



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA
MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Founded 1907. :: Incorporated 1912.

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THE CLUB'S NEW CABIN ON
GROUSE MOUNTAIN

The Cabin is not to be completed according to last year's plans. Great improvements are in progress. In fact there is to be a different cabin—one that the Club can be proud of.

Building operations were suspended during the winter months, during which conditions are unfavorable for work in the hills and now the Club has a new contractor and a new design.

The Club's Executive got in touch with Mr. Ostman, who superintended the erection of the Chalet on Grouse Mountain, and at their invitation, he visited the site of the new cabin, and discussed suggestions for a new and better class of building, with some of the members of the Executive.

Early in the following week, the President and Secretary of the Club (Messrs. F. W. Johnson and L. G. Golman) had a meeting with Mr. Ostman in Vancouver, when he submitted new plans and offered to complete the whole building for \$1150 on the understanding that the Club furnish all materials required, and deliver them on the ground, including the hauling in of the logs already peeled in the woods, the cutting, peeling and hauling of further logs and poles, and the cutting of cedar shingle bolts for shakes. It would also be necessary for the members to carry up nails, tar-paper for flooring, stove piping, window frames, glass, etc.

As time was precious, and the contractor wished to start work the following week, a hurried meeting of the Executive was called at 5 p.m. next day in Mr. L. C. Ford's office, where they met Mr. Ostman and authorized him to proceed with the work, which he undertook to complete in six weeks' time. The regular monthly meeting of the Executive subsequently confirmed the arrangement.

The new plans necessitated the pulling down of so much of the walls as had been erected by the former contractor, consisting of upright logs. Some of the members of the Club formed a Working Bee on Sunday, 17th April, and pulled down these walls, and piled the logs ready for use by the contractor. They also hauled in a number of logs which were lying peeled in the woods. The work was started in rain and continued in snow, but the boys stuck to it.

During the week, the contractor made good progress with the work, and it was a treat to see how the logs (laid horizontally this time) were fitted into each other, for skilled Swedish axemen had been at work.

In order to keep the contractor supplied with material, it became necessary to cancel the trips scheduled for the week-end of April 23, 24. The result was that a strong Working Bee arrived at the cabin, carried up a lot of material and did good work in the woods.

The trip scheduled for 1st May to Echo Peak was cancelled, and another Working Bee carried up all the window frames and the glass and other heavy material. They found that the builders had made rapid progress with the walls of the Cabin, and it looked as though the logs which had been cut and hauled by the Club members, would barely keep from going for another week. Although it was May Day, however, the weather was wet and stormy, with a fall of wet snow to vary the rain in the morning, and practically no work was attempted by the members this week in the woods.

Sacrifice is required by our members to give up a few more week ends until the work is finished. We have got to keep the contractors supplied with material. A number of the boys have done splendid work. But don't leave it all to the few.

MOUNT CATHEDRAL TRIP

The party left on the 3 p.m. Ferry, Saturday, April 9th, and proceeded to Lynn Forks where camp for the night was made in the deserted cabins near the end of the road. Sunday morning dawned beautifully clear, and the party got under way by 6 a.m. On the flats at 2,000 feet there is approximately eight feet of snow. There was a weak crust on the surface and so laborious did the task of trail breaking become, taken in ten minute spells by the members of the party, that it was 9.45 before White Pass was surmounted at 4,200 feet. From here a fine view was obtained of the objective, towering up over two miles N. E. The views changed constantly as the party traversed the steep snowfields on the north face of White. Ice festooned cliffs capped by snow cornices towered above, while just below sheer bluffs dropped 1,000 feet to Palisade Lake. Lunch was eaten on the divide above Burwell Lake. From here more serious climbing began for when the easier slopes were ascended it was found that an icy crust lay beneath a light covering of new snow. Above 5,000 feet the party roped together, for an exceptionally steep snow slope bounded by yawning cliffs on each side, must be ascend-

ed before the party arrived on the narrow summit ridge. The summit was gained at 3 p.m. and only a short stay was made to obtain photos of the fine view and of the beautiful cornices that adorned the summit ridge.

On the return, once the dangerous slopes were safely passed and the party unroped, good time was made on the already broken trail. This, together with a 1,000 foot glissade down a gully on White Mountain, enabled the party to reach the Forks by 7.15 p.m. Town was reached about 10 p.m.

This trip, normally a strenuous one was made under exceptionally heavy snow conditions and the two ladies of the party are to be congratulated namely, Misses Frankie Riddoch and Winnie Jones; others on the trip were, Ted Taylor, endman, B. Spouse, J. Irving, D. Irving, J. Norman, J. Johnson, H. Griffin, R. M. Gaudet, J. Melville, L. Loutet, M. Whitaker, Harry Somerville, Jack Horan, and Arthur Cooper, Leader.

IN MEMORIAM

Charles Fee

It came as a terrible shock to many of our members to hear that "Charley" had passed away. He was found dead in his room at the Hotel Martinique on Wednesday morning, April 18th, 1927, in his 62nd year.

Mr. Fee had been and was an active member of our Club for more than ten years. A few years ago he participated in almost every trip and attended Camp in Garibaldi and the Selkirks. Many will remember an "interesting" trip to Mount Baker several years ago when Mr. Fee was one of the party.

While he had not done much climbing within the last year or two, his whole heart and soul were with the Club and he was looking forward to the completion of the new cabin which he had helped to finance.

He was a good climber and an intense lover of nature in her primeval fastnesses and a cheery and sympathetic comrade around the camp fire. We loved him well, and feel sure that his noble character will

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receive its due reward, and that his last great ascent has placed him on the summit of man's greatest hope and aspiration.

A floral wreath with the Club's sympathy was sent to our late member's relatives, and our President and several of the Executive Committee attended the funeral service.

EXECUTIVE MEETING, APRIL 20th

The routine business of the minutes and correspondence being small was soon over and the meeting spent considerable time discussing the details of the new club house referred to in the first article of this issue.

* * *

We have received the following invitation from our friends THE MOUNTAINEERS, "The Mountaineering Club of Washington will take great pleasure in welcoming any member of mountain clubs who are including Seattle in summer itinerary between July 1st and 14th." As they are making special arrangements for the entertainment, our members should advise our Secretary as early as possible of their probable attendance.

* * *

On April 30th the Minister of Lands, Victoria, announced the appointment of the Commissioners for the control of Garibaldi Park under the Act passed at the last session of the Legislature. They are H. J. Graves, T. E. Price, Rev. A. H. Sovereign, J. W. Weart and Jas. Wilson.

* * *

Remember OUR CLUB CAMP,
August 13th to 28th.

**HINTS ON THE USE OF THE ROPE
IN MOUNTAIN CLIMBING**

(Continued from March Number)

Second—To place the party at proper intervals on the rope.

These intervals should be equi-distant, except in the case of that between the leader and the second man, which should be a few feet greater than the rest. This will often afford him a better opportunity of selecting safe anchorages from which to assist the ascent of the others in the party. What the exact length of the intervals should be varies according to the nature of the climbing to be encountered, and no definite distance can be laid down for it.

Third—To see that the rope is properly tied.

The bowline is preferable for the end man, and for the intermediate one the "Noose" is excellent, as once learnt it is easily and quickly tied, is easy to slip to the proper tightness around the waist and is perfectly secure. It is also easily untied, even when the rope is wet and stiff. However, the principal thing is to make sure that the knots are safe and that they cannot slip.

We will now suppose that the party is roped and ready for the climb. It must always be remembered that if one climber slips nothing serious is likely to happen if every member of the party is doing his duty, while neglect of duty may have serious results. The closest attention to the business in hand is therefore necessary and vigilance must never be relaxed. Admire the scenery while resting in a safe place,

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but not at any other time. As the late A. F. Mummery so impressively puts it "Among the Mountains as elsewhere, 'the unexpected always happens' It is the momentary carelessness in easy (?) places, the lapsed attention, or the wandering look that is the usual parent of disaster. The first lesson the novice has to learn is to be always on his guard, and it is one the oldest climber rarely fully masters."

However, I shall now leave generalities and deal with the use of the rope, first on rocks and then on ice and snow.

EVERYONE SHOULD LOOK AFTER AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PORTION OF THE ROPE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE MAN AHEAD. This will place a definite duty on each one and will leave the leader free to select the best course and pick out good hand and foot holds.

ON FACE WORK AND DIFFICULT TRAVERSES ONLY ONE SHOULD MOVE AT A TIME, AND THE OTHERS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO HOLD HIM IN THE EVENT OF A SLIP. After having obtained a safe anchorage the leader will belay the rope, if possible, and then assist the others by pointing out the holds, keeping up the slack of the rope, and even, if necessary using it to assist them, they to move under his directions and only move one at a time.

GREAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN, WHEN ASSISTING A MAN WITH THE ROPE, TO PUT ONLY THE ACTUALLY NECESSARY STRAIN ON IT. Otherwise harm may be done by pulling the climber from his holds, and there is the certainty of making him sore in at least one, and in perhaps two senses of the word.

WHEN IT IS NECESSARY TO ASSIST A CLIMBER BY PULLING UPWARDS ON THE ROPE GET AS DIRECTLY OVER HIM AS POSSIBLE. A sidewise pull will hamper the pulled one

to a greater or less extent and may even be dangerous, by pulling him from his holds.

WHEN PAYING OUT THE ROPE TO THE MAN AHEAD KEEP IT CLEAR OF CRACKS WHERE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR IT TO JAM. If allowed to jam it may result in the climber getting a distinct jerk which might cause him to lose his balance. If it does get jammed, in spite of your care or **BECAUSE** of want of it, give sufficient notice to prevent him being jerked.

KEEP THE PORTION OF THE ROPE UNDER YOUR CARE AWAY FROM LOOSE ROCKS. These loose rocks are one of the greatest sources of danger on a mountain, and if one is disturbed it may cause injury to one of your own party or of a following one.

ALWAYS MAKE USE OF PROJECTING ROCKS FOR BELAYING PINS. When paying out the rope to the man ahead it should when possible, be kept behind a knot or projection of rock which would take the strain of a jerk off the following men in the event of the man ahead slipping. A rounded rock is preferable for this, but always make use of one of some kind when within reach **AFTER HAVING MADE SURE THAT IT IS SECURE.** This practice should also be followed when making a difficult traverse and all members of a party should be on the look-out for suitable points for the purposes.

DO NOT PUT ALL YOUR FAITH ON THE ROPE, NOR LOOK ON IT AS A SURE PREVENTATIVE OF ACCIDENTS. It will not prevent a climber from slipping nor a loose rock from breaking away if you put your weight on it. It is only intended to lessen the chance of serious damage if anything goes wrong. Climb independently of the rope as much as possible; on a **PERFECT** climb the rope would, while worn, never be called into use.

(To be continued)

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