CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I just talked to Gordon MacLeod, who is in the Good Samaritan Hospital with a broken leg. It happened on June 3rd at Mammoth Mountain. Some big 200 pounder was coming down the slope without poles, and ploughed into Gordon. He is in fine spirits, however, and said to say hello to everyone and that he will hobble in to the first meeting he is able to make.

On the way home from the Mt. Langley trip, Glenn Lougee fell asleep at the wheel and unfortunately turned his car over and broke his neck. He is getting along fine and will soon be climbing with us again. (Boy what a guy won't do to get out of being a co-leader on a trip!)

So - Gordon and Glenn - on behalf of all the SPS'ers, we wish you a speedy recovery - we need you to lead our trips!

It has been written that there are more accidents going to and from the mountain than on the mountain itself. It might be wise for all of us to drive the way we climb - not alone. Another person should always be along, awake, and ready to belay the driver in case he falls asleep.

Unfortunately, as you all know, our Echo seems to be getting to the members farther and farther apart. It is not any one person's fault - so rather than place the blame, let us find the cure.

Make sure you get your material to the Editor on time. This year it is Ellen Siegel, and I might add that she has good reason to complain when the material does not reach her in time, consequently holding her up. The people who do not know the reason, naturally blame the Editor.

The next deadline is July 28, 1967, so let us get on the ball, as our Echo is only as good as we make it.

Continued
CHAIRMAN'S CORNER (cont'd)

It has also been written that the more you climb today, the stronger you will be tomorrow. Well, there are many days between week-ends, so I am going to start a mid-week, one day, climb, commencing immediately. (To begin with, it will be on Wednesdays). For those who are able to get off work or what-have-you, please call me at my office any week-day between 9:00 and 5:00 o'clock (telephone 392-3069), for meeting place, time, and peak to be climbed.

- SD -

NEWS AND VIEWS

A WARNING TO NON-PAYING MEMBERS

The Management Committee has requested that the Echo publish the following list of SPS members who have not paid their dues, with the warning that if they do not pay, their names will be dropped from the SPS Membership List. (Ed. note - I wonder at the effectiveness of this, as I understand that, also by the Management Committee decision, these are the very people who are not to receive the Echo! - ej's) If anyone on the list has paid, they are to contact Bill Hunt, the SPS Secretary, to have their names removed from this list and replaced on the membership list.

Ashby, Kenneth
Ballard, Chuck
Banks, Alterio
Barnard, Ralph & Anne
Bear, Robert
Bradford, Jack
Carrier, Guy
Cawley, Martin D.
Clement, Hayden
Clifton, Bill
Cohen, Mike & Dave
Colledge, Anne
Cornell, John
Cubberley, David
Cubberley, Don
Dailey, Robert
Darrow, Joseph
Davidson, Scott & Ann
Duce, Gordon
Evans, Dave
Feuerer, Bill & Laurel
Finney, Albert
Fossett, Steve
Gahr, Charles
Gaston, Jack
Gauer, William
Gentry, Pat
Gerkens, Charles
Gray, Cecelia
Gunn, Tom
Hallett, Bernard
Haven, Gerard
Health, Don
Hurlihy, Robert
Heusel, Bill
Huestis, Gerald
Hunt, Tom, Trudie & Peter
Ives, Robin
Johnson, Dennis
Kilen, James
Killian, Jack
Kirkpatrick, Donald
Lane, Ed
Larkin, Barbara
Learner, Diane
Lehman, Walt
Lewis, Gary
Lewis, Peter
Lieberman, Izzy
Lounge, Glenn
Lovett, Robert
Lutton, Lyle
McLennan, William
McNicholas, Mike
Martin, Phil & Luella
Michel, Roy
Miller, Chuck & Maryann
Moeller, Cal
Mohn, Russell
Murray, Ann Marie
Nagy, Donald
Neffson, Ben
Ossofskey, Sy
Ostrenga, Ed
Palmer, Gordon
Parsons, Charlotte
Perrine, Jack
Pimple, Leon
Powers, Jim
Rappollee, Don
Ripley, John
Rich, Art
Rohn, Norm
Schuler, William
Signer, Roy
Slack, William
Smith, Andrew
Spangler, George
Spiehler, Ernie
Stevenson, Glenn
Stockon, Chuck
Stork, Edward
Sutherland, Jim
Taft, Richard
Tepal, Robert
Thompson, Lois
Turner, Mr. & Mrs. C.
Van Aken, Ray
Voge, Hervey H.
Wadley, Harlan
Wade, Robert
Wilkie, Steve
Willis, Mel
Wing, Fred
Yates, Frank

The dues are to be paid to the SPS Treasurer, Ted Maier.
EDITOR'S COLUMN

I wish to make it clear that the paucity of issues of the Sierra Echo in the year 1967 is in no way attributable to lack of diligence on my part. As editor I receive (when such are sent to me) articles on scheduled SPS trips, reports on non-scheduled trips, and articles of general interest to our section. These articles are read and edited by me and then arranged in proper order and sent to the typist (also an SPS member). At this moment, further processing and expediting of the issuance of the Echo is out of my hands, and it is from this moment that delays have occurred. It is this point that I wish to make absolutely clear, i.e., I am not responsible for delays in the delivery of the Echo.

Likewise, unless writeups are sent in ON TIME by the leaders of the SPS scheduled climbs, there can be no Echo, for reports of trips basically constitute the body of the Echo. So far this year, I have received few writeups, and I must admonish the leaders of SPS scheduled trips that it is advisable to send in their reports within a week of the climb.

- EJS -

NEW EMBLEM HOLDER

Bob Van Allen earned his emblem on Split Mountain June 18. Previous emblem climbs were Kaweah, Whitney, Abbott, Matterhorn, Lyell, Humphreys, Ritter, Goddard and Darwin.

THE SIERRA ECHO: Published bi-monthly by the Sierra Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. Mailed to subscribers on even numbered months.

EDITOR: Ellen Siegal, 3460 Greenfield Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90034

STAFF: Bob Mason (typing), George Shinno (mimeographing), Don Anderson (mailing), Judy Hoeptnen.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: $1.00 per year. Subscribing to the Echo is a requirement for active membership in the S.P.S.

REMITTANCE: Must be sent to the SPS Treasurer (1967 - Ted Maier, 3233 Federal Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90066).

TYPIST'S COLUMN

Dear Ed Lane: Those PPC's you have been leaving on mountain tops all over the Sierra -- if they aren't typographical errors, what are they?

SNOW ADVICE FOR SIERRA ADVENTURERS

The following article, from the April-May Sierra Club Bulletin, is of particular interest to the active members of our section, who will, indeed, be venturing into the Sierra with it's "record snowpack". - ejs

RECORD SNOWPACK IN SIERRA

Bob Golden, whose knowledge of the Sierra few can match, warns that the gentle wilderness is likely to be a bit difficult this year:
"The May 1 report of the California State Cooperative Snow Survey confirms the rumor that it's been a good year for skiers; at the end of April, the water content of the southern Sierra snowpack was the greatest recorded since the survey began in 1929. The report points out that this year's maximum is one month later than normal, putting California one month behind on the beginning of the major snowmelt period.

From these data, we're forced to predict that the Sierra high country will be slow to open this year and some of the highest passes may not open until late in the season - if at all.

If you plan a summer trip in the Sierra, seek last-minute information on conditions before you start. At present, the following advice seems worth heeding:

"Outfit yourself for travel on snow. Crampons, ice axe, goggles, and sunburn protection may be necessary on most high, cross country routes. Plan your itinerary with enough leeway to allow for delays caused by heavy going in snow. Take it easy. Snow travel is hard work. Breath gets short - tempers may too! Streams will probably fluctuate widely during the day for most of July, making stream crossings more difficult in the afternoons. More snow means more water. And that means concentrations of mosquitoes, even in August. Don't forget repellent."

And don't forget that we told you so. Or Weldon Heald did (see "Sierra Snows, Past and Future", SCB Annual, 1949). Weldon predicted this year's heavy snow almost 20 years ago, and we wish we knew where he got his crystal ball."
TRIP REPORTS

"INDIAN ROCK", April 22-23 .................................. Andy Smatko

This elusive 'Rock' has again eluded an SPS scheduled attempt to climb it. This time it was the weather with an abnormally thick snow pack that thwarted our efforts. A group of some 28 SPS'ers started the backpack from the roadhead on the North Fork of Oak Creek and gained the ridge dividing this stream from Thibout Creek. At about 9,200' where there was a level spot on the ridge we decided to camp, as there was a snowstorm in progress at the 10,000' level (and higher) where we had intended to camp. High winds buffeted us for a while but the evening was quite pleasant, with the temperature dropping to only 16°F. during the night. At our camp there was from 6 to 12 inches of snow and it looked like a miniature Thule encampment, with trails in the snow radiating in every direction. The snow depth on the North side of our ridge varied from 2 to 5 or 6 feet deep and was powder snow.

The next day, it was felt that Indian Rock was inaccessible from our present location at 9,200' both as regards to distance and difficulty of terrain, so as a consolation, 17 people started out for the ascent of Pk. 11,844' further up on "our" ridge. Sixteen people attained a summit about 50' lower and only 1/4 mile from the true summit, but between the lower summit and the actual summit there was a 15' 4th class pitch and it was felt that this would be too difficult for the group to attempt in the snowstorm that hit us on the lower summit. Only Arky Erb and Ed Lane went on to the higher summit.

Thus ended the second frustrated attempt on Indian Rock. It is probable that an approach from the Sawmill Pass Trail might prove more feasible for a future attempt.
TRIP REPORTS (cont'd)

UNIVERSITY PEAK - SPS SCHEDULED CLIMB - April 29-30 ........ Dick Sykes

The avalanche had been opened (at 7,300 feet) on the road to Onion Valley but we were unable to get to the road's end, due to snow. At about 8:30 a.m. in a stiff wind, with the temperature reported at 18° F, snow flurries, and the peaks lost in clouds, all but one of the intrepid thirteen voted to try the sunny desert.

We climbed a cool Pleasant Mountain in the Inyos with no difficulty.

Saturday night camp was in the Alabama Hills. Just prior to dark, an old man with piercing blue eyes drove up and started chattering with us. Mr. Clyde looks great! He entertained about six hero worshippers before changing into an old suit and leaving for a banquet.

On Sunday, twelve of us left Barbara Sykes back at Barrel Springs all warm, comfortable, and sleeping, while we hiked to Plute Monument. Ken McNutt led a long, cold, pitch in below-freezing weather above the only bolt placed on Plute other than the ring-bolt on top. After a frigid 30 foot lead, he was able to place a covey of three pitons near the top for some protection. We had agreed that strong words, perhaps even in a loud voice, would be justified if the belayer, "Butter Fingers Dick" lived up to his reputation. In spite of this handicap, Ken made the summit and assisted four of us up with upper belays. One chap pulled himself up the rappel line and another was subsequently lauded by Ken for having the good sense to back off after climbing a short way. The summit register had acquired some water, resulting in the pencil and paper being neatly encapsulated in an ice cube. It was jolly fun returning to the big city with Lake Crowley's 9,000 fish-fanatics. We hope that the DPS will forgive us our trespasses.
TRIP REPORTS (cont'd)

MT. EMERSON & MT. GOETHE - June 3-4

Sid Davis

With as much snow as we have had in the Sierras this past winter, we were unable to drive to North Lake for the start of the hike. We were only able to get as far as Lake Sabrina, at which point the road was blocked off.

At 8:00 a.m. Saturday - a beautiful sunshiny day - 13 of us hiked to Loch Leven. After lunch, 8 of us started out and reached the peak of Mt. Emerson. The view was breath-taking. It would seem that after climbing many mountains one might take the scenery for granted, but I am glad I still get a thrill each time I reach the peak, and see the wonders spread before me. The view of Mt. Tom, Humphreys, Darwin, etc., was a sight to behold.

I might add that Emerson is a good Class 3 climb.

On the way down, we were able to glissade the biggest part of the way, and it took us just 50 minutes, as compared to 3 hours going up.

Unfortunately, because of the depth of the snow, we decided against doing Goethe on Sunday. Those who had not climbed Emerson on Saturday, climbed the peak with Dick Sykes leading.