



NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

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FOUNDED BY
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SHADOWS OF THINGS TO COME

May 30-June 1. Seneca Rocks. Leader: Johnnie Reed.

Same signals as last time. Arrange your own carfuls and commissaries. Plan to camp out, probably on the Armentrout's farm. Be prepared for caving in the event of unfavorable weather. Johnnie will be away all week, so do not try to call him. If you need help with transportation or further information, call Peg Keister (OL 2078, or OL 1400, ext. 2011).

June 12, at ? P.M. - Sylvan Theater. Arnold Wexler will lecture and show his Kodachromes of mountain climbing in British Columbia. Don't miss this opportunity.

June 15. Bull Run Mountain, Va. Leader: Peg Keister. Meet at the Hot Shoppe as usual, but please, let's make an effort to leave promptly at 8:30 or earlier.

EVEREST IN '52?

At this very moment, several parties are in the area around Everest. Any day now we may have exciting news about the latest assaults on this giant and other nearby peaks. Several interesting articles have recently appeared in the London Times and Manchester Guardian concerning this year's Himalayan expeditions. There is also an article in the May 8 Mugelnoos by Harry C. James, who had the pleasure of hearing Eric Shipton talk at the British Alpine Club recently.

Shipton is leading a party whose objective this year is Oho Oyu (26,750), the sixth highest peak in the world, located some twenty miles west of Everest. This expedition is in part a training period for the assault on Everest which they hope to make next year. His party includes three New Zealanders with Himalayan experience: Hillary and Riddiford, who were on last year's reconnaissance, and Lowe, who was with the N.Z. Expedition earlier in the year; the others are: Evans, of Tilman's Annapurna expedition; Bourdillon, of last year's trip; Secord, Canadian born, veteran of three Karakoram trips; Gregory and Colledge, with much Alpine experience. Dr. L.G.C. Pugh, of the Medical Research Council Labs, is accompanying the party to conduct physiological studies at high altitude. The party intends to try out new light-weight oxygen equipment developed by the Royal Aircraft Establishment, the

EVEREST (cont.)

R.A.F. Institute of Aviation Medicine, and the aeronautical industries.

Two weeks ahead of Shipton's party, a strong Swiss group also went into Nepal, destination Everest, to attempt the route from the great cwm, scouted last year by Shipton. The expedition is being led by Dr. Wyss-Dunant, and Rene Dittert is designated as the leader of the assault party. Other members: Lombard (geologist), Zimmerman (botanist), Andre Roche, Aubert, Lambert, Flory, Asper, Chevally and Hofstetter. This group has been climbing together as a team for some time. The Swiss also plan to experiment with new equipment, including a "third lung" or small aluminum Oxygen flask, reindeer hide boots, inflatable rubber sleeping bags for emergency camps, etc. There is a distinct all-out tone to Roche's account of their plans.

There are also vague reports of a government-sponsored Russian party of 150 climbing from the Tibet side. Much speculation is going on as to what the nature of this attack will be. Some fear a mechanized assault, and some express the fear that, should the Russians succeed, they might not be honest in reporting any evidence they might find that Mallory and Irvine had reached the top in 1924.

Whatever the outcome, this should be an exciting year in mountaineering history.

UNDERGROUND GLACIER

The N.S.S. News, April, 1952, contains a letter from A.D. Therrein, calling attention to an article in L'Illustre, for Sept. 20, 1951, entitled "Decouverte d'un Glacier Souterrain en Suisse." The gist of the article is given in the letter as follows: "Two guides, Glatthard and Otth, have just uncovered the secret of Hasliberg. This mountain contains an underground glacier! Entrance is through a hole about a yard square in the woods near the hamlet Hohfluh. Just below the surface a cold wind is felt. To descend into the vast caverns requires mountain climbers equipment. The reporters (of L'Illustre) were assisted by guides and members of the Sursee branch of the Swiss Speleological Society. After going down about 200 feet their crampons.... struck ice. Ice formations were like stalactites and stalagmites, and they even found a frozen waterfall by means of a rope ladder."

WANTED.- INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF a small luminous fly larva (O.K., a "worm" to you laymen, a Mycetophilid to any biologist who happens to read this) which makes its home in shady damp places such as cave entrances, rocks around springs or waterfalls, etc. Dr. William McElroy of Johns Hopkins and Dr. John Buck of NIH are very anxious to find this elusive beast, which they have reason to believe occurs in the mountains of Virginia and West Virginia. The animal is about a centimeter long, less than a millimeter in diameter, more or less transparent, and it spins a sticky web. It is best found at night, because of its luminescence, which is of a distinctly bluish color. It occurs in damp dark places not subject to flooding.

If any of you speleologists, campers or midnight hikers have chanced to see such an insect, or should come across one in the future, the above named would be very glad to hear about it. Do not attempt to bring specimens back, as they require refrigeration for safe transport. Just note the location, please, and report to the Editor, or to John Buck or Dr. McElroy.

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UPS AND DOWNSMay 11. Great Falls, Va.

Jan Conn
 Alice Marshall
 Tommy Marshall

Louise Marshall
 Mrs. Marshall's mother

Johnnie Reed
 Chris Scoredos
 Jonathan Wittenberg

A rather rainy Sunday, with many of the regular climbers farther afield. This group gathered at the Birds Nest, which Jan, Chris, and Johnnie climbed. Johnnie also led a traverse in this general vicinity. Rain in the afternoon cut short their operations.

May 18. Carderock, Md.

Joan Ascher
 John Brehm
 Susie Broome
 Jim Bullard
 Duncan Burchard
 JAN CONN
 Joe Costello
 Beth Galt

Marion Harvey
 Jerry Jankowitz
 George Kamm
 Walt Kane
 Andy Kauffman
 Betty Kauffman
 Peg Keister
 Alice Marshall

Tommy Marshall
 Wade Marshall
 Ray Moore
 Gerry Morgan
 Ruth Rickers
 Frank Sauber
 Hans Scheltema
 Chris Scoredos

Eric Scoredos
 Helen Scoredos
 Johnny Scoredos
 Pat Shaw
 Murray Shear
 Tony Soler
 Arnold Wexler

Having extracted a promise from Jan that she would join us later in the day, this mob set off for Carderock, and lined up some dozen or more cars at the parking place. By some miracle the bridge over the canal held up, and we all reached the lunch spot safely, and ready for activity.

Andy and Betty took over beginners Ruth, Beth and Murray for instruction in knots, climbing techniques and safe belaying, while the rest of the group scattered all up and down Jungle Cliffs and along the river from the Crossover to the Jambox. Once again, we can't hope to report all the climbs made, but must try to hit the high - or, in some cases, the low - spots. Just about everything except Herbie's Horror was at least attempted (you're slipping, Jim).

Quite a large group seemed interested in Jan's Face - perhaps, as some one remarked - in honor of Jan's being with us. The route from the detached rock at the right was climbed by numerous people, with varying degrees of elegance and "finesse". Of those trying the "B" climb, from the center bottom, only Joe, a comparative newcomer to the group, succeeded. Frank led a party on the Golden Stairs, and later, with Andy and Betty, did the Jackknife. Hans made his first attempt at leading, on the ChrisWexDon, seconded by Gerry.

Most of the excitement for the day centered around Leonard's Lunacy and the Jambox. On the former, Ray provided a thrill by peeling off and taking two pitons with him. Tony repaid past support on Devil's Tower by catching him neatly before he hit bottom. The Jambox got worked over by quite a few people. Marion is reported to have made a noble attempt to reenact Tony's famous pivot on the only successful ascent of this climb ever made. Shortly thereafter, Duncan succeeded in knocking off the foothold which Tony had used so effectively, so the Jambox is now a new climb, even for Tony.

Helen, in Peg's extra sneakers, made several climbs, including Sterling's Crack. Returning the sneakers, Helen said that they were "educated", as they got her up the latter climb successfully. Peg wonders why her educated sneakers do for others what they won't do for her. Perhaps it is just confirmation of the old saying, that those who can't do, teach. Jan also climbed Sterling's Crack, with such ease and grace that others of us, who should have known better, were inspired to try once more. Most of them came swinging off in short order. Jan also gave a beautiful demonstration on the Swayback Layback, in hopes, she said, of falling off something before she left. She didn't, of course, but managed to take a very short tumble off

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the Barnacle Face, which she used as her means of descent without a rope (not recommended for anyone else).

As so often happens, someone got the urge to work on the Spiderwalk just as we were preparing to leave. There were the usual number of rapid descents. Arnold strolled up it to the first resting place, then, as Jan remarked, "Aw shucks, he's making it. I hoped he'd give us a thrill by falling off," Arnold leaped off into space. We got our thrill all right, but Jan was on the job with her dynamic belay, and, aw shucks, he landed safely.

Ten of us gathered at Arnold's that evening for the rare treat of hearing Jan's songs. Her concert was interrupted only by the feast which past as "supper", and by the activities of the deticking committee, which had plenty to do after a May day at Carderock.

We are planning to publish in the near future a new directory of members and UP ROPE subscribers. If you have changed your address or phone number lately, or if you have reason to think that we do not have this information in its correct and entire form, please write or phone same to either Jean Burnstad or Peg Keister as soon as possible.

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We hear that Jan and Herb climbed Devil's Tower again this fall. Superintendent McIntyre had orders from Washington to remove all pitons from the Durrance route, so Jan and Herb obliged. Can't understand why they left the pitons in the Soler route, can you? This sounded like exciting news or good copy to us, so we tried to extract an account from Jan, but she merely remarked, "Oh, it was just the same old thing, you know."

Os and Frances Heard are planning to stop off to visit the Lembecks on their trip west this summer. Win writes that Art has done a little climbing recently with the S.C. rockclimbers at both Stoney Point and Pacifico and climbed Owens Peak with the Desert Peak Section, but that a large part of his tan has been acquired while cutting the grass. We bet he sings "Don't hold me down," while tending the yard.