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JUNE, 1923

Vancouver, B. C.

Annual Summer Camp

AVALANCHE PASS, AUGUST 11TH TO 25TH, 1923

Camp will be held this year about ten miles south-east of Alta Lake, at an elevation of 6,000 feet in Avalanche Pass, at the head of one of the branches of Fitzsimmons Creek.

This exceedingly fine district is just across Cheakamus Lake from Garibaldi Park, so the camp will be a logical extension of the Club's activities in the other area.

In most particulars it bears comparison with the Garibaldi district, possibly exceeding it in floral wealth. The snowfields are less extensive, but the glaciers are more rugged; there is more rock-climbing, and altogether the general character of the climbing is of a higher standard than in the scene of last year's camp, and the average elevation of the peaks is higher.

Mt. Overlord, 8,500 feet, appears to be the highest in the group. Mr. and Mrs. Don Munday, who made a reconnaissance of the district for the Club, made the first ascent, but many peaks nearly as high, and more difficult, still await the first human foot on their crests. To the real mountaineer this feature is not the least alluring.

Some of the more distant virgin peaks call for more than a one-day climb by parties, but the main camp will not be shifted from Avalanche Pass, as it seems to offer enough climbing within reach. The mountains of Garibaldi Park are not likely to be climbed from this camp, being cut off by the deep valley of Cheakamus Lake and the upper river, 3,200 feet below camp. The blue-green lake, about six miles long and

nearly a mile in width, takes much the same place in the view that Garibaldi Lake does in its district.

From the camp site chosen tentatively at the summit of the pass the great unnamed north glacier of Castle Towers is visible with its ice-fall of 3,000 feet—several years ago a Club party called it the most shattered glacier on the continent, but, soberly speaking, it is probably the finest of the known glaciers of the Park.

A few minutes' walk, 50 feet above camp, opens out an immense and magnificent view, truly Alpine in character, from Strawberry Ridge just south of camp; east of camp, Wonder Ridge gives a complete panorama, the scene looking towards Mt. Mamquam being particularly fine as all the south-eastern tributaries of the Cheakamus rise in splendid glaciers. Northward from camp one of the 8,000-foot granite peaks of this Spearhead Range, north of Fitzsimmons Creek, is the chief point of interest, with two high snowy ranges in the further distance, one range reaching nearly 9,000 feet.

Possibly some of the members may wish to do some additional climbing from along the line of the P. G. E., at Alta and Green lakes, the bigger peaks calling for probably more than a one-day trip. The westerly 8,000-foot peak of the Spearhead Range was climbed readily in one day by Mr. and Mrs. Munday from Alta Lake. Wedge Mountain, 8,300, is a virgin peak among others.

Owing to the Fitzsimmons district being on the border-line between the Coast region and the dry belt, the vegetation has points of similarity as well as difference, making it highly interesting from a botanical point of view. The meadows are more extensive than Black Tusk meadows.

Three lakes overlook Fitzsimmons valley and glacier, the largest one over a quarter of a mile in length.

The geological structure of part of the district is highly complex, narrow bands of granite, slate, and other rocks being found in successive upright layers, notably on Mt. Overlord. Much of the rock is mineralized, this being the reason for the existence of the trail.

Inclusion of the Fitzsimmons Creek mountains in Garibaldi Park might well be considered by the Club as a desirable object for which to work.

Jervis Inlet failed to arouse interest as site for a camp, and as definite arrangements with regard to getting into the Tantalus Range were found impossible to complete for this year, the Club has been extremely fortunate in finding a good region, on short notice, thanks to Neal M. Carter being at Alta Lake with a survey party. Acting on reports received from him, the Camp Committee sent two of its members into the district, and the meeting of the Executive unanimously approved their recommendations.

The trail is excellent for seven miles, the remaining three miles is fairly good, less than 1,000 feet being at all steep. Camp should be reached in five to six hours from the railway. Camp will be about 3,800 feet above Alta Lake, somewhat less than the climb to Black Tusk meadows, which is about 4,400.

SUMMER CAMP ARRANGEMENTS

Application to go to camp must be made to the Secretary, on or before July 20, accompanied by a deposit of \$10 which will be forfeited if the applicant's name is withdrawn after this date—this is fair because the Club will have spent at least that sum on the strength of the application.

When applying state if you wish a cook. The Camp Committee expects to be called on to provide a cook, but will be governed by the expression of opinion.

Without a cook, camp will cost \$25.00 for two weeks, exclusive of fare, \$6.20.

One week will cost \$18.00.

Shorter periods will cost \$3.00 per day, or part of day.

With cook, two weeks will cost \$30; one week, \$20.50; shorter periods, \$3.50 per day or part of day. Fare is extra in every case.

Packs, limited strictly to 30 pounds, will be taken to camp free, but must be packed out by their owners.

Full particulars will appear in the July number of *The Mountaineer*, which will be issued just as soon as the Camp Committee completes arrangements.

The Camp Committee consists of Mr. Tom Fyles, Mrs. M. C. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Don Munday, Mr. Neal M. Carter and Mr. Eric A. Fuller. Unfortunately Mrs. Johnston is leaving for California, and Mr. Carter is away with a survey party. However, the remainder of the committee can count on assistance from the entire Executive.

**HOLLYBURN RIDGE AND
MT. STRACHAN, JULY 7-8**

Leader: Mr. W. G. Wheatley. This is always considered a pleasant trip as the surroundings are so fine for camping in the meadows by the last of the six lakes along the trail. The 22nd Street trail is a little longer than that from 25th Street, but much easier travelling; both meet below the mill. No difficulty should be met in getting back early Sunday if desired.

NORTH PEAKS OF CROWN, JULY 14-15

Director Tom Fyles will be in charge of this trip which will be made by way of the West Fork of Lynn Creek. Camp will be near the Forks, to which the plank road now extends. A number of variations in the ascent are possible, so an interesting trip is assured as this is by far the most interesting approach to the mountain.

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RAINY RIVER MOUNTAINS

A group of three enticing peaks on the west side of Howe Sound are visible from Vancouver; the first recorded attempt to reach them was made last fall by Mr. W. G. Wheatley and Mr. E. A. Fuller.

Better success attended the efforts of Mr. Fuller and "Gus" Fraser on their trip up Rainy River, June 13-17, and they made the first ascent of the one appearing the most northerly. The height is 6,050 feet. At the present they have not exercised their prerogative of naming it, if it is unnamed—this is uncertain.

The thirteenth was wet, and camp was made a short distance up Rainy River. A disused skidroad ran a mile and a half; beyond this occasionally the old trail to Salmon Arm was found on the fourteenth, but the bush is exceptionally heavy. Camp was made beyond the east fork of the river. Of course, both were drenched by wet bushes.

Owing to the character of the valley none of the peaks were visible, but by good fortune the right ridge was ascended on the fifteenth on the west side of the east fork. Enough food was carried to last till the next day if benighted. At 3,000 feet the steep timbered slope opened into a huge amphitheatre enclosed by high ridges. An overgrown rockslide led up to 4,500 feet, where continuous snow was met. Another 700 feet brought them to the snow and rock ridge connecting directly with the peak, which was reached at 2.30 p.m.

The other two peaks—the three do not really form a group—lie further up the river, the sharp middle one appearing slightly the highest. The Tantalus Range was the striking feature of the view, Jervis Inlet peaks and Garibaldi ranking next. Mr. Fraser secured a fine panorama.

Return to camp was made by a different route, easy to descend but unsuitable for ascent.

If the valley is logged the mountains will be made easily accessible, the exceptional density of the bush being the present obstacle which makes the district unsuitable for trips by large parties.

NEW MEMBERS

At the Executive Meeting on June 28, the following applications for membership were accepted: Miss O. C. Chalk, Mr. H. A. Dowler, Mr. G. P. Bosbet, Mr. C. B. Clegg, Mr. Wynne-Edwards, Miss Shipp and Mr. A. A. Shipp.

All the above are active members with the exception of Miss Shipp, who will make a qualifying climb, no doubt, as soon as she recovers from an injury to her knee.

FIRES AND CAMP REFUSE

Members are reminded of the need for utmost care with fire. The woods are ours to enjoy—help keep them green by putting out your fires. Be as careful on private trips as on Club trips.

Keep the woods green—and keep them clean. Do not scatter refuse along trails, nor on mountain tops—you and others will be disgusted when passing that way again. It is so easy to drop orange peel, paper etc., out of sight along a trail. Around a camp fire, burn all refuse that will burn. Tins should be thrown in the fire first, then put out of sight. Have a good time, but keep the mountain clean and fresh for others to have an equally good time. There are mountaineers, and others—don't be an "other."

MT. CATHEDRAL

Perhaps much optimism is needed to turn out on a trip to Cathedral in threatening weather. At any rate, only five members made the trip on June 2-3.

Sunday morning was overcast, and to keep below the clouds, Lynn Valley was followed to Lynn Lake, thence over the ridge to the outlet of Palisade Lake, the usual route up Cathedral being joined at the north end of the saddle connecting with White Mt.

At 12.30 about 800 feet below the summit, the party suddenly climbed above a rolling sea of clouds through which rose peaks as islands under a brilliant sky, the dazzling spectacle abundantly rewarding the faithful few for venturing forth.

The most important part of a mountaineer's outfit is his Boots;
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ORIGIN OF NAMES OF MOUNTS

BRUNSWICK AND HARVEY

Mt. Harvey (5,865 feet), Howe Sound, was named about 1859 by Captain Richards of H. M. S. Plumper, after Capt. John Harvey, of H. M. S. Brunswick, 98 guns, who was wounded in the battle of the "Glorious First of June, 1794." The name of his ship was given to the next mountain north of Mt. Harvey. Hutt Island in Howe Sound is named after Captain John Hutt, of H. M. S. Queen, 98 guns, who drove down in the same postchaise with Harvey to join their ships; both were wounded in the same action, each lost a limb, each died on the same day in Spithead, and each is remembered by the same monument in Westminster Abbey. Mt. Brunswick is 6,265 feet.

Howe Sound was named in 1792 by Captain Vancouver after Admiral the Right Hon. Richard Scrope, Earl Howe, who commanded the British Fleet in the battle of June 1st, 1794, two years after the naming of the sound.

Captain G. H. Richards, R. N. (afterwards Admiral Sir George) who made the survey of Howe Sound in 1859-60, followed up the lead given by Captain Vancouver, giving to all the principal islands, points, passages and mountains in and around the sound the names of the ships and officers engaged in the great battle.

In the same manner, Jervis Inlet, also named by Vancouver and surveyed by Richards, is a record of the battle of St. Vincent, February 14th, 1797, and also of Nelson's victory of the Nile, August 1st, 1798. Anvil and Passage Islands were named by Captain Vancouver. The source from which this information was gleaned does not make it as clear whether or not one of Howe's ships was named Hanover, the name of which in common with Brunswick, has seemed to possess too much of a German flavor since the war, it not being generally known that the names had been honored by being borne by British warships.

MT. ROBSON

Climbers will be interested to learn that at the annual dinner of the Vancouver section of the Alpine Club, Mr. A. O. Wheeler stated that the official figure for the height of Mt. Robson is 12,980 feet, instead of 13,068.

THE LIONS

The Lions trip, June 16-17, proved popular as usual, 40 persons going on the launch up Howe Sound to the St. Mark's property, while Mr. E. H. Nunn and Mr. F. H. Smith climbed from Sisters Creek.

A record was established as 36 persons climbed the Western Head, several of the party by the narrow gully on the long east face.

MT. HARVEY (Brunswick Pinnacle)

Mt. Harvey, as seen from some parts of Howe Sound, is the most shapely and tempting peak in view. The north-western face descends in a vertical cliff to a lower pinnacle which stands buttress-like supporting the main peak, and in turn descends precipitously to timbered slopes below.

The whole mountain has been somewhat neglected, but on May 20, a party of 18, all men, out of a total party of 27, spent a thoroughly interesting day making the first ascent of the "Junior Pinnacle."

Low clouds made it difficult to locate the direction of ridges and gullies; 2,500 feet above sea level a snow gully gave good going for 1,000 feet, leading up between the rock walls of the main peak and the pinnacle.

The latter appealed to the sporting instinct of the party, so up they went from ledge to ledge, every moment full of interest, some of the party using the rope, others scorning it. Almost three hours were spent scaling the last 1,400 feet, the climb being finished almost with regret.

Lifting clouds revealed a perpendicular wall of rock, only a few yards distant, descending from the main peak 400 feet above to the rockslide 2,000 feet below, and looking most imposing. The aneroid registered 4,950 feet.

An hour was spent descending 200 feet to the connecting link between the two peaks, the most impressive sight of the day being the parallel walls rising for 100 feet and less than three yards apart.

Perhaps an easier route of ascent may be found, but the climb will probably always rank with the Lions for interest.

* * *

Neal M. Carter, with Vancouver Hydrographic Survey, Alta Lake, will be very glad to hear from members.

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