MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 No. 4

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October 1955.

Adderlay, Wood, Gedd, Burns, Firtili

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The Annual Report of the British Mountaineering Council which appears in this istue raises once again the grave topic of mounta ineering accidents. Perhaps the conclusions of the B.M.C. could have been foreseen; after all, there is only one fundamental rule for safe climbing - use your loaf. This statement is not intended in any way as a criticism of the valuable contributions of the B.M.C. to the problem of reducing the incidence of accidents in British mountaineering. Nor is my suggestion that climbers should be required to pas some sort of examination in the elementary principles of their craft before being let loose on real mounta ins. The following is a specimen paper of the type that might be set. It is not intended to be taken too seriously.

Subject: Elementary Mountaincraft. Time allowed: any odd week-end.

Part I: Written Paper.

Answer all questions. Write on the paper provided, if you can write.

- 1. Describe the construction and theoretical principles of the Primus stove. Illustrate your answer with diagrams where necessary.
- Your leader has fallen 100 feet on to a rock ledge. Should you

(a) apply first aid and wa it to be rescued, or

- (a) apply first aid and wa it to be rescued, or(b) absell off and consider yourself lucky not to have been pulled off, or
- Explain the reasons for your choice. (c) send for the undertaker?

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- 3. Explain the manings of the following technical terms: Pitch (both senses) toss; drop a boulder; drop a clanger; overhang; hangover.
- 4. Name all the pubs within twenty miles of Snowdon, indica ting those in which you have drunk to excess. Name the brewers of the beer sold at any five of these establishments.

Part II: Practical

- Classify the given pitches. Comment where necessary.
- Climb the given mountain. Extra marks will be given for not falling off. Using map and compass, sense of smell or any other means, find your way through the given fog to the nearest pub.
- 3. Pitch the tent provided (a) onsolid rock; (b) in a blizaard; (c) into the nearest stream. Sleep in it in pouring rain. Rather you than me. D.C.C.

Since my last report work at our hut, Bryn-y-Wern, has gone on non-stop. Many members spent their holida ys toiling away at the many tasks in hand. These included Britton, Fisher, Betty Bird and the Pres and family. Endless hours ha we been spent digging out the back of the house in preparation for the drain to prevent da mpnessof the rear wall. Fisher, Hayhurst, Grenville, Adderley, Webb, Gadd, Burns, Fhillips and a host of others have obtained blistered hands and aching limbs here.

Thw hall wass decorated by Britton, Bird, Smith and co., the floors scrubbed nou and negative to elect every out alone come accier e and landing cleaned.

August 27th some 25 odd members and friends turned up. Burns and Phillips departed for Portmadoc, bought timber for the dining room benches and then spent the rest of the afternoon making them. The ladies, Cullum, Wright, Doarden, Bird, Phillips a nd Leverton were made to scrub floors, white-wash, paint, clean up a nd do a host of other jobs, plus cooking and of course the washing up. They managed very well and left B-y-W looking like a Park Lane Hotel3

Being an extremely hot day it was difficult to induce people to labour at the rear of the house; most people had a go in the evening however. The Hon. Ed. and Falkner showed their skill with a pick and shovel. Someone went so far as to say that they had & obtained their skill on ""the Moor".

Work went on through the following week. The Cookes arrived and set to 2 immediately with Fisher, Bird and Webba toward bus collaboration out of relied

A multitude descended again the following week-end, among them Ernie Ma rshall, recently out of hospital. The Welbourns and Janes: arrived, John making sure of the "blue room". Later on came the Bedford and its load! How Turner does it I don't know, nor does anyone else: apart from four passengers and kit, out came the boiler, two la rge boxes of pots and one enormous sideboard, a also a few small a rticles. It took about half a dozen to carry in the sideboard. It was positioned in the lounge and Byne's ancient teapot put on the top shelf. Next morning the boiler was fixed in position, Mick Turner having done a wonderful job in reconditioning it. Unfortunately a few new parts including the safety valve are still on order. So our hot water supply monographic policy with the party silve of Snowless only awaits their delivery.

To make life more comfortablea number of smaller jobs have been done. The gas burners have been increased by 200% - we now have six! Before Christ mas we hope to install a large gas stove as well. The ladies now have a front bedroom. It has been decorated but awaits erection of beds. In the mean time we hope withey bwon't find the floor too hard!

Thanks are due to all members and especially to non-members who have given so much of their valuable time to the hut in this last four months. The results of their labours can now be seen. I hope it will encourage others to join in with the work, a lot of which must be done before Christmas. and odni (a) threshild s mi (d) theor bildeno (a) belivery deed one nevil

nested through the in pour ing rain. Rather you than mo. D.C.C.

tomes thentifoth, equite a nedt. secures chiles as a loodebing mort bentate If you can spare the odd week-end let me know. Your help is needed.

ly ototed he had not studied the guide sufficiently, suggestion bad ed betote yl Finally a few odd items are still needed for the hut. They are: benefo redatio redate four single mattresses Hat a event thior edd as analo don "Frahmode sid avede" soup and dinner plates dood obling or handed daily dood odd 100 blankets Remailson own hormoso Primus stoves. of blune greater Largery tadw outstand

If you have any let me know. Remember, every little helps. Let me know also if you have any complaints or suggestions to make about the hut. Thank you of antropat has avenuable rathed and antilled lifet become and ease aid all

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL SAFETY COMMITTEE: 1954.

(The full report is in a number of sections, of which only those headed "Report" and "Conclusions" are given in full here, through considerations of space. The report covers the parted 1st April 1954 to the 31st December 1954, a nd during that's period the Countries had notice of 29 accidents involving 34 people. Detailed questionnaires for only 14 of these accidents have been returned, and the report, therefore, is based on these only.) . Encelu doue de fairmesse at drow

REPORT.

Only two walking accidents were reported. In one case a line was twice Eleven of the accidents took place during rock climbing. The majority of these followed a simple pattern of the leader falling and being either injured or killed. The leaders concerned in most cases were experienced, and climbing near the upper limit of their capabilities. That climbers should climb near the upper limit. on occasions, seems obvious to the Committee, and this simple fact requires no comment. Since, however, this situation obviously increases the risk of slipping, the following factors, other than sheer difficulty, found in the reports are worthy of comment, we collapsed the edge continued and any and all the

In two cases the leader was tired, having overdone his programme. In one case he had been out of training for a year. In another cawe a wrist, which was known to be weak, failed to stand the strain. Such factors should obvious ly have been considered, before attempting routes calculated to improve one's standard, or even reckoned to be just within one's powers.

In two cases, accidents occurred when a leader was leading two pitches in one runout. In another case, a leader was believed to have been over-eager to finish a climb, after being held up by a slower party. In these cases a desire for speed on a climb was a possible contributory cause for an accident.

will aug out at . cames Jacksond att mi . In one that at it . amoldevreedo at mey The above two factors, namely, being below standard physically and being in haste, are reasonably obvious and can, with moderate understanding, be expected. Dear to maintage at anit and to sattificage awa a reentstance of

Other factors, which could scarcely be expected, are, unfortunately, apparent in several cases. In a number of instances it was obvious that climbers. often of relatively good experience, placed more reliance on information

obtained from guidebooks, and similar sources, than a simple, intelligent apprel raisal of the rocks which they were about to climb. In one case a leader frankly stated he had not studied the guide sufficiently, suggesting this as a reasonn for failure. Another case involved a climber who considered the guide book was not clear at the point where a fall had occurred. Yet another climber blamed the fact that he had no guide book for his being on rocks "above his standard".

Outside what general pattern could be detected, there occurred two accidents involving simple elementary principles. In one case, a man climbing alone was killed in unknown circumstances. In another, a relatively experienced leader had no belay, and a stance, which did not deal with the expected line of pull. In this case the second fell, pulling the leader sideways and injuring both.

The worst accident of the year occurred in winter conditions near the summit of Ben Nevis. Five climbers with little combined experience, unroped, and two without axes glissaded or ran down a slope, the foot of which was not visible due to mist. As it transpired, they were to the left of therr route and the slope merely led to a sheer drop. An elementary rule was here again broken. Glissading should only take place when an entire slope is visible, even when the slope is familiar. The point in question is a known danger point, but the Committee feels that had the party been roped, and moved with caution, this unfortunate occurrence might have been averted. In mist, good map and compass work is essential at such places.

Only two walking accidents were reported. In one case a knee was twisted on rough ground. In the other case a hiker was found dead at the foot of the Devil's Kitchen Cliffs. Presumably the correct path had been missed, as has occurred previously at this point. com at bearongs arobad off about no rear dails bluede eredails fadl . settilideass whois to thail reads out reen CONCLUSIONS de bia , boddiamo O od od out voo amos , spoissoos mo , disti reggs edd

The requires no commont. Since, towever, this situation ob seriosely The Committee does not consider that it would be justified in drawing any definite conclusions from the information available, due to the fact that, on only about 50% of the accidents reported was detailed information obtained. It reels, however, that it might emphasise the following general contributory factors noted as having led to accidents. A 401 guinters to due need ben at one antards ont boast of bollot , seew of of meant sew

- (a) Below standard physical condition. The transfer of the physical condition. (b) Undue speed on a climb. one mindle dant, ed of perovers move to brobinde
- (c) Undue reliance on guide books.
- (d) Failure to regard the simple rules of Mountaineering, in this case regarding belays, glissading and lone climbing. Terror of the strong of the regarding belays, glissading and lone climbing.

The Committee also feels that, if any one point has emerged from the past year's observations, it is that judgement, in its broadest sense, is the quality greatest required in mountaineers. This judgement must be applied to the problem in hand, related to the conditions prevailing, and also, above all, to the mountaineer's own capabilities at the time in question.

Other feeters, which could seerce to be seen, are, unfortunately, apper-

erodmile tant sucrete case it was obvious that elimbore, out in several cases, in a record that elimbore, IN MOUNTAINEERING MORE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE! A MAN'S FATE IS IN HIS OWN HANDS.

GLEANINGS FROM GARDOM S. BYNE.

Just five years have passed since the Oread finished the guide to Gardom's Edge and the manuscript went to press, incorporated in the Sheffield Area guide book. In that book was wtitten the following: "There and still many fine eracks and walls which have not yet been tried and which will offer routes and explorations on Gardom's Edge for many years to come, and should be an incentive to climbers in search of severity, and to the visiting of this magnificent climbing ground."

This prophetic statement has become fact. The edge has received attention from a multitude of climbers from the various boundaries if the Peak, and yet. perhaps because of its character, it has remained unspoilt, and its buttresses, though conquered, still retain the challenging aloofness of virgin rock. Very few people indeed know of the newer routes, and I think therefore it is the duty of the Oread officially to record these in some brief manner. To begin with, then, and to facilitate easy location with numbers as per guido book tradition. and and .. overes brad .. of ds .. Ifall garraca had .. odd

- 6a. Allen's Route, Black Walle 35 ft., severe. Six feet left of Route II. A.J.Allen, D.Chapman, 3/2/51.
- 7a. Black Wall Tra verso. 25 ft., severe. From the base of the tower to Route II, then up left. Valkyrie, 7/9/51.
- 12a. Lightning Wall. 45 ft., very severe. The left hand wall of Overhang Buttress, incorporating a move out on to the arete and up. D.Chapman, A. J. A. L. J. Allien, 1894 1951.
- Unclimbed. The wall as above but keeping further left. 12b. Thunder. Attempted by R.A.Brown but defeated by ice on final holds.
- 15a. Nowanda. 40 ft., very severe. A boautiful route up the thin crack at the extreme left hand end of the buttress which holds Moyer's Route. E.Ma rshall, Aug. 1953.
- 15b. Landsick. 40 ft., very severe. On the same wall as Nowanda but up a little right of the centre. P.Bivens, 1953. A strolley (53.0)
- 24a. Heather Wall Direct. 40 ft., very difficult. Starts up the centre of the wall, various finishes. R.A.Brown, W.Sellars, R.Lowroy, 14/6/51.
- 26a. Och Ayo, Tartan Start. 40 ft., severe. Delicate traversing movement is on the dirty corner on the right. R.A. Brown, 20/3/51.
- 32c. Moyer's Buttress Chimney. 60 ft., very severe. The cave chimney, then the arete, at left side of buttress. The Cave, W.B. White, Sept. 1950; the Arete, E.Byne, D.I.Byne, Easter 1942.
- 32. Moyer's Buttress. 70 ft., exceptionally sovere. Led at last by Peter Bivens, 7/9/55. odf to samevert elong A ... oroves yrov
- 32b. Overleaning Crack, Moyer's Buttress. On the right hand side wall.
- 34a. Marshall Aid. Difficult. The "Green Slab" and flake crack to the right of Pine Crack (No. 34). E.Marshall, Fob. 1953.

To consilling off . maind you educateleveb enough saw not don't meet inte a

- 36a. Jungle Corner. Very severe. 15 feet right of Elliott's Buttress. D. Ponlington, 6/6/52.
- 36b. Dead Tree Arete. 60 ft., very difficult. Start at the cutaway on left of Dead Tree Wallil E. Marshall, P.G. Titterton, 3/5/53.
- 36c. Evasion. 40 ft., difficult. The slab, left of the cutaway. E. Marshall, 1953, brahmats a to our over bedalf scarle out to exit vine that

IT SERMS LIKE A FAIRY TALE..... TALE.... TALE THE SERVICE THORNESS TO SERVICE THE SER

47. Undertaker's Buttress. 70 ft., very severe. Yielded just too late for inclusion in the guide book. J.Brown, M.T.Sorrell, 3/2/51, in In that book was whitten the following: "There are send on balling

47a. Hearso Atate. Unclimbed. The arete of Undertaker's has been tried, explorations on Cardon's Edge for many years shed cyllyched trombas on enciperative

48a, Morble Wall, White's Route, 60 ft., severe. A few feet of White's Eighthday Route. W.B. White, 3/9/50.

48b. Route III. 50 ft., very difficult. The left hand end of Marble morthowwell. vio E. Marchall, NaOsborne 3 29/5/53 and thomesate oftengorg ain'T

54a. Gardom's Unemquerable and 50 25 , very severe of The imposing flake crack on right of Stepped Grack (No. 54). J.Brown, M.T.Sorrell, and though comquered, still retain the challenging alceir

54b. Blind Variation. 35 ft., very severe. A move left and over the bling corner at the topof the Unconquerable Flake. D. Whillans, Sept. begin with, then, and to facilitate easy location with numbers as perisple book

55a. Bail Bearing Wall. 35 ft., hard severe. On the face to the right of the chimney (No. 55). H. Marshall, G. Dyke, 203(53.

53a. Bilbercy Buttress, Direct Finish. E Marshall, 80/9/53.00 A melia 57a. Troe Neighbour. 40 ft., mild severe. The chimey crack in the corner

a lew feet right of the second pitch of Tree Climb. D. Penlington,

57b. Third Time Lucky. 40 ft., severe. The overhung V chimney crack. , no A.J. Allen, D. Chapman, Sept. 1951; due even a galdarog room , ascradud

63a. Bronto Wall. 30 ft., mild very severe. Right hand edge of Broken
Buttress. D. Chapman, A. J. Allen,

63b. Finals Groovs. 50 fts, very severe. The extreme left hand groove on

630. Babylon's Groove. 45 ft., very severe. Between Finale and Central. E.Ma repoll, Aug. 1955.

Apple Buttress Layback. 30 ft., very severe. Left of the Flake Crack (No.69). Valkyrie members, 3/9/50.

72a. Cider Apple. 35 ft., very difficult. On right of Apple Crack. P. Krapp, E. Byne, S.G. Moore, 7/10/50.

71a. Apple Arete. 50 ft. very severe. Left of Apple Crack. I for the ton. dermor out the right. E.Marshall, R.Hordy, 6/6/52.

74a. Cidor. 35 ft., very savere. On the extreme edge of Apple jack Crack Wall. D. Penlington, F. Pyne, 7/10/50.

75%. Blenheim Gully: 40 ft., mild severe. The difficult section followed by side wall of buttress. P. Penlington, J. Adderley, E. Byne, Sept. 1950

75b. Orchard. Very severe. A girale traverse of the Apple Buttress area, starting from Layback Crack (No. 70) and finishing with the nose of Blenheim Buttress. E.Marshall, E.Raynor, 14/11/53.

78a. President's Arete. 40 ft., severe. The arete forming the left corner of President's Wall. Valkyrie members, 3/9/50.

84a. Scoop Tower. 35 Ft., severe. The narrow tower just left of and behind the Leaning Block. K.Axon, E.Byne, G.R.Sutton, Oct. 1950. 36b. Dead from Lette. 60 ft., very difficult. Start at the outeway on left

So much for the climber. As for the climbers, well, no-one can deny that the Oread members have played their part in these new developments. The fact that only five of the climbs listed here are of a standard less than severe is a significant fact for what future developments may bring. The brilliance of

Ernie Marshall coupled with his undoubted familiarity with Gardom's Edge and its bewildering rock formations was beginning to pay the dividends which many of us had been anticipating. But for his unfortunate motor-cycle accident. there is no telling what this wonderfully good weather of 1955 would have seen him doing, in the way of more fine routes of the calibre of Nowanda. Perhaps the future will see him regain his old standard of skill and strength meanwhile the rocks await our other members and no doubt in the future the Oread will continue to follow in the Gardon's traditions of the last six years, obtained from the owner of the Hudson, Signor J.G. Thompson. On Tuesday July

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Phil Falkner sends the following short note on an unofficial meets

went believe mismer bluop enthosy ent it has of beensyrs eventions and mode Last weekend (i.e. Sept. 24/25) there was one of those pleasant spontaneous meets which the Cread cocasionally produces at short notice - camping at Brother's Water, just off the Kirkstone Passe Present were the Handleys, Pete Janes, Mick Harby, Jim Rury, John Fisher, Batty Rird, Mick Gadd, Armo Loverton, Margaret Doarden, Mike Turner and Eileen Wobb, apart from myself. Saturday was rather wet, and most parties did a pleasant short climb on some slabs near the camp. The nain route was about D; two pitches, 60 feet and 110 feet, the latter being absolutely continuous and unbroken by ledges, but nowhere hard.

one belighed workers and remained concluded black by On Sunday some parties visited Dove Crag and found it vegetated and dirty. Mike . Margaret . Eileen and I ascended Helvellyn via Striding Edge . Mike and I thought it rather disappointing. We were back in Patterdale before the pubs closed at 2.00 d eveluldars thes yent bas relail to neithte pottog out baltiton apot for the first investigation and eventual towing away of the machine to me age agos of the dente party of the dente of the Contact and the contact of the Contact o

ents to muture up and said as CWM SILIN. At he become benefit and grant of some at hale. During the trip there come al

Ernie Phillips sends this brief report on the Meet of September 16/18.

The meet, which was the first to be held at Bryn-y-Wern, was attended by a bout twenty people. John Fisher and Phil Falkner took parties to Cwm Silin on Saturday to do Great Slab. Overhanging Chimneys, etc. The meet leader was inveigled by the custodian into taking him to Portmadoc to search for gas tar and scrap iron. The Langworthys did most if not all of the "Horseshoe".

Phil Falkner and Mike Gadd spent a considerable part of Sunday on car repairs, while Dave, Ronni and myself were persuaded into a stroll by Lawrie Burns, which developed into a marathon circumnavigation of Moel Hobog. (Well. what do you expect of a man who treats dumb animals the way Burns does? - Ed.) The highlight of the meet was considered to have occurred on Friday evening. when Mike Moore left a carrier bag containing fifteen bob's worth of food on the steps of the Garrick thoatre in Lichfield.

The following is translated by the Signor J.G. Thompson of Lambley-Notting-

hamm from the "Alto Adige" of July 26 1955.

Yesterday about 10.45 Male seemed shaken and electrified by the symbol ANR185. ANR 185? ANR185 doesn't reply! passed from mouth to mouth and ran incessantly along the telephone wires. What has happened? What is and ran incessantly along the telephone wires. What has happened? What is the meaning of this symbol? A host of suppositions seized every citizen and questions flew back and forth. Then the bomb exploded: ANR 185 emerged from the mystery which surrounded it and proved to be the registration number of an EnglisheHudson parked at Dimaro from Tuesday the 19th.

Here are the facts reconstructed by our correspondent from particulars obtained from the owner of the Hudson, Signor J.G. Thompson. On Tuesday July 19th towards 4 a.m. there arrived at Dimaro, making for Madonna di Campiglio, two English cars, one a black and one a grey. The grey Hudson just outside the limits of Dimaro a little higher than the communal sawmill stopped itself, having exhausted the petrol, and was parked on the right hand side just off the road. On the spot at that hour of the morning there was only a woman with whom the Englishers arranged to ask if the machine could remain parked there. The woman said yes and the members of the Hudson, three ladies and two gentlemen transhipped with their baggages to the machine of their friends and in this attained Campiglio, their base for an excursion in the Brenta Group. Being in fact certain that no-one would touch the closed automobile left at Dimaro they carried themselves into the mountains passing from the Rifugio Brentei to Tosa to Pedrotti to Tuckett with the maximum tranquillity. Meanwhile at Dimaro everything went well until, during the night between Friday and Saturday unknown persons broke the window of the door of the Hudson with the evident intention of giving a glance at the contents, and remained completely deluded since they excluded everything except some maps and guide books - there was nothing else.

In the morning the mayor of Dimaro being informed of what had happened, notified the police station at Male, and they sent Carabiniere D'Avolio to the spot for the first investigation and eventual towing away of the machine to Male. A thing which was done with the help of the experts of the Conta garage at Male. During the trip there came along two English tourists of passage, who, being questioned, succeeded in establishing that the proprietor of the machine was the Signor J.G. Thompson of Lambley-Nottinghamm. While the machine proceeded to Male, it was about midday that our correspondent proceeded to Dima ro and on the spot where the machine had been parked found the proprietor and his friends around him almost with tears in the eyes. In a few minutes the identity of Signor Thompson became clear as he showed also all the proprietary documents of the machine and after a pair of telephone calls made with the help of our correspondent from Male, they became tranquil with regard to their machine and, expectantly, the friends proceeded with our correspondent to Male where they concluded their adventure in a satisfactory manner. After the usual formalities they re-entered in fact into possession of their machine and after having eventually conveniently compensated the towrope expert, could resume their journey towards Great Britain, not without thanking all those who had helped them. (Especially the towrope expert for the towing away of the machine, almost with the tears in the eyes. - Editorio.) the steps of the Carriek theatre in Lichtield.

Spent a second week at White Hall recently, a Rangers' course. Not so hot, or so strenuous, as the last time. One day I walked from the Lamb Inn, near Hayfield, up to Edalo Rocks, then to the Pagoda, and finally to the Moated Boulder. This I triumphantly ascended after a mud traverse, leaping from the top to regain the bank. How often have I followed Cyril Machin over this course, and I think it was the sight of Harry, up to his thighs in mud and water at the Moated Boulder which inspired Oliver to join us. In support of Uncle Eric, there is much to be said for the Peak District - South Georgia is a loveless place, I do not recommend it. I heard from a mutual friend last night that Cyril is looking well. I'm sure every member will be glad to know that - our first President is an extraordinarily tough person, and it wasn't for his slight inconvenience I'm sure he'd be chasing Peter Bivens up Moyer's.

The following day John Hird (Ass. Warden) persuaded me that I wanted to take the caving party - we went round Gantry's. This was my second visit, but I remembered the way easily enough - one tunnel is a dead end; memories of lying on my tunny in mud for ages whilst the tail-enders retreated egain. Next day two Welsh girls had not had enough of this mud-wallowing lark - must be mining in their blood - and so I found myself leading a strange cave, Stanley Cave, near Harpur Hill. Pleasant walk over to it. Fixed rope had to be rigged. It twists down spirally for some distance, then drops sabruptly down a narrow shaft. After that it levels off and disintegrates into dozens of passages which all go in circles. Some very fine stalactite/stalagmite formations too. We explored every avenue - if I didn't think a passage would go anywhere I sent one of the girls. After all, there's more women than men! In that cave anyway. Said one Welsh girl: "There's a difference between me and mountaineers! Mountaineers have a peculiar sense of humour." I must point out that I can't accept the whole blame for this remark - she had mot Panther as well.

Getting out was the prime consideration - especially up the narrow shaft. I suppose it would be called a chimney since one could and indeed had to get into its 8 th confines. Ohi the anguish as the first girl's boot ground into the second girl's shoulder, and so on down the line. How was Sutton to get out with no head to stand on - would the Amazons haul him bodily out - no, he tied a loop in the fixed rope and stepped up in it, having also found one or two holds in the chimney - and only that many, at a most inconvenient distance apart.

Meanwhile, having listened to my lectures on how to light a primus whilst lying in a sleeping bag, one girl succeeded in burning down her tent and sleeping bag. I shall be surprised if half the peat on Kinderscout is not also ablaze at this moment. I have still not learnt how she got away unscathed - the knowledge could be useful sometime.

As a finale to my week there was Val. Val was not a climber, but she loved rock. She had in her brief spa n of life romped blithely over fell and crumbling cliff without the purgatory of a rope - but she was not a climber. She protested it. How her eyes shone when she saw a running belay on Green Cracket Windgather. "We must do that", she said, to her intrepid (but not at this moment) leader. We had done nost most everything else. I led up the middle - decided to have a top rope - finished easily across the balance move.

THE RUBALYAT OF GEORGE SUTTON - II

and up the overhang. Val followed. Grew even more tired on the balance move. Did not rest long enough under the overhang, and stayed too long on the overhang. She said, "Can I take my hands off?" I asked, "Are your feet on a ledge?" Apparently they were. She took her hands off, and disappeared from sight. Since I was kneeling at the edge this how dould you, Vice-Pres. - my thumb got itself between grit and rope, a deplorable state of affairs which I hastened to remedy. I lowered away - remind me to take up tunny fishing one day. However, I think I was a friend for life - there must be easier ways of making friends.

A foul morning in a tea-room, and a bright afternoon at Castle Naze rounded off the week. May I protest that instructors should be protected from the following? "Do you know how to tie on?" "Oh, yes, when I did the Rimpfischhorn with my guide " Momentary sadness filled my spirit as I ploughed over the rise of hill, past the Buxton Boss and on into the metropolis. I should never see Peter Mosedale at White Hall again, and it would never be the same because of that. God, is it five years since we first met? How time flies! We laughed together over the mighty binge it would be if all the instructors who had passed through White Hall, in that time, got together for a farewell party. There would be over three hundred of them. What a dol

ne stalachte/etalagmite formations too. We explored

off to and does I grodwess on CREADS IN SHORTS. IN Fight I the outgoes grave

As predicted in this column last month, Colin Morris and Jeanne Challands were married on September 30th. Congratulations, the pair of you.

Quote from Laura Pretty during the Cwm Silin meet: 'Mummy, Daddy started the oar and it went!"

John Welbourn has declared his intention of spending his honeymoon at Box. W.

Eric Byne had a narrow escape on Horned Crag recently, when about half a ton of boulders missed him by an inch or so when he was 20 feet up a pitch.

Pete Cole, out in Burma, has been in jail for travelling without the necessary permit. He is (it is believed) the first Oread to attain that distinction. He recently met a tiger devouring its kill. Deciding that a shot-gun was not much defence, he escaped by climbing a tree. His time has been officially recognised as a world record.

LOST AT BRYN-Y-WERN: ONE ANORAK, HIGH GRADE COTTON FABRIC, FAWN. Finder please return to Bob Parslow. Also ONE 3. WT. NYLON ROPE, 120 FT. Finder clea se return to Mick Gadd. The series of t plea se return to Mick Gadd.

Crook at hindestni red of bias ods "talt of faun eW" . . redraghail fa dong this moment) leader. We had done good most everything else. I led up the

reading - decided to have a top rope - finished entity soross the bolome are