

# UP ROPE!

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Vol. 1, No. 8.

February 21, 1945

## In All Seriousness

The meeting was last Friday night at Eleanor Tatge's. The members (?) present numbered 13. The program was one of utter seriousness and was conducted with long faces and an occasional hushed reference to the rules of Parliamentary order.

Minutes of old meetings were ransacked to discover if our Club is a part of the Trail Club, if we have a name, and finally, if we have a club. The decision was reached that we are the Rock Climbing Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, but that by agreement of the Trail Club Council our membership is not restricted to Trail Club members. This situation was discussed, and arguments were presented pro and con. (We're not quite sure pro and con what.) However no action was taken to settle the arguments because of another unanswered question: Who can vote?

### PICTURE SHOW

Mon. Feb. 26--8 PM

at the Clark's

1511 Franklin St. NE-HO 1178

A voter, obviously, should also be a member. A member is supposed to be elected. More hurried searching of old documents occurred and a hasty election was held at which the following long-time impostors were duly installed as members: Arthur Lembeck, Ruth and Bill Schlecht, Frieda Kunze, Arnold Wexler, Jan and Herb Conn.

A committee was appointed by the Chairman to draw up a questionnaire, to be presented for discus-

sion at the next business meeting, which will then be distributed to each and every member, guest, impostor, and rock climber of the club. This questionnaire will be designed to find out (A) Who is qualified to vote, and (B) What are the current opinions regarding future policies and procedures.

This will all be very enlightening, but how, it was asked, will it affect rock climbing? The answer is, of course--It won't.

The following are other, more down-to-earth, bits of information which we gleaned from the meeting:

## Carderock Trips Scheduled

It was decided to schedule definitely one trip to Carderock per month. Those of us who can not make the 8 a.m. muster at the Hot Shoppe will then know that they can go to Carderock later in the day with the assurance of finding fellow climbers. If transportation happens to be available some of the group may still journey to more distant rocks, but the Chairman will be responsible for someone being at Carderock on that Sunday.

The first such scheduled trip to Carderock will be March 11.

## Mountain Pictures

Chris Scoredos reported that the pictures shown by Larry Gage at a meeting of the Trail Club on February 15 are some of the finest mountain shots he has seen. They are of the Canadian Rockies in the vicinity of Lake Louise.

## Camping Equipment Exhibit

On the evening of March 1 the Camping Equipment Committee of the

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of which Leo Scott is chairman, will preside at the PATC open house, at 808 17th Street NW, 7 to 10 P.M. If you are interested in anything from rucksacks to tick-bite preventatives it will be worth your while to see the exhibition.

### Hostel Trip

Chris has agreed to lead a group of the American Youth Hostellers on a rock climbing trip March 18 or 25. Any others of our group who wish to assist Chris are welcome to join the party. The definite date and place will be announced later.

### Climbing Shoes

We quote from a letter received by Chris Scoredos from Van Degrift's Ski Hut, 717 W. 7th St., Los Angeles 14, California:

"Replying to your inquiry, we have the tricouni edge and heel edge nails at 12.5 cents each, and the tricouni center nails at 7.5 cents each. The first of these... are made for soles of 13 mm. or 15 mm. in thickness...."

"In climbing shoes, we have a mountaineering shoe at \$13.50, which is made of about the same quality as a ski boot, but with the usual rounded toe for walking. It has a heavy double sole, and outside counter, and comes in the right thickness of sole for the tricouni edge nails."

The letter also mentions that army knapsacks, army shelter halves, and sleeping bags are available. For details see Chris.

### Ups and Downs

February 11, 1945

Eleanor Tatge  
Polly Luck  
Bob Stephens

Altho the rock climbing party this day was of small proportions, great deeds were accomplished. The day was bright and sunny with a hint of spring-to-come in the air. Polly and Eleanor enjoyed a few twirls on ice skates at the Carde-rock skating rink. At the cliffs ankle-deep mud was encountered

thruout the climbing area. Drier ground was found at the Easter Egg Cliffs. The river, which had been frozen solidly across the week before at this point, was now only partially covered from each bank by a thin shell of ice. A couple simple climbs warmed up the trio to trying the Green Easter Egg Climb upstream from Jan's Waterloo. After Eleanor and Bob made the ascent in hobs, Polly, whose hobnails were pretty well worn down, took off her shoes and tried a stocking-footed climb, but she promptly tore a big hole in each of her hand-knitted socks on the sharp rock edges, and had to descend. However, she inspired Eleanor to the first barefoot climb of the season. The most interesting part of the climb, Eleanor reports, was the wide ledge near the top thickly padded with cold, squashy black mud.

Don Hubbard  
Fitz Clark  
Leo Scott

Arnold Wexler  
Leonard Bolz

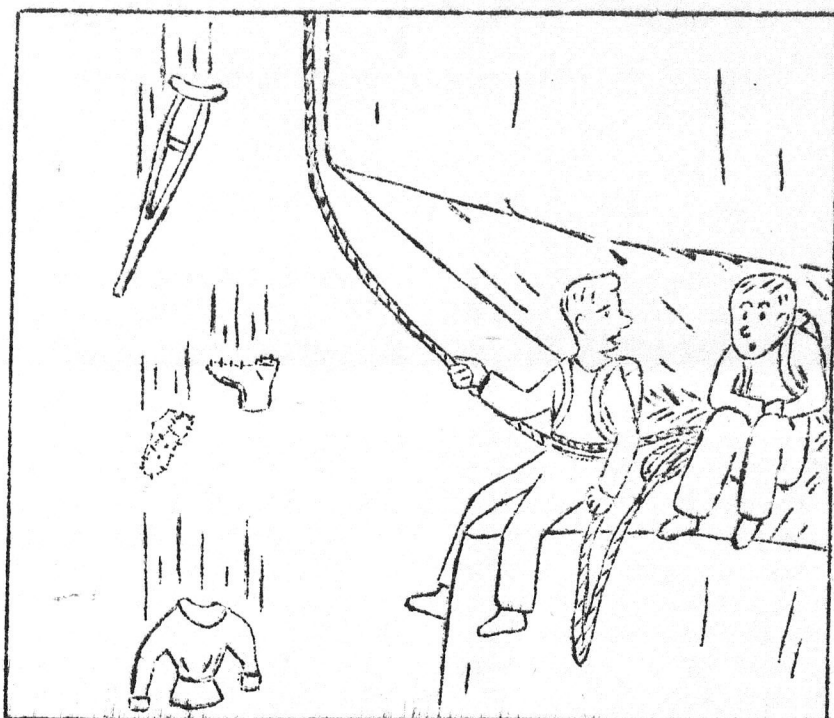
It is reported that the boat-rescuing expeditions of the last few weeks have at last achieved success. This Sunday's crew with the aid of a 300-foot steel cable and 350 feet of rope moved the Clark boat to a safe mooring place where it is now held attached to the cable. The condition of the boat can scarcely be called the best, but at least it is saved from certain destruction.

February 18, 1945

Don Hubbard  
Jan Conn  
Eleanor Tatge

Fitz Clark  
Arnold Wexler  
Herb Conn

The Never-Say-Die group of inveterate Sunday climbers headed this bright sunny day for Prospect Rock, Virginia. They found the Potomac merrily bubbling its way between deeply snow-laden banks. The morning was spent investigating a group of relatively low rocks downstream from Prospect Rock itself. In spite of cold handholds and wet sneakers some interesting climbs were made. Two faces were worked on particularly: Herb and Jan climbed a delicate stretch on the right hand face; and Fitz and Arnold negotiated a strenuous pitch on the left hand face. Herb as-



"It must be getting tough up ahead!"

cended the left hand face also by a different route. Much of the climbing was ropeless scrambling because the only rope present was Herb's long one and Arnold's 60-foot piece. Eleanor distinguished herself on a ropeless scramble down the cliff below the base of operations, where she pushed a foothold, consisting chiefly of frozen leaves and dirt, thru the chimney below her and thereby marooned herself until Fitz threw her the end of Arnold's short rope and effected a rescue.

After lunch on the sunny side of the rocks the trip towards Prospect Rock was continued. The Rock was circumnavigated, and the Maryland shore directly opposite and the intervening islands were viewed with considerable interest as the scene of previous Club excursions. On the route home time off was taken to investigate the abandoned gold mine near by, or rather the surface equipment of the mine. Much fool's gold was discovered, but none of the genuine article.

### Monday Movies

The long-awaited Mt. Hayes movies will be shown next Monday at the Clark's. Andy Kauffman will give an illustrated lecture on Peru.

### Dam

The Army Engineers have spent a lot of time and money developing a plan for damming the Potomac and its branches just about every place that cliffs are found. The electric power developed is supposed to pay for the construction costs. Every one wishing to buy this power so he can sit in front of his television set and watch other people do interesting things, should write to

Chief of Engineers  
War Department  
1st & Douglas St., NW  
Washington, D.C.  
Tel.: HObart 8000

urging its adoption. Those who like the rocks and rapids should write more emphatically and promptly opposing it.

Paul Bradt

### Editorial Relocation

In case you have anything to write to UP ROPE, please note the change of address shown in the box at the foot of Page 1; in case you have anything to say, please note the change of telephone number in the same box.