facilitate his removal from the scene of the accident. Conditions forced the party to wait until the next day to remove him by stretcher.

*Source:* Report Rocky Mountain National Park.

*N. B.:* An almost identical accident happened on the same peak last year. It is not known whether it was the same snowfield or not.

*Colorado—Boulder:* Blain St. Clair, a freshman business student, checked out with the Mountaineer's Register sometime in early 1952 at the University of Colorado and started up "the back route of the rock" alone. He reached the top and started down the front by rappel. On completing the rappel he could not free his rope so continued without it. Reaching the top of the 1911 Gulch he decided to descend in the gulch instead of by the more exposed route which he had ascended. About two thirds of the way down the most difficult part of the gulch he lost his balance while changing position and fell. He stated that he first fell head first and then ended up feet first. A small ledge arrested his fall. He called for help unsuccessfully and finally negotiated the remainder of the descent in spite of difficulty at the bottom of the gulch. He checked back at the Mountaineer's Register in time to prevent a party being sent in search for him. St. Clair had received a lacerated lower lip requiring one stitch, abrasions of the left hand, a large bruise on the right hip, a bruised knee, and shock.