Another beautiful picture on our cover, compliments of Tom Ross! It was taken above his camp during his first winter ascent of Mt. Mary Austin, March 18 of last year.

The ridge leads up to the northwest peak of Kearsarge Peak—and the temperature is 10 degrees!

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If you've missed Ken McNutt at our meetings this summer, it's because he's been in and out of the hospital several times.

We're pleased to hear that Ken is up and around again—we hope to see you out again soon, Ken.

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The MUGELNOOS reports that no fires will be allowed by rangers in the Slushy Meadows and Thousand Springs Area of San Gorgonio. In fact, no fires may be allowed there for two or three more winters!

And there's more: a shovel will be required, even in the middle of winter—folding entrenching tool OK. Leaders take warning.

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Dick Jali has a new address—so write it down, folks. He's now at 4748-G La Villa Marina, Marina Del Rey, 90291.

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FOR SALE: one pair of Grivel crampons, size 47, 12 point with straps, nearly new, $12.00; one pair Grivel crampons, size 48, 12 point with straps, $12.00; one Bluet stove with five fuel cylinders, $7.00.

Contact John Thornton, P.O. Box 1532, Manhattan Beach, 90266, or call 376-7716.

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SPECIAL THANKS from Barbara and Dick Sykes to all of you that contributed the many books for the Peruvian English Club. Barbara tells us that she spent last Sunday going through the various contributions and sorting until she was able to fill five large cardboard boxes with books.

A few exceptions were made: Peyton Place, Frank Reisley's technical books, and the Equations of How to Fly an Airplane, but all in all, most were packed for shipment. As soon as the political situation cools down in Peru, they will be mailed. In the meantime, the word is "uncle." You have contributed enough!
DUSY BASIN TRIP, August 31-September 2 .................. Dick Sykes

A batch of us took a lot of Saturday finally to mosey over the pass to Dusy Basin. Dusy is a lovely place, noted for the lack of good campsites and water. There must have been about 35 or so along for the trip.

The weather was unseasonably warm. Not too early the next morning about 15 of us left to mosey up a somewhat circuitous route to Giroud Peak. After quite a bit of ridge-hopping, we hit a dead end in the form of a pinnacle that the leader did not care to mosey the group over. (Editor's note: Mosey the group over? Really, Richard!) By moseying down some really fine Class I sand, we managed finally to find a route to the summit. Delicacy does not permit this writer to identify the couple that turned back just short of the summit. (Editor's note again: On the other hand, perhaps praise should be given that noble husband who sacrificed a peak for the sake of his lame and suffering wife--right, girls?) Shortly after high noon, we were encouraged to vacate the summit by some friendly snow flurries.

Other members of the group trotted up Agassiz and Goode. Saturday night was spent by some of us falling off a splendid granite boulder, prior to chow and a large group campfire.

After the climb, one lad and lass, in an attempt to follow the leader's directions back to camp, moseyed back to the south and entered the wrong side of the ridge. As it became dark, we were in the process of constructing a gigantic Bingham Roast, when we heard a tired voice call out from the rocks above: "Is this the SPS?!" Yes, Virginia, it was the lost lad and lass.

Monday was spent moseying back over the pass--slowly.

Note: Mosey (mōlzē)v.i.,1. --seyed, --sayng....2. to shuffle about leisurely; stroll; saunter (often followed by along or about).

BUENA VISTA PEAK, October 12-13 ................. Art de Goede

What climb of Buena Vista Peak? Light snow flurries early Saturday morning changed into light rain showers in mid-morning, all the result of low clouds with occasional breaks. The weather caused a temporizing hike to be taken from Glacier Point down to Illilouette Falls and Creek. Steady rain during lunchtime with forecasts of steadily deteriorating weather prompted us to return home. It appeared that the whole Sierra had clouds over it Saturday afternoon.
"No matter what the winter brings, Esther, we've given ourselves a mighty wonderful little summer."

PRIVATE CLIMBS

COLUMBINE PEAK, June 8-9....Barbara Lilley

On the weekend of June 8-9, I joined three other Sierra Club members--who were primarily interested in fishing--on a backpack over Bishop Pass and down to camp at one of the lower Dusy Lakes (10,800'). Considerable snow from the winter remained above 11,000' plus about four inches of new snow that had fallen above the 10,000' level on Friday.

Saturday afternoon the weather deteriorated into snow flurries which continued off and on during the night. We woke up Sunday morning to sunshine and two inches of new powder snow covering the ground.

Three of us headed for Knapsack Pass, but the new snow discouraged everyone but me from climbing Columbine Peak from the Pass. Care was needed on the snow-covered high Class 2 rocks, but the spectacular views from the summit of the Sierra covered with new snow made the climb well worth the effort. Even if this is not a qualifying peak! Return to the car from camp was accomplished in four hours.

* * *

BOOK REVIEW

Have you seen the new book, The Population Bomb? It's by Dr. Paul R. Ehrlich of Stanford University, and retails for 95 cents.

In his foreword to the book, Dave Brower writes: "People are recognizing that we cannot forever continue to multiply and subdue the earth without losing our standard of life and the natural beauty that must be part of it... These are the years of decision--the decision of men to stay the flood of man."
PRIVATE CLIMBS, Continued

CLYDE PEAK, September 18-19 ................. Ed Lane

Dick Beach and I backpacked up to our campsite (at 10,800' just west of the stream from Clyde Glacier) on Wednesday, September 18th. That afternoon we made an attempt on Peak 13,659--Mt. Williams?--but did not have time to finish it. We had to cut steps in hard ice, for I had forgotten crampons.

The next day we climbed Clyde Peak by first going up to the ridge NE of it in order to avoid most of the glacier. From the ridge we climbed one pitch of Class 5.3 (using two pitons) on the buttress, then crossed over to the regular Class 3 and 4 north face route. We used rope only on the 5th class pitch.

We placed an official register on the summit, in a new SPS aluminum container, and spent about one hour copying the old records into the new book. We noticed that Don Jensen has climbed Clyde Peak fourteen times in the past three years--including two winter ascents!

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FOUR GABLES, September 21-22 ............... Art de Goede

Four Gables is a convenient climb in conjunction with Royce and Merriam on a two-day weekend. After leaving the Pine Creek roadhead at 9 a.m., we made camp shortly after noon near two small lakes at 10,560 elevation about a mile short of Pine Creek Pass. It is a good camping area.

We climbed Four Gables Saturday afternoon via Pine Creek Pass, French Lake and a blocky ridge to the southeast of the small lakes above French Lake. From the top of this ridge we traversed northeasterly along the main ridge and across a shallow bowl to Four Gables, which is distinctly unimpressive from this direction, neighboring unnamed peaks being higher. The chutes to the northeast of the first ridge mentioned were found to be very poor with much loose rock on the descent.

We returned to camp by 6:30 p.m., and made pleasant climbs of Royce and Merriam the next day.

***

MT. DARWIN, EAST FACE, October 5-6 ........ Ed Lane

Barbara Lilley, Dave McCoard and I climbed the "Black Band" route on the east face of Darwin October 6th.

Our camp was at timberline above Midnight Lake, and we got an early start Sunday. A tedious hike across the moraine brought us to the base of the prominent dark gray band which diagonals up the face from left to right.

We went right up the band, finding a hard move on the first pitch when we had to traverse under an overhang (about Class 5.5 or 5.6, using two pitons). Then there were two more short pitches (60 feet) of Class 4 and two or three of Class 3 to 4, after which we unroped. We continued following the dark band up across the face on Class 3 rock until we reached a notch, and dropped into the scree chute beyond it. The chute was then followed to the notch between the summit block of Darwin and the plateau. Some Class 3 to 4 was found on the upper chute and summit block, but we did not use a rope.
PRIVATE CLIMBS, Continued

We were annoyed to find that the register had been unbolted from the summit block and taken to the plateau. A small pipe register was on the summit.

After taking a look down the icy north face, we returned by our ascent route, rappelling down the Class 5 pitch. Except for a cold breeze on the summit, we enjoyed excellent weather and warm temperatures.

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MORE ON MT. CORCORAN

As a footnote to the Corcoran discussion appearing in the last ECHO, SPS members should recognize that the Board of Geographic Names in Washington, D.C. renders real service. Shortly before the 1967 Corcoran trip, my examination of the topo gave cause for concern about the correct location of Corcoran. On the Monday preceding the trip weekend, I wrote the Board referring to the four summits (and their approximate respective elevations) found near the location of the name on the map. I inquired whether all four summits collectively constituted Mount Corcoran and, if not, which summit was the true Mount Corcoran. I requested an early response, telling them that a climb was planned for the coming weekend.

On Thursday, as I recall, I received a telephone call from the General Services Administration teletype operator in the Los Angeles Federal Building. She reported that a teletype message for me from the Board indicated that Mount Corcoran was the northernmost of the four summits I had mentioned, with an elevation of 13,760+ feet.

Other correspondence ensued, and ultimately I received a letter on April 8, 1968, to the effect that the correct description of Mount Corcoran was as follows:

Corcoran, Mount: peak, elevation 13,760 feet, in Sequoia National Park, northernmost of four peaks, in the Sierra Nevada 1.2 miles NW of Mount Langley and 3.6 miles SE of Mount Whitney; named about 1868 for William Wilson Corcoran, 1796-1888, philanthropist of Washington, D.C., and founder of the Corcoran Gallery of Art; Inyo and Tulare Counties, California; 36°32'20" N, 118°14'59" W. Not: Corcoran Mountain.

--Art de Goede--

ROUTE INFORMATION

From China Laker Carl Heller comes this information:

On a recent trip through Northern Yosemite I gained some route information which may be of interest to ECHO readers. Our trip started at Virginia Lakes on August 30, went south of the Sawtooth range to Crown Lake and down Robinson Creek to Twin Lakes. The Explorer Post who took me with them on this week-long trip used two articles from the ECHO for planning (Jerry Keating, August of 1967 ECHO; Ruth Erb, October-November of 1966 ECHO).

I am enclosing pertinent route descriptions in a form such as the Climber's Guide uses.

** BOND PASS to TIOGA PASS, page 16 of Guide, 2nd Edition. Pass between Spiller and Virginia Canyon north of Virginia Peak. To avoid lower cliffs on West, traverse north about one mile to head of Spiller Canyon. Class 2. **

West Finger--11,280+. Class 2. The west is easy, the East Face 80' of Class 4. 
Middle Finger--11,440. First ascent July 19, 1931 by Jules Elchorn, Glen Dawson and Walter Brem.
West face--Class 3. With easy Class 4 summit block. From West Saddle climb south side of West Arete to a large notch about halfway up. Traverse northward 200 feet on a ledge into NW gully and up to summit.
East Finger--11,390. 1. The South and SW slopes are Class 2. 2. East Arete--Class 3. Stay just below ridge on South side ledges. 3. North face--Class 3 or 4. First ascent from lakes to North on July 19, 1931 by Elchorn et. al.
ROUTE INFORMATION, Continued

WHORL MOUNTAIN, 12,029, page 31 of Guide, 2nd Edition. There are a number of summits along this 1-1/2 mile ridge. The following are the main summits.

North Peak, 11,920. Class 2 from north saddle.

Middle Peak, 12,029.

Route 1, East Face. Class 4. First ascent July 9, 1933 by Herbert B. Blanks, Kenneth May and Elliot Sawyer. Climbing starts in the first easy shallow chute just south of the steep rock below the summit. This can be reached on a traverse from the head of Spiller Canyon. Follow chute until it ends, then switch to next chute right (north) which is loose and sandy. After gaining 200 feet, again switch north to a third chute. A large chockstone blocks the route to ridge. It can be passed on right. From ridgeline traverse north on West side about 1/3 mile to summit.

Route 2. East Gully and South Ridge. Class 4. The gully into the South saddle is easy unless filled with ice. The ridge is Class 3 for some distance. Where it becomes difficult, one can descend East and join Route 1 just below chockstone.

Route 3. South East chutes. Class 3. First ascent 24 July 1968 by Gordon and Jim Patterson and Wallace Hayes. From below the South Saddle a double chute can be seen going up North to a small notch just West of summit. From near the notch various routes give Class 3 access to summit.


THE DOODAD, 11,600.
Summit Block Class 5.2. This is a 25-foot cube which can be climbed by a crack on the South. This can be protected by one sling. The North side was descended by Carl Jensen on September 7, 1936.

Route 1, South Face. Class 4. First ascent July 7, 1934 by Kenneth May and Howard Twining. Class 3 climbing starts on the lower left (West) arete and leads diagonally right (Northeast) towards the ridge. A difficult but short pitch is about halfway. The ridge may be followed west around a pinnacle to the main summit.

Route 2, Northwest Face. Class 5. No new information.

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"Randy, that is NOT what I mean by breaking camp!"
This will be the First Ascent of the Century!!!
BOOK REVIEW

From New Mama Judy Hoeptner, comes this book review:


Like most things, books on mountaineering range from "blah" to very interesting. This one is definitely in the latter category. It sustained me through the first weeks of middle-of-the-night baby feedings, often keeping me up quite a bit longer than necessary just to finish a chapter. One cannot readily leave climbers on some of the world's highest slopes, even in the imagination, if the story is well told.

Mr. Styles, an Englishman now 60 years old, has made mountaineering his hobby for many years. In this beautiful book he tells of early attempts and first ascents of many of the world's major mountains--in the Alps, Andes, Himalayas, on Alaska's Mt. McKinley and New Zealand's Mt. Cook. He includes the history of mountaineering philosophy, which evolved from fear and avoidance of the peaks to a scientific interest in mountains, and finally to today's love of mountains for their own sake.

To my surprise women are not totally excluded from the history of climbing. A 58-year-old schoolteacher from Providence, Miss Annie Peck, in 1908 made several assaults on the Peruvian Andes' Huascaran North, soaring 21,837 feet. She was determined to set the world's altitude record for both men and women. Miss Peck eventually bagged her peak but failed to set any records. However, her accomplishment is still impressive among climbers.

The idea to send an expedition up Mt. McKinley was born in a saloon in Fairbanks during the long, cold winter of 1910. It seems fitting that it was a group of sourdoughs who almost first conquered North America's highest summit. Totally inexperienced with climbing, but vastly experienced with the northern climate, they used dogsleds to carry supplies as high as 15,000 feet. How sad it seems that these pioneers climbed the wrong summit, losing their claim to a first ascent by less than 300 feet.

Incidentally, this peak was named for Republican presidential nominee William McKinley even before he was elected. Anyone for Mt. Nixon? Mt. Humphrey (Hubert, that is)? Or even Mt. Wallace?? Perhaps McKinley should have been left with its Indian name of Denali, the Great One.

Every mountain has a multitude of tales, and Mr. Styles has included some of the best in his book, making it fine reading for that weekend when your trip doesn't go, or perhaps the trip does go--but you don't go with it.

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LAST CHANCE...LAST CHANCE...LAST CHANCE

This is the last notice you will read in the ECHO concerning the SPS Annual Banquet. Fair warning! If you haven't gotten your tickets yet, this is your big chance to obtain them.

Send a check for $4.30 per person to Barbara Sykes (made payable to her) and sending a self-addressed stamped envelope. Barbara's address: 504 Avenue G, #19, Redondo Beach, California 90277.

The Dick Sykes/Pete White program will show slides and movies of the six-man attempt to climb Huascaran in Peru this summer. Don't miss either "grunge" or the Ice Man!

The date: December 5, 1968
The time: 6:30 p.m. cocktails, 7:30 dinner.
The place: Sir Michael's, 6309 East Washington, Los Angeles (City of Commerce) (Take the Washington Blvd. off-ramp traveling south on the Santa Ana freeway)
"THE SIERRA ECHO"
2738 Montrose Avenue #17
Montrose, California 91020

"to explore, enjoy, preserve"

Roy V. Keenan
4317 Paseo de las Tortugas
Torrance, Calif. 90505