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UP ROPE!

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

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July 25, 1945

Vacation Time

With midsummer comes the time when many of the local climbers have the opportunity to pursue their hobby in loftier surroundings than the Potomac rocks. Despite transportation difficulties this summer, a number of ambitious ventures have been planned. Let the high peaks be warned: The invasion of the Washington rock climbers is under way.

Armchair Climbing

The date for an evening of picture showing has been tentatively set for Thursday, August 9. Kathleen Culverwell has offered the use of her home for the evening.

We hope to see several reels of climbing movies taken by Chuck Haworth, which have not yet been shown to the group. Steve Yurenka has some kodachromes which he has

☆ Pictures ☆

Thurs. Aug. 9--8PM
at Kathleen Culverwell's

6005 Welborn Drive
Wood Acres, Md.
OL 0215

Late this week the Kauffmans and Lee Sosman will leave for a month's climbing in the Selkirks of British Columbia. They plan to storm the rock, snow, and ice wilderness near Glacier Circle. The Kauffmans regard the trip as renewing an old acquaintance with the Selkirks. Bill Kemper expects to attend the outing of the Colorado Mountain Club August 11-19 in the vicinity of the 14,000-foot Mt. Snowmass. Chuck Haworth, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for 10 days on business, hopes to spend a day or two rock climbing on the faces and needles of the Sandia Range 15 miles northeast of Albuquerque. The Scoredoses hope to visit the Wind River Range in Wyoming. Later in August plans are shaping up for a week or two of climbing on the rock walls of Mount Katahdin, Maine.

You know how it is. When the bug bites you, you gotta go.

agreed to show. Any one having or knowing of other pictures which the group might be interested in seeing, please speak up. This is the opportunity for a grand evening of "spectator climbing."

In order to reach the Culverwells' by public transportation, take a No. 20 streetcar to Glen Echo, then walk 1 mile in a generally easterly direction up Massachusetts Avenue Extended, making a left turn on Welborn Drive. An alternate route follows Massachusetts Avenue from town by the H2 Westmoreland Circle bus (the Cross-town or Irving Street bus) to the end of the line. Welborn Drive is over a mile out Massachusetts beyond the circle. Recognizing that we are rock climbers and not hikers we suggest that those fortunate enough to still have cars and gas extend what help they can.

Editors: Jan & Herb Conn
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Ups and Downs

July 15, 1945

Don Hubbard
Laura Jones
Eleanor Tatge

Jan Conn
Herb Conn

On a dank and dismal morning rock climbing women again displayed a hardiness above and beyond the men-folk by outnumbering them 3 to 2. Don, Laura, and Eleanor arrived at Carderock first, and immediately tackled the traverse of the unnamed corner just upstream from the beginning of the Chris-Wex-Don, which gave Don a nice exciting lead over wet slippery rock. When the Conns arrived a consultation was held resulting in their traipsing over to the Jam Box to do climbing under as dry circumstances as possible, while Don took his team for a boat ride over the Stubblefield Rapids. Don buttoned up his long raincoat, put on his rubbers, pulled his hat down, Laura put on a hat and a short raincoat, Eleanor tucked packs away from the rain under a rock, and off the trio went in the bounding Sink Stopper. The first trip over the rapids was so exciting that the three, after emptying out the ambitious wave that had tried to swamp them, went up the Virginia shore to the head of the rapids for another run. After re-embarking, it was found that the SS had lost the patch off the hole in the pontoon. Laura put her hand over the hole, Eleanor manned the pump, Don rowed with expertness and vigor. At the crucial moment a big wave hit, over went the boat, and into the foaming cataract went its occupants. Minutes later the dripping crew found themselves sitting once more inside the SS, Laura with her hand over the hole, Eleanor pumping, Don still clad in raincoat and rubbers rowing determinedly for the Maryland shore; and the rain unabated as ever. After a sloppy walk up the towpath lunch with Jan and Herb at the Jam Box was genuinely appreciated. The Conns had found the Jam Box as wet as anything else, but when Herb fell Jan gave him a vigorous ride down designed to shake the water from his clothing. Since the rain showed no signs of stopping, the group set off for the automobiles. As soon as they arrived at their cars all

wet and bedraggled and ready for home, the rain quit, and the remainder of the evening was dry and pleasant for the homeward trip.

July 22, 1945

Don Hubbard
Herb Conn
Jan Conn
L.H. Maxwell
Mary Neilan
Dave Prudden
Bill Kemper

Honeylou Kundin
Betty Kauffman
Andy Kauffman
Arnold Wexler
Lee Sosman
Eleanor Tatge

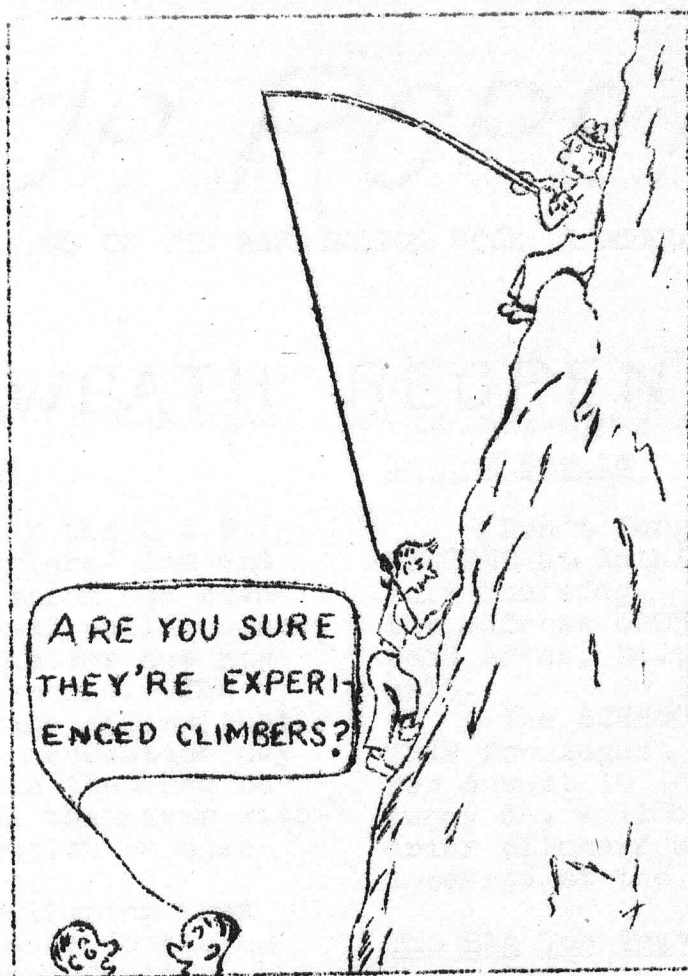
After a little warm-up climbing, two groups were formed. Don, Honeylou, Max, and Dave headed for the Chris-Wex-Don. A second group worked on the Big Stretch, which was successfully climbed in reverse (or unstretched) by Herb, Jan, Arnold, and Bill. About mid-morning Jan and Herb were rowed to Herzog by Mary, who then joined Bill, Arnold, and Eleanor at the Jack-knife and Lazy Daisy. Lunch was eaten principally in caves due to a sudden shower.

After lunch while Arnold and Bill worked on the Chris-Wex-Don and the Conns were still on Herzog, Mary, Eleanor and Don started downstream in the Sink Stopper, and the remainder of the group went city ward.

On Herzog Jan and Herb made the first ascents of Leonard's Tension Corner without the complications of pitons, carabiners, and a 2-man belay. Having read in the last UP ROPE of a "good face climb" midway on the face traverse they climbed what they hope but doubt was Sterling's and Chuck's climb of 2 weeks before. Don, Mary, and Eleanor had a wonderful trip to the Georgetown Feeder, punctuated by rapids, blue herons, rocks and tree stumps, and a fish. Don caught the fish with no other aid than a glove on his hand. After he cleaned it, it furnished a nice pair of fillets of about a pound each, which the UP ROPE staff heartily enjoyed for Monday dinner.

Bird's Nest Climb (A-8) and (B-11).

This climb is on one of the highest sections of the cliffs between Great Falls, Virginia, and Echo Cliffs. Mid-way between the stone quarry and Juliet's Balcony, is a 50-foot vertical inside corner closed at the top by a severely overhanging shelf. The climb is an



"A" as a lead, a "B" with a rope from above. It has been variously known as the 2, the 5, and the 6-piton lead. In the corner generous use of the "opposition of forces" principle brings the climber above the bulge in the cliff. Simple face technique on the upstream wall then carries him on to the bird's nest corner, directly under the overhang. Here he traverses right, using under hand holds in a crack below the overhang and small footholds on the face below. The footholds give out in the critical position. At the same spot the angle of the face increases sharply, but continued use of the under-layback will carry the climber one step farther. His hand can now reach around the corner of the overhanging block and pull him up into the final easy pitch to the summit.

In August 1942 Paul Bradt led the pioneer work upon this climb. Don Hubbard, later in the day, first completed the climb with a rope from above, using a piton and carabiner in the undercut crack for artificial aid. Don, Chris Scoredos, Arnold Wexler, and Sterling Hendricks, on June 4, 1944, set up this climb as a piton lead using 6 pitons, and Chris made the first lead with one slip and a

masterly recovery from the layback. Arnold followed Chris to the top. Dolores Alley is to date the only woman who has made the climb.

V-Mail

The Bradts received the following from Charlie Daniels:

"Friday the 13th

Dear Paul and Jo:

Here I sit several thousand miles away wondering how I can get an anniversary greeting to you before tonite. Guess it can't be done. Maybe I can celebrate with you in a couple of years. Also I want to see Alan. Can he chin one hand yet? He'll have to effn as how he wants to follow his Daddy around. From what I hear and read, this decrepit correspondent will be reduced to keeping the poison ivy away from the climbing spots of the young 'uns. I've been in flat jungles so long that I talk to the coconut palms--and lately, some of them have been talking back. Please say hello to the crew for me.

Cheerio,

C."