

doubly belayed from above. He was taken to a local hospital where his lacerations were sutured and where he spent the night under observation.

Source: William Dunmire.

Analysis: Dunmire has had several years of intensive experience in Yosemite climbing, and is greatly respected for his thoughtfulness and care in climbing. In addition he had the interesting assignment of instructing mountain troops in piton belaying. In the course of this they found that one of the most educational phases was actually driving in and then pulling out many pitons. As a result of this they realized how unpredictable the strength of pitons can be. Richard Leonard has stressed this strongly in his article on belaying (see recommended bibliography). Dunmire stated in his report that he felt no basic rules of safety were broken, except that the leader must not fall, and certainly this committee concurs. The fact, however, that the above accident occurred to a person with so much experience points out the necessity of carefully testing all pitons and being certain they are in optimum position to withstand the shock of a fall.

California—Yosemite (2): On September 4, 1952, Arthur Baldonade (20) and his brother Robert (15) were rescued by rangers from the cliff ledges about 1000 feet above the valley floor near Columbia Point where they had become stranded on the ledge off the trail. They could not get up or down and called for help. Rangers roped down to them from the trail and brought them out unhurt. They were both inexperienced and had not registered for the climb.

Source: Report from the Yosemite National Park.

California-Yosemite (3): On November 9, 1952, L. C. Ames, Jr., and Mrs. P. Kool from Victorville, California Air Force Base, were rescued from the cliff ledges about 120 feet above the valley floor near Yosemite Falls. They had registered for the rock climb and were on their way down when their rope became stuck in a crack in the rock and they could not free it. They called for help. Rangers assisted them down the cliff using another rope.

Source: Report from the Yosemite National Park.

REGIONAL SAFETY ACTIVITIES

Appalachian Mountain Club—New York Chapter: Norton Smithe, chairman of the Rock Climbing Safety Committee, has forwarded a summary of their climbing code. A code of this sort would be useful to adopt generally and it is appended below.