EDITOR'S CORNER
by John Robinson

This month chairman Bud is away on an Alaskan expedition so I'm borrowing his column for a few words.

We are continually thinking of ways to make the Echo more than the ordinary run-of-the-mill news sheet. One way we believe would make the paper more interesting is to stimulate more comments and articles by more members. In this issue you will find write-ups by several SPSers who haven't written for the paper before. By broadening the base of our reporting we hope to avoid getting into that all-too-familiar "rut". Many of you readers have gone places and climbed things we'd like to hear about.

Another way we hope to improve the Echo is by the addition of features other than straight reporting. The "SPS Forum" introduces controversy which should provide a stimulus to healthy thinking on various important questions. In the past humor has been included in our cartoons. This month, however, Bud is (Cont. Column 3)

OFFICIAL SPS CALL
by Bill Sanders

OH 740-00

It has been decided by various officers and members of the SPS that an official call should be adopted. The call suggested appears above.

This call has long been the faithful stand-by of the founder and most stalwart member of the section - Frank Sanborn.

This call may be used to get the attention of other members of the party, to identify ones whereabouts, or to express ones sheer exuberance.

There are several reasons for the adoption of this call:

One might judge from observing the principle adherent of this call that it develops in one a deep and resonant basso profundo.

Once this tone has been attained this call can be heard reverberating among the cliffs in pleasant fashion and can be easily heard over long distances.

A distinctive call like this identifies the caller as an SPS member and avoids the possibility of the caller being mistaken for a member of another party.

The emphasis on the "o" in this call is a distinct advantage. For it has long been said that this sound of all sounds is most attractive to other persons. Indeed, it is reputed to have mystical or even romantic qualities.

For verification of this fact your attention is called to the principle adherent of this call and particularly to an event in which he was involved in July of this year.

Let's all take heed then, that when the deep reverberating profundo of this chant is heard echoing off Sierra walls it means a Sierra Peaker is somewhere joyously engaging in self-exuberance.

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EDITOR (Continued)
gone and I'm no artist. Bill Sanders has written up the "SPS Call" for your enjoyment.

In these & other ways we're trying to make the paper more to your liking. We've got a long way to go, but we hope we're heading in the right direction.

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SPS FORUM #1 by John Robinson

Question of the Month: SHOULD THE SPS SCHEDULE TRIPS THAT INVOLVE CLASS 3 CLIMBING?

The question has been raised & discussed on several recent trips as to whether climbs such as Abbot and Middle Palisade should be included by your section. These peaks are not technical rock climbs, but they do involve climbing above ordinary hiking and scrambling. The Climbers' Guide fits them in a special category called 3rd Class climbing. The Sierra is full of outstanding peaks involving class 3 of highly varying amounts, and one can get neither his emblem nor all the 14000ers (The 2 big goals for Sierra Peakers) without a certain amount of it.

The main point in the affirmative viewpoint is that class 3 climbing is a must in order to really enjoy the Sierra. Rule out 3rd Class and you rule out the Palisades, Ritter, Lyle, Abbot, and many other outstanding peaks. Only in the Whitney area do you find class 2 routes up most of the major peaks. Class 3 is not dangerous if a climber is careful & in good physical condition.

The negative viewpoint admits the desirability of class 3 but says it should be limited to outlaw climbs. They point out that when the SPS schedules a trip we are responsible for the welfare of persons attending. Class 3 may be safe when a person is careful but everyone makes mistakes occasionally and one serious fall could mean disaster. If a person was injured or killed during semi-exposed class 3 climbing on an SPS trip, our section's reputation would be very hard hit. One has only to look at the poor safety record of the Stanford Alpine Club to see the results. It could mean the end of the SPS.

You have, basically, the pro and con. The issue seems to boil down to either taking a certain amount of risk and scheduling some tremendous climbs, or playing it safe and continuing with the mediocre. Or is it that simple? What do you think? Write in and tell us.

FALL SCHEDULE by Roger Gasicka

The October-January schedule has been finalized. For those who just can't wait for the official publication here is a rundown of events planned.

Oct. 5-6: Bartolas Country - Chuck Miller
Oct. 26-27: Manzanita Knob from Kennedy Rd. - Bill Henderson
Nov. 2-3: Balch Park to Summit Lake - Frank Sanborn
Nov. 16-17: Mt. Ruah - Frank Sanborn
Dec. 4: SPS Banquet - Frank Sanborn

The December business meeting will be on Dec. 15th, since Dec. 25 happens to fall on Christmas this year. The other meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month as usual.

Four hikes in four months may seem to be a feeble schedule. However it's not too bad for an off season. The open weekends should provide ample opportunity for skiing, outwaling, or Desert Peaking.

NEW SPS EMBLEM FOR 14000' PEAKS PLANNED by John Robinson

Climbing the 12 14000' peaks in the Sierra has long been a favorite objective of climbers. Probably the two main goals of serious Sierra Peakers are this & attaining their emblem by climbing the emblem peaks. Since these two objectives rank side by side, several members have felt the desirability of an emblem for the former also.

Working toward a goal is basic to man's nature, in whatever field he endeavors. An emblem for the 14000 ft. peaks should stimulate interest in another set of mts. beside the emblem peaks. Admittedly, all the 14000ers are in 2 areas: The Whitney Area & the Palisades. These areas, however, are probably the finest in the Sierra for climbing & spectacular scenery.

The initial cost for the emblem (Continued on next page)
NEW EMBLEM (Continued)

would be for the dye, in the neighborhood of $50. This would be collected through voluntary donations by the members over an unlimited period of time. Once the dye was cast, members who qualify for the emblem could buy it directly from the factory. The design?— Few ideas yet. Perhaps some of the membership have some good ideas. Anyway, the fund-raising campaign will begin at the next meeting.

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SPS SPECIAL OUTING; OCT. 12-13
by Bud Bingham

Please do not read farther unless you have above average curiosity as to what lies beyond the normal two day weekend in the Sierra.

The Southern Sierra is being threatened by a network of logging roads and later on a highway. Plans will be made to fly a group of Sierra Clubbers & their packs into Tunnel Meadows.

Our purpose for the knapsack trip will be to assist in evaluating the area east of the north fork of the Kern River for a future primitive area. A total of 18 miles between Tunnel & Monache Meadows will be explored and a climb of Kern Peak will be made. Return flight will be made from Monache Meadows to make the hike more interesting. We want many pictures of this mountainous region.

For details on expenses, flight reservations, and timing, call Bud Bingham or Chuck Miller during the first week of September only.

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A NEW EMBLEM HOLDERS SO FAR THIS SUMMER by John Robinson

Dr. Robert Wade became the first SPSer to earn his emblem this summer with the successful ascent of Mt. Goddard on July 5th.

Another Dr., Andrew J. Smatko, got his two weeks later, climbing Abbot on July 22nd.

Tom Ross climbed Mt. Sill Aug. 6th to earn his badge.

Peter Hunt's achievement is probably the most noteworthy. He started out the season with only Whitney to his credit. Since May he has climbed 9 other emblem peaks, the last being Mt. Sill in mid-August. At 15, he becomes the youngest emblem holder.

Pete and Barbara Lilley are the only two alive to hold all three of the Sierra Club hiking emblems, 100 Peaks, Desert Peaks, & SPS.

Within a month or so, at least 3 more should attain their emblem. Bill Sanders, Chuck Miller, and Frank Samborn are very close.

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SPS SCHEDULED TRIPS

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MT. GODDARD (13,503'); July 4-7, 1957
Leader: George Wallerstein
by Dr. Andrew J. Smatko

On the morning of July 4th in perfect weather an enthusiastic group of 24 males & 1 female (can't get away from medical terminology) began the strenuous hike and ascent of Mt. Goddard, one of the most inaccessible and spectacular of the Sierra Peaks, likewise an emblem peak. Bill Sanders who was to be the assistant leader, was unable to join the group, so I was delegated to be assistant leader. As I had been over this particular trail before, George Wallerstein, our leader, asked me to lead up the Lamarck Trail from North Lake. Progress was fairly rapid up this well kept trail. Some mutinous mutterings were vaguely heard concerning the pace, but we arrived — 9 of us — at the partially frozen lake just east of & below Lamarck Col. This group of the hardier ones consisted of Rich Grady, Bill Erwin, Dr. Wade, Rudy Elling, Peter Hunt, Gordon Oates, BobWeekly, Reg Donatelli, & myself. We knew we were about 1½ hours ahead of the strung out party behind us and taking advantage of this, Gordie Oates, a distance runner at Cal Tech, took off up Mt. Lamarck alone. I make a note of this because Gordie, of all the group, climbed one peak a day as I'll mention later. One of the weary nine lying on the rocks at the lake must have seen a mirage up on the col, because he thought he saw a house up there. (Continued on next page)
there - a col house - but we discouraged him from running up to the col. Anyhow, we discussed among ourselves the feasibility of going on to Sapphire Lake as it was only 11:30 A. M. We decided to wait for George Wallerstein & ask his permission to go on. When George arrived, after a few more had joined the group at the lake, he told us we could go on. We promptly took off & started up over the snow to the col - no house there at all. The descent to the first of the Darwin Canyon Lakes is tedious & punishing to the toes, but we progressed on down the canyon, past the beautiful ice-filled Darwin Lakes, contoured around to the west to join the Muir Trail & then proceeded south past ever lovely Evolution Lake to our destination at Sapphire Lake.

At 7 a.m. on July 5th we headed for Mt. Goddard, a really imposing mountain. The melting snows made a creek of the Muir Trail & our feet were thoroughly soaked when we started up the steep snow field about a half mile east of the peak. This snow field divides into two main chutes. A recent rock slide had cascaded down the left chute, so we ascended the right one to the crest of the Goddard Divide & thence over snow & rocks to the east summit of Goddard. It looked higher than the west summit on which the cairn stands. We proceeded along the rocky ridge to the cairn. We all enjoyed the tremendous view all around the clock after signing in. Cameras clicked like hungry chickens eating corn on a tin roof. After loafing for an hour (It took us 5 hours to reach the summit from Sapphire Lake) we had tremendous glissades down the chute to the snowfield. A few seat glissaders bumped into deep holes caused by rocks in the snow - no damage but to the dignity, since our posteriors were anesthetized by the cold snow. Bob Wade completed his 10th Emblem Peak with Goddard - a grand guy.

Sapphire Lake now took on the aspect of an army camp with the arrival of party #2 under George. 6 hardy souls braved the icy waters of the lake for a swim; luckily the hot sun revived them quickly.

The next day George started off with 13 men for the ascent of Goddard. 12 of the 13 made it. They were not alone, for several boy scouts and a San Diego group were also climbing the peak. There was hardly enough room on the summit to accommodate all the climbers.

On this same day, July 6, Gordie Oates & myself started ahead of the other 8 and climbed Mendel via a class 3 route up the broken south wall. This was Gordie's 3rd peak in 3 days, & moreover on the following day he, along with Rich Gnagy, Peter Hunt, Rudi Elling, Bob Weekley, & Reg Donatelli, climbed Mt. Darwin, another emblem peak.

On July 7th, as noted above, six of the party climbed Darwin. Two climbed Lanark and finally all descended back to North Lake at staggered intervals. On the night of the 6th large dark clouds gave us some concern, but these cleared by morning.

All in all it was a most enjoyable & successful climbing trip.

BISHOP CREEK KNAPSACK: July 20-21
Leader: Don Clark

23 Sierra Clubbers & guests showed up for this easy knapsack & really enjoyed the sights of the Sierra without straining themselves. Saturday saw an easy back-pack up to the camping area near the Dingleberry Lakes. Sunday most of the group strolled up to Moonlight Lake to take in the beauty of one of the most scenic areas of the Sierra. For the first time on an SPS trip no peaks were climbed.

MT. AGASSIZ (13,891'): Aug. 3-4
Leader: Chuck Miller

25 people showed up for this relatively easy one from South Lake. Saturday they knapsacked up to a small lake near timberline below Bishop Pass. That afternoon some of them attempted Mt. Goode but climbed the wrong peak - which they promptly named Mt. No Goode. (Continued on next page)
Many of the group wanted to relax on Sunday, so only 11 climbed Agassiz. An excellent panorama of the major Palisade peaks was enjoyed by those reaching the summit.

MT. CONNESS (12,556'), MT. Dana (13,050'); August 17-18
Leader: Bill Sanders

29 persons drove the long way to northeastern Yosemite to enjoy this scenic area. The Saturday ascent of Conness had 13 starters with 17 reaching the summit. A leisurely pace was the main feature of the hike. The average speed was less than one mile an hour.

For Dana on Sunday the makeup of the party was somewhat changed. 14 started & all made the summit. Six of the group made Gibbs as well.

The champion peak bagger of the trip was Joe Shinno. On Saturday he climbed Conness, North, & White pks. with his father & a friend. On Sunday he attained both Dana & Gibbs, making 5 peaks for the weekend.

Throughout the weekend good weather & superb views of the entire Yosemite region were enjoyed by all.

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ANNUAL SIERRA CLUB BANQUET; SEPT. 28
Los Angeles Breakfast Club
5201 Los Feliz Blvd., L.A.

Conservation Speaker: Cong. John T. Saylor (D.), Leader of the fight to save Dinosaurs.
Dancing & Color Movies afterward.

Tickets: $4.00
Reservations: Elvera and Howard Hollenbech
Chairmen: Emily & Bob Bear
All Sierra Clubbers are urged to attend.

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MT. INYO (11,107') DEDICATION TRIP
Planned for Oct. 19-20

Mt. Inyo may be a desert peak, but Sierra Clubers are active in its climbing history. Last October Pat Meirner and Andy Smatko made a 1st ascent (Sierra Club) of the then-unnamed peak. They were followed two weeks later by two parties led by John Robinson from the west & Bud Bingham from the east.

The big news then was the squabble over a name. Pat & Andy suggested & later demanded "Mt. Patko", claiming jurisdiction in view of their first ascent. The two later officially scheduled parties refused to recognize "Patko", claiming Pat & Andy had no right to name the peak as they had "sneaked" up the peak 2 weeks early in an unsportsmanlike manner and anyway, the name sounds subversive. Bud's group had death march up from Saline Valley and suggested "Do NotPk." for a name, in view of its proximity to Mt. Keynot and the exhausting length of the climb.

John's group, the largest & therefore having the most say (It had the most voices), put forth "Mt. Inyo" as a stately & most dignified label for the crud heap. The later finally went out after a series of complicated legal maneuvers.

Upon receiving the report of the trip, DPS Chairman (& SPser) Bob Bear got busy and had the name declared official last spring by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names. On Oct. 19-20, exactly almost one year after its discovery and subsequent entanglements, Bob is leading a dedication trip to its summit to place a register. SPsers as well as Desert Peakers are invited to attend but please, "Inyo" is the name; the fight is over.

For those who feel climbing Inyo alone isn't enough of a challenge, Ted Maier & his fiances are leading an Inyo-Keynot-New York Butte-and what have you Traverse. Ted and Mary Jane love these "Mort Marches".

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PLEASE: MORE NEWS

We are certain that this issue in minus many events and trips by Sierra Peakers of interest to other Sierra Peakers. If you do something that's news please tell us. We don't want this to be a clique periodical, but one of interest to all Sierra Peakers.
**MISCELLANEOUS TRIPS OF INTEREST**

**MT. WINCHELL (13,768')**: June 29. by Bill Sanders

On June 29th I drove to the Glacier Lodge road-head and made a Saturday night walk in to the meadow below Sam Mack Lake where I joined SPSers Bud Bingham, Don Clarke, Barbara Lilley, and three others. Sunday morning the climb featured good weather, about 300 or 400 feet of moderate 3rd class, and a wonderful view of the Palisade area from the peak. I returned to the car at 1:00 p.m. Sunday.

**TWO MEN ON MENDEL (13,691')**: July 7. by Don Clarke

Blue skies smiled down on the bare brown rock of the High Sierra on Sunday, July 7th. Bud Bingham and Don Clarke had made an apparent first ascent of the northeast ridge of Mt. Mendel. This was done via a third and fourth class route: Starting to the left of the shallow chute or the end of the northeast ridge; then diagonally right to the chute, and up it to the crest of the ridge. Then along the crest to the summit— the whole over firm, lean rock. Descent was made via very cruddy third class ledges on the east face, directly below the summit. Andy Smatko & Gordon Oates used this latter route to ascend the peak July 5th.

**THE WRONG WAY UP SPLIT (14,058')**: July 13-14. by John Robinson

Chuck Miller and I climbed Split Mtn. via Taboose Pass over the weekend of July 13th & 14th Last. The reason for this long-way-around route was to get Cardinal Pk., and maybe Prater and Bolton-Brown also. If ever a group bit off more than it could chew, we did. The 14 miles from the roadhead on Taboose Creek, up & over the loose-rock pass, and around into Upper Basin with packs was a strenuous haul to put it mildly. So much so, in fact, that we didn't even look at Cardinal. Sunday Split was climbed from the west by traversing around the NE part of Upper Basin and up the long north talus slope of the mountain itself. Prater & Bolton-Brown were abandoned upon seeing the return distance before us. By the time we returned to camp it was well along in the afternoon. We had to hasten back down Upper Basin, up & over Taboose Pass, and down the loose crud to the car, which was reached not long before dark. Never again— it's so easy via Red Mtn. Lake.

**TYNALL & JUNCTION ON A WEEKEND (14,025',13,903')**: July 26-28. by George Wallerstein

On July 26th through the 28th Lito Tejada-Florases, John Shinno, Gordon Oates, and George Wallerstein took a three day weekend to pack in to a campsite below Shepard Pass on Friday. On Saturday they climbed Mt. Tyndall in the morning and Junction Peak in the afternoon. About half an hour after leaving Junction they watched lightening strike most of the major peaks in the area, while snow flurries chased them down to camp. Here is a clue regarding Tyndall: A rib on the eastern part of the north face provides an easier and quicker route than the NW ridge. About half an hour can be saved by avoiding the gendarmes of the ridge.

**MT. DARWIN SOLO (13,830')**: July 27-28. by Tom Rose

On July 27-28 I climbed Mt. Darwin solo. Camp was made at 13,000' Lamarck Col Saturday night amid a summer storm. It was getting cloudy by noon and by evening thunder was heard in the distance. From 6:30 to about 8:30 it snowed 2"! It was cloudy most of the night but the next day the storm was broken up. Sunday the climb of Darwin was made by the third class couloir above the glacier; ice axe and crampons were used. Beautiful weather and a wonderful view were experienced on top. Mt. Darwin is really an excellent emblem peak, dominating the entire Evolution area.
On the 13th and 14th of July this peak was climbed by R.S. Wade and Jack Perrine. We climbed from the east via Big Pine Creek and Saturday camped just below the glacier moraine. It was very windy. Sunday we hiked up and over the Palisade Glacier and up the SE Couloir two thirds of the way, then to the notch via the arete (Class 4). From there we followed the usual route to the top. I prefer the SE Couloir to the Underhill Route which I did last year. Returned the same route.

"SPEAKING OF BERGSCHRUNDS....." July 20-Aug. 1. by Peggy Sullivan

In the Pacific Northwest there is a long string of volcanic peaks highly regarded by the Seattle Mountaineers and Mazamas. During the last two weeks of July, 1957 a group of Sierra addicts went north to climb several of these peaks. Actually, just to compare their bergschrunds with ours!

On the way, to keep the Sierra fresh in memory, a trek was made by Dr. Robert Wade, Dr. Andy Smatko, John Robinson, and Peggy Sullivan over Shepheard Pass to climb Mt. Tyndall. Next a climb of Mt. Abbot was made by Andy and Peggy, followed by Bear Creek Spire and Mt. Dade by Andy and John.

No definite climbing schedule for the north could be laid out in advance, as weather conditions are capricious. To be smothered by clouds while plodding uphill in snow is hardly to enjoy a peak; therefore it was to the group's great joy that the sun seldom failed.

As a warm-up, Mt. Lassen was visited. As peaks go, this volcano is low (10,466'), via an easy wide trail, and crowded with panting tourists.

A far more interesting peak was Mt. Shasta (14,162'). It is only a dawn to dusk climb from the Sierra Club stone hut a 7950', but a preliminary hike of two miles the evening before must be made from the road-head at 7000'. Although there is a vague trail meandering through lava rock to the peak, our climb was aimed directly up a snowfield to the summit. As the steepest area of the snowfield was approached, there was "annoyance" as large boulders went flying by our heads, loosened by the softening snow. Further danger was encountered when the route lay over steep ice (we left our crampons in the car), so with ice axe, steps were laboriously chiseled. The top was reached in 6 hours 45 minutes, way above par for the course. Next time try the... right route. The return from the summit was hysterical. One continuous glissade of 3000', leaving a certain anatomical area very wet and very numb. This sliding is not done on the more northern peaks as crevasses like to "eat" glissaders.

After adding Bill Sanders who flew up for the weekend, an anxious approach in heavy low clouds was made to Mt. Rainier. Equipment was checked, ponchos pulled on, and in a windy grey drizzle, twelve men and one girl stumbled off after the two guides. The first afternoon we went from Paradise Inn (5000') up to Camp Muir at 10,000'. As the crude stone hut was neared, the low thick clouds suddenly ended and there before the climbers, its glaciers crisp in the sunlight, stood the massive mountain, truly a magnificent sight. Cameras were clicking the rest of that afternoon.

Just after midnight "breakfast" was served and crampons were tightly laced on. By 2 a.m. all were roped and on their way by starlight across the Cowlitz Glacier, clutching ice axe and flashlight. Next came a traverse of the Braham Glacier, and for a short distance the Emmons Glacier, each massive river of ice uttering roars.

(Continued next page)
adding drama to what was already an unforgettable morning. In passing from glacier to glacier, large ridges of extremely loose lava were climbed, difficult in boots but ghastly in crampons. Ropes were never removed and ice axe belays were used near dangerous crevasses. Truly these northern glaciers make our Palisades Glacier but a little pocket of snow! As the sun rose higher, five snow-capped peaks were admired over the thick cloud blanket below; Mt. Baker, Glacier, Adams, St. Helens, and Hood. After attaining the true summit (14,408’) in late morning, the return was made slowly through softening snow. Paradise Inn was reached in late afternoon.

Mt. Adams (12,507’), the next volcanic peak south & second highest in the Northwest, was climbed the next day by Andy & John. This 6000’ snow climb was done in a fast 4 hours; Mt Mazamas had taken 10 hours the day before and the ranger said we couldn’t do it in less than 7.

The final peak of our Northwest jaunt was Mt. Hood (11,245’). It’s not so high, yet very impressive, as timberline (6000’) is lower than in the Sierra, causing the peak to look quite grand. Andy, John, and Peggy left Timberline Lodge at 6 a.m. and easily made the peak in three hours and forty minutes, arriving back at the lodge for lunch. All this to the amazement of lodge guests who allow a full day for the climb. The lodge was also pained, no doubt, to observe that these climbers were unshaven (except the lady), unwashed for a week, stained from sleeping under pine trees, and had pants without seat (glissading) and pant legs shredded (crampons).

**A PALISADES ODYSSEY:** Aug. 3-10. by Dr. Andrew J. Smatko

On Saturday, August 3rd, Peggy Sullivan, Bill Sanders, John Robinson, Tom Ross, and I left South Lake for a series of mountain ascents in the Palisades. Our gear was carried over Bishop Pass by burros. We made the pass in fast time and Bill, John, Tom, and I scrambled up Mt. Agassiz (13,891’) while Peggy waited for the burros. The weather was ideal and all of us were in good health and spirits. Upon descending Agassiz we found our packs, hoisted them on, and staggered towards the Palisade-Duay Col, near the base of Thunderbolt Peak. Our packs that first day weighed over 50 lbs. apiece (Peg’s 35). We camped that night near the above mentioned col at 11,500’.

Sunday morning dawned bright and after a short hike over the col we arrived at the base of the first chute on the NW face of Thunderbolt. The climb was not difficult up to the saddle between the two summits. Here we roped up about 40 feet and came to the summit block—wows! After consultation Bill and I threw a rope over the sharp peak of the block, tied one end to a boulder, and prusiked up to the top, skinning a few knuckles as expected. A short rappel on the way down enabled the descent. That afternoon we hiked over to the base of North Palisade and camped at 11,700’, well above Barrett Lake.

Monday a.m. found us looking for the proper ledge on North Pal and we found it with little difficulty (However, the map in the Climbers’ Guide is deceiving). What a ledge!—it is both narrow and slanting.

John’s lugs were about shot and he had to be careful in the chute where snow & ice made footing tricky. The climb was interesting all the way. A cold wind howled up the chute. From the top we viewed with interest the nearby "milk bottle" but didn’t have time to try it. We roped part of the descent, finally reaching camp and feasting (so did the mosquitos).

Tuesday we backpacked over to Glacier Lake and found a pleasant campsite near several small waterfalls. From here we made an interesting low 3rd class ascent of Mt. Sill. The view from Sill is the best (Continued next page)
in the Palisades. It is definitely a worthy emblem peak; it has a more interesting view than North Pal and the latter is too technical of a climb. We returned to camp at Glacier Lake & remained overnight.

The next day, Wednesday, was the only easy day of the trip. We backpacked up and over Cirque Pass and down to the Muir Trail at the Palisades Lakes for lunch. We camped among the pines just above upper Palisade Lake, the best camp spot of our trip.

Early Thursday morning we set out for Southfork Pass. We had been warned by Jules Eichorn (who we met at South Lake beforehand) that the pass was very steep and the snow was icy. Just before reaching the pass we dropped our packs and climbed the Thumb (13,958'). The rock was crumbly and we had to proceed carefully. A fine view of the Palisades and Split Mtn. was had as the peak sits out east of the main crest. We descended for lunch and then climbed to Southfork Pass. The snow east of the pass was very steep and fortunately Tom Ross had brought his ice axe. With Bill Sanders belaying me, I chipped steps across the snow to an easier rock rib on the other side, and then setting up a double belay, across came Peggy, Tom, John, and finally Bill. Below the pass on the east we pretty much kept our altitude as we traversed over and just below the Middle Pal Glacier. We found a few rock ledges just below the moraine and camped for the night. Tom Ross won a rock rolling contest there.

Friday we arose early and started up the rocky rib separating the Middle Pal Glacier. At the bergschlund as Bill Sanders stepped from the ice to the rock ledge, a large chunk of ice, about a cubic yard in size, broke off and fortunately just missed us who were waiting below in a deep snow trough. We completed the steep class 3 climb to the top without further incident and again enjoyed the superb view. Returning to camp early in the afternoon, we decided to climb Gayley the next day. We descended further into the South Fork of Big Pine Creek and then turned up canyon a ways to camp at about the 10,200' level.

Saturday, our last day, found us making our longest single climb of the trip: 3,300'. We all agreed the view from the summit of Gayley was even better than from Bill, as it stands out further to the east. John lost his beret in a stiff wind and shortly after I lost my Sierra cup. We were pretty tired, but we wanted to make it all the way down that afternoon. This we did, but only after some anxiety about finding the main South Fork trail. From Glacier Lodge, where one car was parked, we drove back up to South Lake for the other one; then to dinner in Bishop and home.

We climbed on this trip four peaks over 14,000' and 3 over 13,300' - 7 peaks in 8 days - we all agreed that was pretty good-- and tiring.

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THE SIERRA ECHO: Published bi-monthly by the Sierra Peaks Section, Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club. The opinions expressed in this periodical do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the SPS in particular nor the Sierra Club in general.

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