

CANADA

Yukon Territory

Mount Vancouver, Northeast Ridge. The 1975 M.I.T. Outing Club Expedition assembled in mid-June at Haines Junction. We consisted of Cliff Cantor*, Bob Dangel, Paul Ledoux, Rob Milne*, Hal Murray, Bob Walker, John Yates and me as leader. We conversed briefly with a Japanese party that had just completed an ascent of the north side of Mount Vancouver, a route we had considered as a possible alternative if we found the northeast ridge impractical. On June 16 in the evening, we were transported in three helicopter loads to a strikingly beautiful location near the base of the northeast ridge at 4800 feet on the Hubbard Glacier. The ridge above us rose in a series of steps to a snow-covered peak at 10,600 feet, above which it widened and became easier, merging with the main summit mass at 11,500 feet. We planned a high camp just beyond P 10,600, from which we felt we might push to the summit in one day. Climbing at night to obtain better snow conditions, we explored route possibilities and established Camp I above an active icefall which guarded a large, amphitheater-like basin on the south side of the ridge. From here, we were able to reach the 8200-foot plateau on the ridge with relative ease, occupying Camp II on June 22. We fixed 1100 feet of rope below the plateau to facilitate load carrying. Above the plateau, the ridge rose in three steps to P 10,600, the first step being the most difficult. This was a triangular-shaped face of rock and snow with sharp edges and steep, snow-filled gullies. On the night of June 24, Murray and I climbed up the right side of the face and on to the corniced, knife-edged ridge beyond while Ledoux, Milne, Walker, and Cantor fixed 1600 feet of rope up the central gully. On the night of June 26, following a snowstorm, Murray, Yates, and Cantor fixed 500 feet of rope along the knife-edged ridge, while Walker, Milne, and I fixed another 1000 feet up the central gully of the second step and climbed on over easier terrain to the summit of P 10,600. On the night of June 27, all of us packed loads to Camp III just beyond P 10,600, the rapid progress made possible by virtue of the fixed rope. The night of June 28 was clear and calm. Carrying only bivouac gear, we passed one final ice pitch on the ridge, then intersected the main summit mass up which we climbed with ease. We reached the north summit (15,825 feet), the highest, at about nine A.M. on June 29. The descent was tiresome and slow, but we finally reached Camp III after 17 hours of climbing. By the morning of July 3, we were all back in Base Camp, having removed our fixed ropes and equipment. Dangel and Milne flew back to Haines Junction with most of the climbing gear on July 5, while the rest of us donned skis and shouldered packs for an overland

*Recipients of American Alpine Club Climbing Fellowship grants.

return via the Hubbard and Kaskawulsh Glaciers. We covered 68 miles of spectacular glacial terrain during the next seven days, arriving back at Kluane Lake on July 11.

BARTON DEWOLF

Mount Vancouver, North Buttress. A Japanese expedition made the first ascent of the north buttress of Mount Vancouver from the Hubbard Glacier. The first-ascent route (*AAJ*, 1950, p. 367) went up what might better be called the northwest ridge, though they called it the north ridge. The earlier route started from the Seward Glacier side. The two routes are completely distinct and meet only on the summit. Details are lacking.

St. Elias Ski Traverse. From April 12 to May 13 Craig Patterson, Steve Darrow and I traversed the St. Elias Range. Our route followed the Tana Glacier onto the Bagley Icefield to the Seward Glacier, which flows between Mounts St. Elias and Logan. We continued around Mount King George on the Hubbard, then north to the Kaskawulsh Glacier, finally ending at Kluane Lake on the Alaska Highway. The highest elevation we were forced to ski to was only 6700 feet, making it an ideal sled trip. Total mileage was 220 miles. We were unsupported by food caches or airdrops. The loaded sleds weighed 180 pounds when we started. Poor weather prevented climbing more than one 8500-foot crag near Mount Queen Mary.

TED GILLETTE, *Yosemite Climbing School*

Mount Logan. A few parties climbed Mount Logan, all by the King Trench route. A Japanese group led by Seiichiro Takai, was on the mountain from June 25 to July 9. A Kluane National Park Warden Service expedition of four members was led by me. Ron Chambers and I reached the west and north peaks. We were on the mountain from June 28 to July 22. On July 2 Gerald Holdsworth and party left for the King Trench route to continue his glaciology project. The guides Peter Schlunegger and Jacob Wyss reached the summit of the west peak and descended with us. The Arctic Institute of North America's support team were led to the Mount Logan High Plateau by Jürg Hofer to continue their annual High-Altitude Physiological Research Project. Some of their members climbed the north and west peaks.

HANS FUHRER, *Kluane National Park*

Weisshorn, Southeast Ridge Attempt. The southeast ridge of the Weisshorn was attempted by the Kluane National Park Warden Service, led by Jürg Hofer and me. The ridge presented more difficulties than we had estimated. A very dangerous double cornice caused our retreat

on the first day. Fixed ropes would have been necessary to tackle the difficult by-pass. The next day the weather deteriorated; storms held us tight in a snow cave for ten days until we got airlifted to Kluane on May 5.

HANS FUHRER, *Kluane National Park*

Mount Gibson. A basic climbing and rescue school, directed by me, was held from April 14 to 19 on the Steele and Foster Glaciers. Mount Gibson was climbed at the end of the school.

HANS FUHRER, *Kluane National Park*

P 12,200, Lowell Glacier, St. Elias Mountains. In August, 1974 Mike Price, Randy Hargesheimer, Dave Lawrence, Matt Kerr, Cheryl Soshnik and I left the Alaska Highway and spent ten days trekking up Slims River and the Kaskawulsh Glacier. We climbed P 12,200, whose summit forms a triple divide for the Kaskawulsh, Lowell and Hubbard Glaciers, nine miles northwest of Alverstone. (First ascent by Victor Josendahl, Irena and John Meulemans, Robert Booher and Leigh Clark, 1961.—*Editor.*) Our route followed the ridge on the north-northeast side of the mountain from camp in the valley to the east.

ANDREW KNAPP, *Minnesota Rovers Outing Club*

Mount Steele, East Ridge. The Kajika party, Kunio Asaoka, Takashi Nakamura, Koichi Takeuchi, Miss Tokiko Michioka, Shigo Ito and I established Base Camp below the east ridge on April 19. Camp I was established at 10,300 feet on the 21st. Above 11,600 feet we fixed seven ropes on a snow wall before placing Camp II at 12,700 feet on April 27. We fixed three more ropes to 14,000 feet. On the 28th Asaoka, Nakamura and Takeuchi passed the knife edge and continued up the 30° slope to the top of Steele (16,440 feet). A second attempt by the other three of us failed in high winds.

TETSUO MORI, *Kajika Alpine Club, Japan*

Mount Steele, East Ridge. In early July, a party of six Canadians, Bruce Fairley, Neil Humphrey, Heidi Piltz, Eric White, Ellen Wood and I, helicoptered to 7500 feet on the Steele Glacier below the east ridge, which we climbed over the next couple of weeks, spending a total of nine nights in snow caves. We hiked out down the Steele Glacier and the Donjek River in seven days.

ROLAND BURTON, *Alpine Club of Canada*

Tombstone Range. Lured by a note in the *Canadian Alpine Journal* promising "Bugaboo-style granite," at least two parties visited the Tombstone Range, thirty miles north of Dawson in the central Yukon, in the

summer of 1975. In early June Mark Fagan, Jon Krakauer, and I double-packed three weeks' supplies to the head of the Klondike River from the Dempster Highway on skis. We were disappointed to find very bad rock everywhere and a dearth of natural lines on the impressive-looking peaks. Krakauer and I failed on the 1000-foot east face of "Little Tombstone" only about thirty feet below the top when the cracks we were climbing with aid petered out. Krakauer took a 45-foot leader fall with no protection above a hanging-belay anchor when a hold broke as he was attempting to free-climb the last moves. With Fagan, Krakauer and I later made an easy first ascent. In the middle of June a party of six (Bob Cuthbert, Eric White, Robin Mounsey, Fred Thiessen, Alan Denis, and Neil Humphries) helicoptered in to the upper Chandindu valley. They, too, were greatly disappointed with the slabs of "Graham-cracker rock," loose flakes, and poor lines. During three days of bad weather, Denis and Mounsey managed to get up a difficult rib on the north face of the eastern satellite of Tombstone Mountain. After nasty bivouacs and some A4 nailing, they had a miserable descent in a rain storm. Later the party did a 1500-foot wide mixed route on the peak just north of Monolith Peak, as well as other first ascents in the range. Monolith itself, apparently still unclimbed, is the prize of the range.

DAVID ROBERTS

North West Territories

The Cirque of the Unclimbables, Logan Mountains. Jamie Farrar and I repeated Buckingham's 1960 routes with minor variations on Terrace Tower, Crescent Spire, and Sir James MacBrien. After abandoning one attempt on the south face of Phenocryst Spires, we returned to climb a large dihedral which splits the face between Phenocryst and the high point between it and Huey's Spire. Nine long pitches of primarily crack climbing led to a gap on the narrow ridge between Huey's and Phenocryst. The final pitch to the ridge was an appealing variety of jams, laybacks, and face-climbing. Four pitches along the ridge led to the high point which we had seen from below. Here we discovered a cairn built by a previous party. Nine rappels, utilizing fixed pins, and 500 feet of down-climbing brought us to the moraine above the glacier. One afternoon Bill Putnam and I climbed a snow couloir which led to the ridge joining Harrison-Smith and West Cathedral Peak. This is a finger-like slope near the upper end of the first cirque, separated by a broad rock rib from What-Notch. Averaging 45° at the bottom, the slope steepened to about 60° near the top. Climbing on glacial ice or ice mantled with a couple of inches of snow, we moved continuously the entire way, except near the top where we belayed from inside several crevasses. We attained the ridge and a nearby high point in three hours of climbing. Upon later inspection we believe this to be the summit of

the fourth Pentadactyl Spire, previously unclimbed. The precipitous nature of the surrounding terrain forced us to down-climb our ascent route. Using our three ice screws judiciously, we descended 18 pitches without mishap in just over three hours. Later in August (we were there from the 10th to the 26th), Mark Kremen and I repeated Buckingham's route on Meringue. On our final day of climbing, Farrar and I did the second ascent of the southeast ridge of Sir James MacBrien, a spectacularly situated climb, requiring one pitch of aid and offering some superb crack and slab climbing.

DOUG BURBANK

Logan Mountains. Hans Ueli Brunner, Paul Muggli and I left Switzerland in early June for the Logan Mountains. On June 19 to 21 climbed the Frost route on Lotus Flower Tower with much snow, though the conditions on the face were good. We climbed the south ridge of Proboscis on June 24 in a single day, again with much snow and some dangerous cornices. On June 27 we made the first ascent of the west peak of Huey's Spire by its south face. Buckingham climbed the middle and east peaks. This was our most difficult climb. Two other Swiss, Edgar Oberson and Maurice Cochand, came in on the plane which flew us out on July 2. They climbed the Lotus Flower Tower but were weathered off other climbs.

RUEDI HOMBERGER, *Schweizer Alpen Club*

Baffin Island

Tirokwa, West Face. We were a small expedition, two people, Jill Lawrence and I. Our objective was the west face of Mount Thor, but after hearing of the Japanese team's bolting epic and subsequent failure, we turned to the west face of Tirokwa. This face abuts the unnamed westerly satellite peak and is a 4000-foot triangular cliff with a prominent central spur. The route takes a ramp cutting the lower face of the spur for 10 rope-lengths, then follows the crest of the spur for four pitches before traversing left onto the north flank of the spur for two pitches and climbing the centre of the north flank by a prominent crack system for 10 pitches to reach a saddle. We then followed the ridge of the spur for five pitches until it abuts the upper face and then climbed diagonally to the right for three pitches and finally for four pitches up easier rock to the summit. The route is on steep rock throughout, rather loose on the first four pitches. It is remarkably sustained at F6 to F8 with three pitches of F9 and three of fourth class. We used two pins for anchors and 2 nuts for direct aid to start the third pitch after the ramp. All other belays were from nuts. Climbing time was 15 hours. We descended the southwest ridge with two rappels in three hours.

PETER LIVESEY, *Alpine Club*

Mount Asgard, Northwest Face, Cumberland Peninsula, Baffin Island. In mid-July Pat Padden, Shary McVoy, Rick Sylvester, and I* were finally on our way to the unclimbed northwest face of Mount Asgard. Upon our arrival at the Eskimo village of Pangnirtung, we were met by Charlie Porter, who had similar ambitions to ours. After a week of waiting in Pangnirtung for a helicopter, we were eventually standing at the base of the 2000-foot northwest face of the twin summits of Mount Asgard. We had chosen an obvious dihedral slanting up to the left, the same line that had been attempted in 1972 by Doug Scott and party. After 250 feet of mixed free and aid climbing we placed a few bolts up to the left to another crack system. Deteriorating weather forced us down to Base Camp on Turner Glacier, where we spent the next five days in our tents as the storm raged outside. Pat and I were now out of time and food and so hiked out to Pangnirtung while Rick and Shary stayed on. Charlie Porter now showed up and joined Rick and Shary. By starting 80 feet to the right of the original start, they moved up, eventually penduluming into the main dihedral higher up, thus placing only 1 bolt. After getting two-thirds of the way, a bad snow storm forced them to retreat. By now Rick and Shary were going hungry from lack of food and had to hike out to Pangnirtung for more. Charlie elected to go up on the climb, completing the climb in stormy weather from September 1-10. Winter had now arrived in full force by dumping four feet of fresh snow on the mountains.

CRAIG MARTINSON, *North Star Mountaineers*

Cumberland Peninsula, Baffin Island. Maurice Dupont-Roc and his wife Andrée, Mme Martine Salembier, Mlle Martine Regnault, Charles Russignaga, Noël Humbert, Bernard Constantin, Patrice Bruner, the Swiss Hans Peter Duttler and I as leader spent 25 days on Cumberland Peninsula. We walked 120 miles, crossed countless swamps, rivers, sand and moraines. M. and Mme Dupont-Roc, Mme Salembier and Russignaga climbed Tête Blanche (7074 feet), the highest point on the island, from Camp III on an unnamed glacier between Turner and Highway Glaciers. This was a second ascent and the first female ascent. The approach and return were made by paddling up Summit and Glacier Lakes. Bruner, Duttler, Mlle Regnault, Constantin, Humbert and I from Summit Lake made the 8th ascent of Asgard, which measured 2070 meters (6792 feet) on my altimeter. Tirokwa Peak (c. 5900 feet) was given its 4th ascent by Constantin, Bruner, Russignaga, Humbert, M. and Mme Dupont-Roc, Mme Salembier and me. By a new route Bruner, Duttler, Constantin, Mme Salembier, Humbert, Mlle Regnault and I made the 4th ascent of Thor Peak (c. 5575 feet). In the course of a reconnaissance of the Merag

*Recipient of a grant from the A.A.C. Climbing Fellowship Fund.

Glacier, Mlle Regnault, Russignaga, M. Dupont-Roc and I made the 4th ascent of Moljnir. The twin summits of c. 5575-foot Munin and Hugin were climbed from Boot Col for the second time with a first descent from Hugin directly to the Fork Beard Glacier. Russignaga, Mlle Regnault, M. Dupont-Roc and I in 18 hours traversed the entire ridge from the Aiguille du Couchant to Munin, making the 8th ascent of the former, the 4th of Sleipnir and the 3rd of Munin. Duttle and Mme Salembier made the first ascent of a peak at the head of the Fork Beard Glacier.

JACQUES DURVILLE, *Club Alpin Français*

Peaks in Pangnirtung Pass Area. The Northumbria Baffin Island Expedition was composed of climbers from the northeast of England: Dave McDonald, Ken Rawlinson, Len Wilson, Dennis Lee, Steve Blake, Kevin McLane, George Simms and me. We arrived in Pangnirtung on June 20. The fjord was still blocked with broken ice and it was not until June 23 that we were able to travel up in two canoes. Base Camp was established near the foot of Mount Ulu. On June 24 McDonald, McLane, Rawlinson and Lee began an attempt on the 2500-foot-high north face of Ulu, taking a line to the left of the centre aiming for a prominent corner that appeared to lead to the summit. Both pairs reached about half-height over increasingly loose rock before the crack system faded out. Resolved not to use bolts for aid, they retreated. On June 27 McLane and Lee made the first ascent of the southeast ridge of the west summit of Turnweather, some 2500 feet of Grade IV climbing. McDonald and Simms made the first ascent of a peak three miles northeast of Turnweather, a straightforward climb on rock followed by a snow slope and a traverse between the twin peaks of the mountain. It is hoped to give this peak the Inuit name for Sentinel. Rawlinson and Blake made the first ascent of the central pillar of Overlord, a 42-pitch Grade VI route with two bivouacs. The pillar ended in a 300-foot snow slope leading to the summit. We took 11 days to carry food and equipment some 25 miles up the valley via Windy Lake to Summit Lake. The weather was consistently bad and we were weather-bound several days. On July 15 McDonald and McLane left for a large peak opposite Mount Thor on the west side of the Weasel Glacier. They reached the summit of their peak via a 3500-foot ice couloir. Climbing was consistently hard and the weather very bad. Unable to find an easy way off, they abseiled down the gully. We have applied to the Canadian government to name this mountain "Mount Northumbria." Other climbs were halted by bad weather.

RICHARD GODFREY, *England*

Canadian Rockies

Mount Queen Mary, Northeast Face. In the Royal Group of the Canadian Rockies, south of Assiniboine, Mount Queen Mary has a spectacular long ice face on its unnamed northeast hanging glacier. The face

was climbed this fall for the first time and apparently it was the second time the mountain had been climbed since the original ascent 53 years ago. After being chased out of the Palliser Pass area by a snowstorm, Doug McCarty, Jim Kanzler, and I drove to Canal Flat for an entry via the Kootenay and Albert drainages, where a new logging road put a British Columbia approach into a different perspective. A day of elk trails and open forest took us to a spectacular camp spot under the face, close to the ice. September 21 was as perfect as the previous two days had been, and the crampon climb up the 2600-foot face went well. The low sun angle of the season kept the surface temperature low, and therefore ice screws bit beautifully. A final summit pitch up the rock castle, plastered with fresh snow, was best done with crampons on. It was so warm on the summit (10,600 feet) that we nearly fell asleep for an hour before beginning the descent by the same route; the original route was plastered with new snow, and in any event appeared loose, distasteful and not at all easy. Climbers in search of new areas to visit will find the Royal Group has some rewarding possibilities.

FRED BECKEY

South Twin, King Edward and Sundial. In July and August I spent 18 days alone around the headwaters of the Athabasca River. Seeing the view from the top of Wooley Shoulder, I hoped to climb the regular route on Mount Alberta. Two days later in a storm, with 800 feet of terrifying rotten rock below me and 1000 feet more above, I reconsidered. The next day I traversed the wide ledge that runs along the base of the Twins at 7500 feet. From a camp on the ledge I climbed South Twin via a long couloir leading to the false (west) summit. This route might offer a better descent from North Twin than going over Stutfield Peak, being easier to find in a storm (the top of the couloir is obvious just west of the minor summit) and having the tedious but safe ledge. In the couloir I had the choice of steep, slushy snow or rotten rock. That night it began to rain, bringing to an end the longest stretch (two days) of good weather on the trip. There were several short breaks in the drizzle that week in which I climbed the northwest ridge of Mount King Edward, another crumbling classic, and the north face of Sundial, a 500-foot snow and ice face with a beautiful shape. An attempt on the north face-northwest ridge of Mount Dais forced me farther and farther to the right until I ended up finishing the climb by the regular south-face route. I believe the South Twin, King Edward and Sundial climbs are new routes.

DANE WATERMAN

Mount Noyes. In late July, Jack Cade, Hugh Johnston, Pierre Lemieux and I met much of Clan Gmoser at the height of land near the extreme head of Porcupine Creek in the Murchison Group. We had spent the previous five days in the headwaters area of that stream making some

new ascents. One of these was an unnamed peak, 10,300 feet, which had previously been ascended only by the Dominion Survey. Our route was via the talus, scree and cliffs of the west buttress, descending by the much easier south ridge. Within a few feet of the very summit of this peak, an extensive deposit of frozen ground moraine covers the glacially polished bedrock to a depth of more than 20 feet. We exposed the polish at a fringe and noted that the direction of glacier movement was almost exactly parallel to the main line of the Canadian Rockies in this area. Hans Gmoser, with his father, brother and nephew, none of whom share his avocation or ability to speak English, joined us for a late lunch on the 25th after which we proceeded down the initially very steep valley of Noyes Creek into the teeth of an exceedingly stiff northwest wind and snow squalls. Hugh, Pierre and I set out early the next morning to ascend the north peak of Mount Noyes, hitherto unclimbed. Our route caused us to return to that height of land and the pass between the north fork of Silverhorn Creek and Noyes Creek. Thence, we ascended diagonally across the upper part of the glacier on the east side of the summits to the final rock cliffs. These were very easily scaled, and within four hours of leaving our camp we were rewarded with a fine view and diminishing winds.

WILLIAM L. PUTNAM

Tumbling Glacier, Kootenay Park. On September 6 Greg Spohr and I pitched a tent on the meadows just south of the glacier. To avoid crevasses, the next morning we skirted around the south side of the glacier, then traversed underneath the rock wall to arrive at the start of the prominent ice couloir. The too-warm weather caused a steady fall of ice chunks up to fist size. After deliberation we ran out a hasty pitch to a stance on the left side of the couloir under protecting rocks. From here a rapid traverse to the right brought us to safer ground and we now began to enjoy the climb. In fact, climbing conditions were better than expected thanks to the snow cover left by miserable August weather. We progressed rapidly through the middle section leading to the great ice bulge. Here a narrow gully to the left led up for three pitches, after which the angle eased. We soon arrived on a snowy platform for lunch. Another 40 minutes of easy climbing brought us to the summit of P 10,240 with a storm rapidly closing in. We descended a long snow gully leading down to the southwest, from where an excellent goat trail led back over the pass between P 10,240 and its southerly neighbor P 10,020. After a long descent followed by steep, strenuous bushwhacking, we finally reached in the last light the trail down by Numa Creek.

PETER ZVENGROWSKI, *Calgary Mountain Club*

Interior Ranges

Peaks near Mount Lunn, Northern Cariboos. After Wayne Misener,

Bill Robinson, Warren Thompson and I had driven in deteriorating weather to McBride, we drove along a well-maintained logging road 25 miles up Castle Creek to the road end at 3500 feet. From there we proceeded up the northwest fork of the creek through nearly impenetrable brush and insatiable mosquitoes for 3½ hours to the terminal moraine at the base of the icefields below Mount Lunn. From the north side of the moraine, despite rain, we ascended northwest up steep scree through more brush to timberline and Base Camp in a meadow at 7500 feet. After another rainy day we started in the fog at 9:30 A.M. traversing the glacier toward Mount Lunn, ascending a conspicuous knoll (Peak 1), a mile north of Lunn; Lunn is a 9280-foot rock easily visible from the valley. From Peak 1 we continued along the ridge over the snow-covered 9500-foot peak (Peak 2) behind and east of Lunn. From there we dropped down to Mount Lunn, where we erected a cairn and installed a register. We hoped to go on to P 8621 but got off route in the fog and ended up on the narrow rock and corniced ice ridge joining Lunn to P 9275. As it was too late to make a bid for the summit, we retraced our steps, seeing on the way that a 250-foot ice cliff separates the western ridge of Lunn from P 8621. On the second climbing day the weather was beautiful. We climbed the ridge west of Base Camp to the top of the closest peak (Peak 3; 2½ miles north of Lunn; 9020 feet). We continued to the southwest, dropping 100 feet and then ascending 40° ice to Peak 4 at 9200 feet. In a sweeping traverse we kept on west on the ridge 1½ miles to 9030-foot Peak 5. From there we traversed back dropping onto an adjacent glacier and another ridge some 2½ miles northeasterly. The ridge contained two small peaks, the larger of which was 8400 feet high.

RICHARD MITCHELL, *Mountaineers*

Leaning Towers Group, Southern Selkirks. Chuck Sink and I spent from July 16 to 25 near the Leaning Towers, east of Kootenay Lake. We were ferried across the lake to the outlet of Campbell Creek and the beginning of a 14-mile trek comprised mainly of brush, talus and snow slopes. Two days of tramping up Campbell Creek over and through these obstacles brought us to a pass southwest of the towers; we traversed around the headwaters of Pinnacle Creek and crossed a second pass south of the towers. From there we dropped down and traversed northeast to a dazzling blue-green lake nestled in a small cirque. We then ascended two ridges lying perpendicular to the Leaning Towers. These ridges were mainly gneiss and schist and afforded no major problems aside from the hazard of very loose talus on several of the six peaks climbed. These were Turok, Andar, P 9160, Heather, P 9500 and Mount Michael, all NCCS I, F3. Turning our efforts to the southwest, we ascended the spectacular northeast ridges of two granite peaks which required rope, chocks and free-climbing skill. (P 8600, NCCS II, F7; and P 8900, NCCS II, F9 via the east face to the crest of the northeast ridge and climbing left of a

huge gendarme before again regaining the crest.) We moved camp back to the headwaters of Pinnacle Creek and climbed a third sound granite peak of 8900 feet via snow up the northwest side to the west ridge. From the false summit we made a short rappel and climbed to the true summit in one more lead. NCCS II, F5. There were no cairns or evidence of ascents on any of these nine peaks although we could make out large cairns on the summits of the Leaning Towers.

ALAN J. KEARNEY

Snowpatch Spire, East Face, Deus ex Machina Route, Bugaboos. On August 4 to 6, 1974 Mike Jefferson, Dennis Saunders and I did this new route, beginning in an F9 off-width crack a few hundred feet north of the Chouinard route and directly below the north summit. We ascended the left side of a Yosemite-style exfoliation "pinnacle" for two pitches and then up the left of two parallel thin cracks (A3 and F8) to a hanging bivouac below the Ceilings. Two pitches later on some excellent large ledges we traversed left some 30 feet to cracks which led up to another good bivouac ledge. We stopped four hours before dark and watched gathering clouds, which later rained and hailed on us all night. Two more pitches of mixed climbing led to a black, dirty overhanging (140°) slot (A2, A3) followed by a fist-jam crack and another easy pitch to the summit. NCCS VI, F9, A2.

JOHN SHERVAIS

Mount Carmarthen, Southeast Buttress of Welsh Wall, North Star Area, Purcell Range. On July 3, William S. Nicolai, Patricia Johnson and I climbed this buttress from camp in the Welsh Lakes. The climb is accessible via the Centaurus Glacier in an hour and a half. It was five pitches on good Bugaboo granite. NCCS II, F7.

BRIAN L. BERRY

Mount Nelson, East Ridge, Southern Purcells. The east ridge of Mount Nelson is the most direct route to the summit starting from Paradise Mine. On June 23 Hans Gyr and I left the mine, followed the ridge and traversed along the southern slopes of Mount Trafalgar to gain the Trafalgar-Nelson col. From here mainly 3rd and 4th-class climbing on decomposed rock, with a short 5th-class pitch on a band of solid conglomerate rock near the top, led to the summit. The climb could conveniently be combined with a traverse of Trafalgar.

PETER ZVENGROWSKI, *Calgary Mountain Club*

Coast Range

P 8815 and P 8798, Niut Range. On January 29 Kreig McBride and I made the first winter ascents of P 8815 and P 8798. The latter lies east of the former and both are due west of Tatlayoko's northern end. We

climbed from an igloo camp in the basin immediately north, culminating a three-day snowshoe approach. We ascended a 1000-foot couloir and boulder-hopped to the col between the peaks. The east peak was climbed via snow gullies and ridges on the southwest side and the west peak by its eastern ridge. Both peaks had been previously ascended from the col by helicopter-borne survey parties and from the lake by McBride and David Shannon in the summer of 1971.

DAVID TUCKER, *Larrabee Domino Club*

Mount Waddington from the North. From July 18 to August 3, Mike Warburton and I traversed the Coast Range from east to west via the Tiedemann and Franklin Glaciers and climbed the north ridge of Mount Waddington by a new route. We approached the range by plane from Campbell River. While on our way in to Ephemeron Lake, we airdropped some of our supplies at Rainy Knob. It then took us one and a half days to reach Rainy Knob via Nabob Pass and the Tiedemann Glacier. In one day from Rainy Knob we took most of our food up to the Waddington-Combatant Col via the right side of the upper Tiedemann Glacier and returned. In the next seven days there were three days of good climbing weather and four days of storm, but it was enough for us to ascend the Bravo Icefall and headwall to Bravo Col, thence to the bergschrund under the main rock tower. On July 27 from our snow cave under the main rock tower, we ascended the northeast face to the first big notch on the north ridge. We bypassed the large overhanging ice bulge by traversing up and left on the face and then followed the north ridge to the summit across the gap the Steck party encountered in 1950. We descended via the regular southeast chimney rappel route and arrived back at our snow cave in darkness. It had been an exciting long day. On July 28 we returned to the Waddington-Combatant Col by following a direct northeast line on snow. A hanging glacier near the bottom of this route presented unexpected difficulties. In retrospect we were lucky to get down to the col this way. On July 29, to get off the col, we down-climbed the rock buttress which splits the upper Scimitar Glacier. Some rappels and uneasy moments near the bottom of the icefall made for a memorable day. That night we camped near the sharp bend in the Scimitar underneath Fury Gap. The weather worsened as we ascended the far west side of the glacier up to Fury Gap and then shifted over to the east side of the gap to descend on to the upper Franklin. A three-day storm then pounded us as we struggled along the Franklin Glacier to reach its snout and then along the north side of the Franklin River to the logging camp at Knight Inlet. Alec Dalgleish's memorial cairn at Icefall Point and an encounter with a grizzly along the abandoned (washed out) logging road to Knight Inlet highlighted this part of our trip.

R.D. CAUGHRON

Mount Waddington, New Route. During July Dave Mention and I climbed Mount Waddington by a new variation. Other party members were Tim Riordan, Jack Tackle and Dave Brunk. We approached the mountain by the Franklin Glacier, with Base Camp on the Dias Glacier. Tim and Jack attempted the south face. Rockfall and an oncoming storm forced retreat. Upon their return, Dave and I packed to climb. Our route ascended a couloir, just left of the south face, to the northwest ridge. Then via the Angel Glacier we climbed the false summit and descended to a point where we traversed the main pinnacle along its northern base. The main pinnacle was climbed in storm via the southeast chimney. Deep snow with white-out conditions made our descent down the southeast ridge and over the col south of Spearman Peak difficult. Our traverse of Mount Waddington took 6½ days from Base Camp.

JEFF JONES, *unaffiliated*

GREENLAND

Ketil and Other Peaks, Tasermit Fjord. During August a group of French climbers led by F. Guillot explored peaks around Koromint valley (Kimukât on the 250,000 map). We arrived at Narsarsuaq airport on July 23, helicoptered to Nanortalik and traveled by fishing boat to Koromint. Base Camp was on the shore of the fjord. Until April 17, when the boat returned, the climbers M. Agier, B. and M.F. Amy, P. Chapoutot, B. Domenech, B. Gorgeon, F. Guillot, J.F. and C. Lemoine, Cl. Laurendeau, M. Perrotet, J. Ratti and J. Walter made several reconnaissances and nine new routes, all alpine-style. We made the following climbs: Pointe de la RDVN (P 1500; 4922 feet) by west ridge, 1650 feet of TD sup; Nalumasortok (2051 meters; 6729 feet) by south col and east ridge; Nalumasortok by south face, 3300 feet of TD; Suikagssuak East (The Horn; 1880 meters; 6168 feet) by north couloir and west ridge, 2625 feet of D sup; Suikagssuak North (1830 meters; 6004 feet) by east couloir and ridge, 3300 feet of D; Ketil, P 2010 of the three Pingasut; 6595 feet) by direct south face, 3300 feet of TD sup, new route, 2nd ascent of the mountain on August 5 and 6, descent by different route; Pingasut Central (1640 meters; 5380 feet) by east ridge, AD; Itikiklik Dome (1945 meters; 6382 feet) by west side, D; P 1680 (5512 feet) by west slope. The rock was generally good, except for spots where frost or lichen had disintegrated the granite. The weather was good with short rainy periods; it changes so slowly that it does not cause precipitous retreats. There are still many other excellent groups of mountains to be explored.

BERNARD AMY, *Club Alpin Français*

Apostelens Tommel Finger and Ketil, West Face, South Greenland. A French expedition led by Maurice Barrard accomplished two extremely