

evacuated until the following morning because of the bad weather. (Source: J. L. Trunbull.)

*Analysis.* If proper equipment had been carried the victim may have been rescued immediately, or could have had more clothes put on him. (Source: J. L. Trunbull.)

*FALL ON ICE—British Columbia, Kokanee Glacier Park.* Ron Homenuke (24) and two companions were traversing Kokanee Glacier from the true right to true left above a sheet of glare ice at 1030 hours on October 1, 1976. They had neither ropes, crampons, nor ice axes. Homenuke was leading when he slipped and fell down 500 feet of steep ice and hard snow, and stopped 30 feet above some rocks. His companions descended to him and found him unconscious. He had a fractured cranium and abrasions and lacerations about his head and extremities. One man stayed with him while the other went for help. Homenuke was kept warm and was restrained as a treatment for shock. He was evacuated by helicopter from his resting place at about 1130 hours. (Source: Dennis Herman.)

*Analysis.* The party was too inexperienced and not equipped for the route. They should have inquired about the condition of the glacier before starting out and should have taken another route more suited to their abilities and equipment. (Source: Dennis Herman.)

*FALLING ROCK—British Columbia, Southern Selkirks, Mt. Marion.* Four climbers were approaching the crest of the ridge of Mt. Marion at about 7,700 feet at 1130 hours on August 3, 1976, and were traversing some moderately steep solid slabs. They were spread out over a distance of about 100 feet vertically and 20 feet horizontally. The third man touched a large rectangular block that was part of a six-inch step in the slabs but was almost imperceptibly cracked about one foot from the step. It was dislodged by the touch. It fell down the slope, touched the back of the fourth man without injury and then gouged the back of his right lower leg. After he was carried to a more comfortable place, one man went for a helicopter, which picked up the injured man at about 2015 hours. (Source: P. W. Wood.)

*Analysis.* Climbers should remain close together when in areas containing potential rock dislodgement danger. (Source: P. W. Wood.)

*FALL ON ROCK AND INADEQUATE EQUIPMENT—Ontario, Bon Echo Park.* Richard Lamb (16), who had climbed for 3 years, was making a first ascent solo at 1230 hours on August 27, 1976. He was using a Gibbs ascender as a self-belay, which was attached to his seat harness by a nonlocking,

light-weight aluminum carabiner. When he was about 25–30 m above the ground, he fell, and the gate of the carabiner was torn off by a lateral force. He fell to the ground and suffered a fractured skull, brain hemorrhage, and a broken wind pipe. He was dead on arrival at Kingston Hospital. (Source: I. Varmuza, B. Lamb.)

*Analysis.* A locking carabiner and/or a safety sling is commonly used by solo climbers in these situations. (Source: J. Williamson.)

**SLIPON ROCK AND CLIMBING UNROPED**—*Ontario, Milton, Rattlesnake Point.* Mark Johnson (18) had climbed with a school group on May 2, 1976, on a part of the cliff with a steep, sloping top covered with leaves and branches, and without a clearly defined trail. While he was unroped near the edge, he tripped and fell 80 feet to the ground. He was dead on arrival at Milton Hospital. (Source: Peter Turner.)

*Analysis.* Beginners, particularly, should be moved well away from the top of the cliff before being unroped, particularly if the ground slopes steeply. (Source: Peter Turner.)

**MISUSE OF BELAYING DEVICE**—*Ontario, Milton, Rattlesnake Point.* Dave Embury (35) was climbing third on the rope of a 5.5 route in May 1974. His belayer was a Sticht Plate. About 20 feet from the top, Dave asked for tension to rest. His belayer agreed. Dave relaxed, then fell 30 feet, with some tension from the rope, and broke his wrist. His belayer had had the rope passing through the belay plate without the required 90-degree bends on both sides, and had the plate about three inches from the carabiner. He misjudged the direction of force and was put off balance, and could not recover and set the belay plate properly before the rope was going too fast to control. (Source: J. D. Embury, Lutz Ranke.)

*Analysis.* A cord should be used to keep the belay plate and the carabiner within two inches apart, and each part of the rope must bend 90 degrees as it leaves the plate. (Source: J. D. Embury, Lutz Ranke, Helmut Microys.)

**FALLING ROCK AND NO HARD HAT**—*Ontario, Milton, Rattlesnake Point.* Kim Rodgers was injured on the forehead on May 2, 1976, when she was hit by a rock dislodged by a climber above her. She was not wearing a hard hat. Five or six stitches were required. (Source: Helmut Microys.)

**FALLING ROCK**—*Quebec, Mont Pinnacle, Lac Lyster.* On July 2, a climber displaced, by a few inches, a block near the top of La Voie Normale on Mont