CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By Bill Senders

Within a short period this spring there have been four deaths in California resulting from mountaineering accidents. The need for mountaineering safety has been brought sharply into focus.

The deaths of Burl Parkinson and Francis Foley has been thoroughly discussed, so no comment will be made here concerning that accident.

I can give you a first-hand account of the death of Daniel Guinier at Tahquitz since I was present when the mishap occurred.

Four climbers, including Guinier, were standing on the ledge below the "Trough," which is the starting point for that climb. A dead tree, leaning against the cliff, overhangs the ledge. The warning yell, "Rock!" was sounded from climbers several pitches up the climb. Guinier was struck on the back of the head by a limb from the dead tree. Evidently, the rock hit the limb, which in turn inflicted a head wound. The front of Guinier's head was forced against a rock embedded in the ground, and the double blow caused death. The rock was knocked off when a rope, which was being coiled, caught on it.

This was a freak accident in that the unlikely sequence of events caused death. The rock hit the limb, the limb hit Guinier, and Guinier's head was forced down for the double blow.

However, this was not a freak accident in the sense that it could have been anticipated that anyone standing at the base of a cliff below climbers is taking a chance on being hit by falling debris; this is not at all a remote chance.

(Continued on next page)

TWO MORE CLIMBERS JOIN SPS RANKS;
EMBLEM PEAKER CIRCLE SWELLS TO 34

By Mary Ann Fide

Two more climbers have joined the growing Sierra Peaks Section in the past two months, and the number of emblem holders has jumped to 34.

Robert (Bob) Allmann, 621 W. 41st St., Los Angeles 11, is one of the new members. He transferred from the San Francisco Bay area to the Angeles Chapter last August. Mrs. Whitney and Lyell are among his qualifying peaks.

The other new member is Elwyn Beach, 3925 Bledsoe Ave., Los Angeles 66. Beach, a Sierra Clubber since 1942, submitted a list of 20 qualifying peaks including Mrs. Whitney, Muir, Russell and Lyell.

New emblem holders are Paul Hunter of Pasadena, Lyn and Helen Wright of Berkeley and Miles Brunacker of L.A. Hunter joined the SPS in 1957 and since has climbed Matterhorn Peak, Mrs. Brewer and Williamson and Olancha Peak.

The Wrights started climbing the emblem peaks in 1951. Olancha is the only one of the 14 peaks on the list.

(Continued on next page)

---COMING EVENTS---

| July 3-5: | Mt. Williamson (14,385)  |
| July 5-6: | Trojan Peak (10,968) |
| July 11-12: | Mt. Whitney (14,395) |
| July 18-19: | Bearpaw Meadow |
| July 25-26: | Kolp Peak (13,979)  |
| July 28: | Business meeting |
| Aug. 1-2: | Minarets Circle |
| Aug. 8-9: | Mt. Dago (11,669) |
| Aug. 22-23: | Mt. Eisen (12,300) |
| Aug. 25: | Business meeting |
| Sept. 5-7: | North Palisade (14,242) |
This accident points out the need for greater awareness of the danger of rockfalls. No one should put himself in a vulnerable position when climbers are above. Often the climber has only one course to take, but the onlookers and kibitzers can easily move out of the danger zone. Of course, climbers should use caution to avoid dislodging rocks.

The facts available on the fatal accident on Mt. Conness are second-hand and unverified. Apparently Lito-Tejada-Flores' climbing partner made a long lead over rotten rock and his piton didn't hold when he came off. This seems to me to be a case which comes under the heading of "knowing your limitations."

Perhaps more pitons could have been used. Perhaps the rock was so rotten the lead should never have been made. The two points we can make then are (1) be aware of and avoid rockfalls; (2) know your limitations and stay within them.

With large groups on SPS trips we must be especially careful to avoid rockfall danger. It's up to the leader to avoid having participants below one another. Participants must be especially careful to stay out of the danger zone and to avoid dislodging rocks.

One final note on another subject:

The SPS is not entirely blameless when it comes to trail cutting. Let's hope we can stick to our conservation ideas and avoid causing unsightly erosion and the breakdown of trails which result from this practice.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE ARRANGED FOR FALL OUTINGS; ANNUAL BANQUET DECEMBER 1

SPS activities during the fall schedule period will include a trip into Sequoia National Park and two outings into the Southern Sierras.

Chuck Miller agreed at the June business meeting to lead Mt. Stimson (11,168) October 3-4. The trip will be the last in the High Sierra in 1959.

Burl Bingham volunteered to lead The Needles (8228) October 11-12--weather permitting.

The other Southern Sierra trip will be lead by John Robinson. The objec-

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TWO MORE CLIMBERS JOINT SPS RANKS;
EMBLEM PEAKER CIRCLE SWELLS TO 34.
(Continued from Page 1)

they haven't climbed.

Brubacher gained his 10th emblem peak on the Mt. Humphreys trip in June. He started the series in 1953 by scaling Mt. Kaweah.

Following are address changes of SPS members as of June 16:

Miles Brubacher, 10771 Lawler St.,
L.A. 34.

Reggie Donatelli, 3080 David Ave.,
Apt. 10, San Jose.

Tom Gunn, 37076 Arcen St., Newark.
Freda Jensen, 11654 Montana Ave.,

Izy Lieberman, 253 S. Avenue 50,

Cliff and Maurine Myers, 2108
Snauling St., Long Beach 4.

Tom Ross, PO Box 142, Independence.
Rube Schreiner, 406 N. Serrano St.,
L.A. 4.

Andrew Smith, 10703 Oak Creek Dr.,
Lakeside.

Graham Stephenson, 1969 San Vicente
Bldg., L.A. 49.

Jim Sutherland, 905 M. A St., Apt.
F, Oxnard.

SPS REPRESENTED AT NEWCOMERS MEETING
BY JOHN WEDBERG AND JOHN ROBINSON

Approximately 150 new members of the Sierra Club were entertained May 2-3 by the club Membership Committee and representatives of the sections.

The SPS was represented at the Harwood Lodge event by John Wedberg, who handled the speech-making, and John Robinson, who managed a display.

The most interesting is Taylor Dome (8783), a third-class rock formation. The dates are October 24-25.

The section's annual banquet was scheduled for December 1.
The deaths of two Sierra Peakers focused attention on mountain safety as the SPS considered Mountaineering in General at the May meeting.

Graham Stephenson, a member of the Training Committee, lead discussion that probed the causes of various mountain accidents. Among the mishaps was the fall in the White Mountains that claimed the lives of Burt Parkinson and Francis Foley on May 2. The two tumbled nearly 100 feet on a snow slope after climbing Boundary Peak (13,145) and Mt. Montgomery (13,485).

Stephenson, drawing on various material from the Sierra Club, presented the following principles for off-trail travel safety:

1. Every member of the party must be able to complete the projected trip.
2. The leadership must be competent in all phases of route finding, camping and outdoor living in addition to having a good knowledge of geography, weather and certain basic principles of geology.
3. Time must never be figured closely.
4. Everyone in the party should carry matches and a flashlight.
5. Even though an excursion from trail or camp is to be short, equipment must be sufficient to make an overnight bivouac bearable and safe.
6. If a serious trip is planned, the following community equipment is mandatory: climbing rope, repair kit, extra first aid supplies, a down sleeping bag per party.
7. The storm that covered the two climbers' bodies with snow prompted Stephenson to cite these principles for travel in adverse weather:
   1. Storm conditions require special care.
   2. Wind, clouds and snow chill a climber quicker than still air.
   3. If a hiker gets cold, it is difficult to get warm again.
   4. Danger from fatigue is increased.
   5. A storm should be waited out in camp.
   6. If there is no leader, an "autocratic" leader should be selected.
   7. The party should stay together.
   8. Keeping warm is extremely important.
   9. Over-exertion is more dangerous than during fair weather.
10. Every effort should be made to keep the body dry and the pack waterproof.
11. Fatigue predisposes freezing.
12. Even when the temptation is strong, a hiker or climber should never go hungry. Food is a source of heat.

The makeup of an adequate first aid kit was discussed at the previous meeting by John Blewener, who also talked about mountain rescue techniques. "The thing that points out a poor party member more than anything, else is his reliance on a leader to carry first aid supplies for him," Blewener said. "There is no excuse for anyone not having a personal first aid kit."

He listed the following as essential items for a personal kit: adhesive tape, as much as you can carry; aspirin, 12 tablets; band-aids, at least 4; razor blade, 1 single edge; triangle bandage, at least 1 40-inch; soap, hexachlorophene type in place of antiseptic; and gauze squares, 3 or 4 3-inch.

Additional items for consideration were listed as sunburn ointment (foille), merthiolate or iodine swabs, salt tablets, moleskin, ammonium inhalants, gauze benda ges, wire splint, tweezers and needle, 1-inch tensor bandage, 4-inch compress and snake bite kit.

Blewener is the chairman of the newly-formed rescue coordinating committee of the Angeles Chapter. His aides include Walt Wheelock, who is preparing a listing of governmental agencies that could be of assistance in an emergency.
As a service to SPS gourmets, the Sierra Echo published the following restaurant recommendations compiled by the Riverside Chapter of the Sierra Club. The information supplements the "nutrition survey" published last June in the Echo. Comments should be directed to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Krueger, 4296 Mt. Vie w Avenue, San Bernardino.

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"Every time I stop by, you and Tom have such a clean camp!"
OLANCHE PEAK

By Bill Sanders

For the second time in two years, there was a record turnout for Olancha Peak (12,135'), the SPS' southermost emblem peak. Although the 41 hikers on hand May 2-3 did not equal the 61 who appeared in 1957, the group was the largest of the year. This peak should be a good one to schedule every other year.

The hike to camp took about 5 1/2 hours at a moderate pace. On Sunday, the party took 3 hours to reach the summit and was back to the cars by 3:30 p.m. Almost all participants reached the summit. In addition, Bud Bingham and Don Clarke scaled the peak from Olancha Canyon. The new summit register provided by the SPS got a substantial start with 40 names.

The weather throughout most of the weekend was overcast. The temperature was 32 degrees on Saturday afternoon and dropped below 20 degrees that night. There also were occasional snow flurries, leaving about an inch of snow by morning. The sun appeared briefly during the ascent Sunday morning and revealed a wonderful snow-draped countryside. For many, this sight was the highlight of the trip and was well worth the weekend's effort.

MT. BRADLEY

By Jerry Keating

A seldom-visited canyon provided the access to the Sierra crest May 16-17 as the Sierra Peaks Section climbed Mt. Bradley (13,280'). Twenty Sierrans assembled at Independence Saturday morning and left their cars at the mouth of Pinyon Canyon. A primitive trail started up the north side of the canyon but soon vanished. The party camped at the last timber on Pinyon Creek and calculated the elevation at 10,200 feet.

Wood was plentiful, and the group enjoyed a warm campfire. The fire was visible in Independence, and several residents called the sheriff's office in the fear someone might be in trouble. Fortunately, the party had checked in with the sheriff before beginning the climb, and deputies assured the callers that everything was in order.

Cold winds buffeted the climbers Sunday morning as they cramponed up a steep snow chute and then walked up the gentle summit slopes. The winds chased the party from the summit, but not until the climbers enjoyed an intimate look at Mt. Williamson and other nearby peaks.

Leaders for the climb, in which everyone reached the summit, were Bud Bingham and Tom Amnus.

LONE PINE PEAK

By John Robinson

Intermittent clouds and light snow squalls greeted 25 climbers Sunday morning, May 24, as they reached the summit of Lone Pine Peak (12,951'). Few remained longer than to sign the register and view the new SPS flag flying from an ice ax atop the summit cairn. For Kathy Underwood, the ascent marked her sixth peak, qualifying her for SPS membership.

Of the 27 who reached camp in time for lunch Saturday, only 9 joined leader John Robinson for an easy afternoon hike up Candlelight Peak (12,004'), where a good panorama of the Whitney crest was obtained.

Highlight of the trip was a massive "Bingham roast" at camp Saturday night. Bud Bingham's attendance on a trip always guarantees warmth for everyone around the campfire.

MT. LANGLEY

By Al Finney

Enjoying some of the best climbing weather of the young season, a small group of SPSers utilized the Memorial weekend to ascend the southermost (continued on next page)
Fourteen-thousander in the Sierra, Mt. Langley (14,042).

Led by Tom Ammeus and Jerry Keating, seven climbers left the roadhead on Friday morning and backpacked to the 10,400-foot level of Diaz Canyon. A mild surprise greeted the group upon arrival at the proposed campsite when it was discovered that Diaz Creek had vanished. The day was saved, however, when close scrutiny of a rockfall along a nearby canyon wall revealed a pool of water beneath several large boulders. The remainder of the weekend was marked by volunteer descents into this miniature "grotto" to replenish the group's water supply.

On Saturday, eight climbers, two of whom were late arrivals of the previous night, set out for Mt. Langley. An interesting ascent was made via an abandoned pass to the south of the summit plateau. Several snow fields were encountered, but the area was remarkably dry for the end of May. After an hour's stay at the summit to enjoy extremely clear views, the party made a leisurely descent to camp.

Observation of Peak 12,819 from the top of Langley revealed the outing's second objective to be practically free of snow, with considerable treading apparently required to gain its flat, uninteresting summit. In view of these findings, the party utilized Sunday morning by reviewing snow rescue techniques in lieu of climbing another peak. The descent to the cars was made early Sunday afternoon, marking the successful completion of the SPS' first three-day trip of the season.

The unseasonable dryness encountered on the climb should be a consideration in planning future trips during the summer. It is probable that many normally dependable water supplies on both sides of the Sierra will have to be discounted by climbers and backpackers.

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MT. HUMPHREYS

What started out to be a questionably successful trip—outhead weather, the assistant leader sick in bed with the flu and overshadowed by the recent tragedies on Boundary Peak and Tanquiltz—turned into the season's most enjoyable outing thus far scheduled by the SPS.

The 15 persons (including three women) who participated June 6-7 in the Mt. Humphreys (13,986) climb can testify to the trip's success. All made the summit.

In view of the technical nature of the climb, the most technical of the emblem peaks, leader John Wedberg limited the size of the party, thus the comparatively small attendance. So many had to be denied a place in the party that this mountain will undoubtedly be scheduled again soon. Those who were disappointed, please be forewarned to get in early reservations.

A novel feature of the trip was the carrying of charcoal to the base camp. A large sack of the fuel was divided among the participants so that each of the mountaineers carried a small paper bag of it to the high camp (11,700) at the foot of the peak. With the help of some starter, the group had a perfect bed of glowing coals ready for steaks (largest was the leader's luscious two-pound sirloin tip, carefully prepared with garlic salt and drowned in five minutes flat).

Clouds and high, chilly winds kept the hardy band close to camp for most of Saturday afternoon after arriving there for lunch. After a cold (around 25 degrees) night, Sunday dawned clear and calm, and the climbers were off to the mountain by 7 a.m. For separate parties were assigned to two routes, so that three ropes went up Route 2 (and the variation), and three ropes used Route 1, with variations. Everyone was off the summit by 12:30 p.m. and back to camp in shirt-sleeve weather by 3:30. Everyone reached the cars by 7.
MT. WINCHELL, PALISADE GLACIER

By Al Finney

Forty-one backpackers, including a large number of newcomers, contributed to the "box office" success of a combination climbing and hiking trip into the Palisades area on the weekend of June 13-14. Bill Sanders was overall leader of the trip, which featured an exploratory hike on the Palisade Glacier as well as a third-class climb of Mt. Winchell (13,768).

On Saturday morning, the group made a leisurely backpack to camp at the beginning of the glacier trail. Saturday afternoon was taken up with short hikes, rock climbing practice and just loafing under partly cloudy skies.

A newcomers trip to the glacier, led by John Robinson, was one of two excursions featured on Sunday. Twelve hikers participated in this venture, the highlight of which was several wet glissades.

The principle climb of the weekend was an ascent of Mt. Winchell. Twenty-six persons attempted the ascent, which was made from below the col southeast of the peak. The route followed an easterly arete which culminated in a steep chute leading to the summit. Several third-class pitches lent interest to the ascent, which was completed by 23 climbers under the leadership of Sanders and Andy Smatko. All had a spectacular view of Winchell's west face from the slightly crowded summit.

The weekend activities were culminated as both parties met at base camp and returned to the cars late Sunday afternoon.

NON-SCHEDULED OUTINGS

By Tom Ross

ASSORTED PEAK BAGGING FROM ONION VALLEY

Since Center Peak (12,767) and Mt. Keith (13,990) are in my "backyard," I backpacked over University Pass (12,700) June 10 to Center Basin. From there I climbed Center under perfect weather conditions. On the following morning, I scaled Mt. Keith by the northwest face, a second to third-class approach. It was the first ascent for so early in the season. On the way down, glissading was enjoyed on spring snow. The retreat to Onion Valley was made via Kearsarge Pass.

On June 18, I started out for Mt. Bago (11,869) and East Vidette (12,742). Bago was reached easily from Charlotte Lake. I am sure the Bago trip set for August 8-9 will be suitable for beginners since I climbed it in one day from Onion Valley. On the same day, I also climbed impressive East Vidette via a third-class route. Norman Clyde climbed the peak six times, so it must be a good mountain. It would be a good one to schedule.

SNOW CREEK TO IDYLLWILD TRAVERSE (TUNING UP FOR THE SIERRA)

By Rich Gnagy

At dawn on April 25, four SP4ers left their cars near the end of the Snow Creek road on the north side of Mt. San Jacinto (10,831) for a traverse to Idyllwild. The first man reached the summit 10 hours and 40 minutes later. San Jacinto was socked in, the temperature was 48 degrees and it was windy. The party--composed of Andy Smatko, Bill Sanders, Chuck Miller and Rich Gnagy--completed the traverse to Idyllwild in 13½ hours.

A map of the roadhead and route appeared in the Echo in June, 1958.

MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT BEING FORMED

By John Biewener

The Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club is forming a mountain rescue unit as a result of the various fatal accidents this spring. If you are interested in becoming a part of this important group, send your name, address and telephone number on a postcard to the editor of the Echo.

A complete questionnaire will be sent to you. We are looking for Sierrans with all types of outdoor abilities. We are also interested in persons who will act as coordinators and telephone team members at home.

Don't wait, respond now!
NORTH PALISADE (14,242')
(5th in a series on S. P. S. Emblem Peaks.)

S = Summit of North Palisade (14,242')
N = Northwest summit (Milkbottle) (about 14,200')
U = U notch
L = Point reached by LeConte Party in unsuccessful attempt, 1903

North Palisade, as imposing as its name implies, was another late but worthy addition to the list of SPS emblem peaks. Its 14,242 feet, rising above the surrounding crud like a heap of irregular building blocks, makes it the Sierra's 3rd highest summit. It's a fitting culmination to what is probably the most rugged area in the range. The Palisade Glacier below its eastern rampart is the largest in the Sierra.

The Palisade region was first visited in 1864 by the California State geological Survey. Because of the spectacular cliffs that characterized the area, the name "Palisades" was given. The Wheeler Survey of 1875 determined the height of several summits in the region as being over 14,000 feet and named the highest one "North Palisade". The name did not stick at first, and four years later Lil A. Winchell, on a visit to the area, named the high point "Mt. Dusy". In 1895 Professor Bolton Coit Brown proposed "Mt. Jordan" as a fitting label for the peak. None of these later names stuck, however, and by the turn of the century the original "North Palisade" was in common usage.

Due to its relative inaccessibility, North Pal was not attacked until long after many of the other high peaks of the Sierra. As was a common custom in those days, many "experts" termed the climb impossible.

On July 24, 1903 the first serious attempt for the summit was made by Joseph N. Le Conte, James Hutchinson, and James Moffitt. From Palisade Basin southwest of the peak they ascended a great amphitheater south (Continued)
of the summit, from which they hoped to traverse the knife edge northward to the top. But arriving at the crest, it seemed impossible to cross a very deep notch between them and the summit. So instead they made the first ascent the nearest, direct route peak to the southeast.

Next day (July 13) the three men, having been on the north face another time ascending South Palisade, again encountered that notch. But they went over the second time when a narrow chimney further to the left showed a clear path up the mountain. This chimney farther to the left again stopped them at the summit. But it was here that the route was taken from north peak to the northeast.

This third chimney called out, "Remnant" and is used on the SP3 schedule. Although it was used for many years, its knowledge of climbers, climbers had used other routes before discovered. In 1921 Herbert Carver made the first ascent from the U-notch (approaching them from that side and crossed the LaGoute party 18 years before. He reported that is not excessively difficult.

In 1926, Norman Ederle, the first ascent was the glacier on the east side. He crossed the glacier an climbed up the broad snow chute to the U-notch. From there he ascended a few 10 feet on the rock and worked his way up the north ridge. He found a cleft and climbed straight up the glacier side of the east side of the ridge.

By the early 1930s the Palisades have become one of the most popular climbing areas in the Sierra. John Thomas and three others made the first traverse from South to North in 1934. This traverse was first made in the opposite direction in 1931 by a party of nine climbed from the summit of South Palisade to the top of North Palisade. Times called the Royal Route.

Any route taken up North Palisade is a challenge a challenge and an enjoyment. From any route that offers a view beauty and rugged grandeur, of altitude, of climbing itself of something adaptable in a mountain - North Palisade is one of the finest peaks in the Sierra. Many SP3s believe this is the view from our embassy.