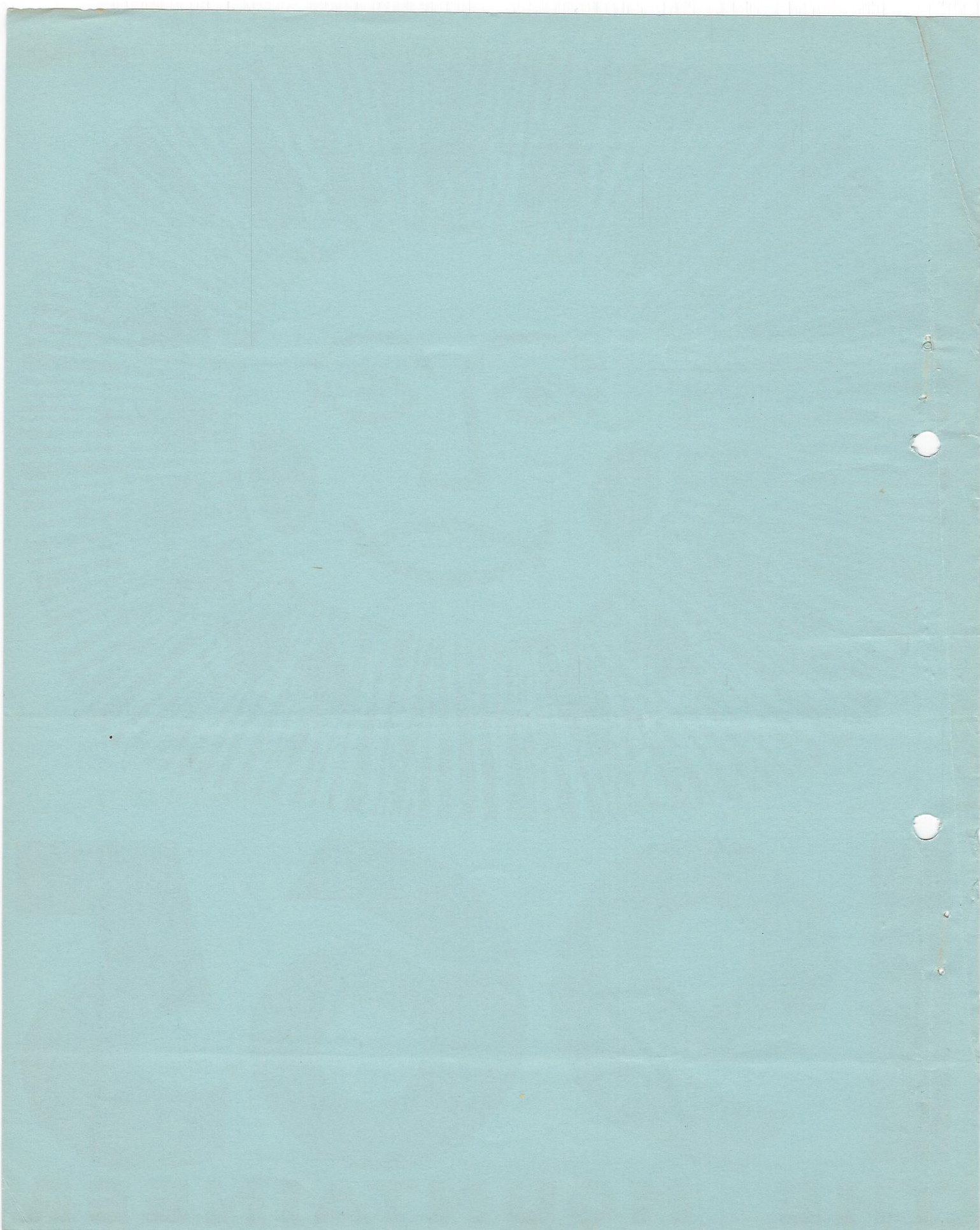


Nº1, 1965.



1965

THE MOUNTAINEER



THE MOUNTAINEER

Official journal of the M.U.M.C. Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission through the post as a periodical. All correspondence addressed to Union House, University of Melbourne, Parkville, N2.

No. 2 1965

Price 6d.

An oxometric welcome to all newcomers to the club. This looks like a busy year ahead of us and we hope all newcomers will take an active part in Club activities. This also means limiting the "dead wood" members to a minimum.

Most of this issue seems to consist of trip reports from the long vacation - most of which were in Tasmania (i.e. those who wrote reports and handed them into the Editor).

• • • • •

TRIPS AND MEETINGS PROGRAMME

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| March 19th | Talk on mountaineering for beginners and demonstration of mountaineering equipment, Trophy Hall, Beaurepaire Centre, 7.30pm. |
| March 21st | Mt. Tanglefoot - Mt. St. Leonard. Leader : Laurie Humphries. Standard :- medium. Fare :- 10/- to 15/-. Cancellation fee 5/-. Van leaves top of Batman Av at 9.00am. |
| March 26-28th | Beginners weekend. Wilson's Promontory. Leader:- Tom Kneen. Phone 81 1346. Standard:- easy or medium (2 or 3 trips). Fare:- £1/15/- to £2/13/-. Cancellation fee:- 17/-. Van leaves top of Union House, 6.30 pm. |
| April 2nd | <u>Annual General Meeting</u> 7.30 pm Place to be arranged (see notice board). Business:- Presentation of reports, election of committee for 1965, Memorial Hut on Mt. Feathertop. Barry Hayes, a member just back from several years in New |

Zealand will give an illustrated talk on climbing in New Zealand.

Nominations are called for the following committee positions:- President, Vice-President, (1 or 2, as decided at the A.G.M.), Secretary Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Trips Secretary, Stores Officer, Editor of "The Mountaineer", two committee members. Nominations must be signed by the proposer, seconder and nominee and must reach the Secretary no later than 7.30pm Friday, March 26th.

- April 4th President's Opening Day Walk. Lerderderg Gorge. Leader:- The new president. Standard:- Easy. Fare:- 10/- to 15/-. Cancellation fee:- 5/-. Van leaves top of Batman Av 9.00am. Bring swimming togs.
- April 9th Climbing course lecture. Trophy Hall, Beaurepaire Centre, 7.30pm. An illustrated talk will be given for beginners on the principles of rock-climbing and the care of climbing equipment. Practical instruction in knots will be included. Beginners interested in climbing are strongly advised to attend this lecture.
- April 11th Hanging Rock (Climbing Course) Fare:- 10/- to 15/-. Cancellation fee:- 5/-. Van leaves top of Batman Av, 9.00am.
- April 15th-20th Easter trips. Bogong High Plains. 3 trips (standard hand, medium and easy) will be arranged. More details later.
- April 24-25th F.V.W.C. Search and Rescue Practice Weekend. For further details contact John Cole (838150) or Ross Smith (50 6784).
- April 30th-May 2nd Sugarloaf (Climbing Course). Fare:- £1 to £1/10/-. Cancellation fee 10/-. Van leaves front of Union House 6.30pm.
- May 15-16th 24-hour walk.

Bookings for trips must be made as follows:-

- (1) At "Aikman's Road".
- (2) At Club meetings
- (3) By phoning Dave Hogg (871630)

.....

WANTED

ORGANIZERS FOR THE 24-HOUR WALK.

3 or 4 organizers are required for the 24-hr walk, which is being held on May 15th-16th. The work involved includes choosing a suitable area, planning and laying out the route, purchase of food and maps, arranging for hash house equipment (cooking utensils, trestle tables etc) and other points of organization. Previous experience, either as a competitor in the walk or as an organizer is desirable but not necessary. Anyone interested should contact the Trips Secretary, Dave Hogg (871630).

This is a prelude to the talk on Mountaineering techniques for beginners on March 19th which we hope will prove useful.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

WOMEN, HORSES, ETC.

For Sale:- 1 Federation Pack in excellent condition. £5/-/-.

Nick White 859033.

1 Pr Paddy Pallin Sherpa boots. Size 4 (suit Freshette).

Brand new - have walked 14 miles. Price £6

Dave Woodruff, Trinity College 34 6605.

.....

"WOMEN'S PAGE"

Belated congratulations to:-

Robin and Marie Hawthorne on their marriage. They are now

living at Lilydale.

Graeme Jameson on his engagement to Julie Browning.

MAP READING

A map is an attempt to represent a scaled-down, bird's eye view of the particular piece of country under consideration. The scale of the map is always shown on it. This is done by a "representative fraction" e.g. $1/63,360$, i.e. one inch on the map represents 63,360 inches (one mile) on the country, or by a "Plain Scale" which is a straight line divided and indicated to show what proportion distances on the map bear to actual distances on the ground which they represent.

All the important features of the countryside are shown on the map by "conventional signs" e.g. roads, railways, churches, houses, huts, etc. A list of these conventional signs is printed on the map, so it is not necessary to memorize them.

The map is of course on a flat piece of paper, so height must be shown in some way. The most common way is to use contour lines. These are lines drawn on the map connecting all points of equal height above sea level. If a contour line is broken this shows an area which is below sea level. The most usual contour interval is fifty feet, although it may be as much as three or four hundred feet on the poorer quality maps. Steepness can be judged from the distance between the contour lines; where they are close together the terrain is steep, as they become more widely spaced the terrain becomes flatter. Where two contour lines are crossed this shows an overhang.

When the spacing reading from high to low decreases the slope is convex. The tops of hills are often, though not always, convex. When the spacing reading from high to low increases, the slope is concave. The bottom slopes of hills are generally concave.

Military maps are covered with a network of lines forming the "grid". These lines are spaced at one thousand yard intervals and run approximately west to east and north to south. Using this grid the position of any point on the map can be accurately stated.

To describe any position or point on the map the numbered grid lines must be read, first from west to east and then from south to north, and the square in which the point is situated must be mentally further subdivided into tenths on the grid lines in order to give a pinpoint

accurate reference. Thus a point X lying between say West to East grid 47-48 and South to North grid 26-27 in this square as shown in the diagram would be described by the following co-ordinates, 472264 (see Fig 1).

Compass Directions

Directions are specified in two main ways - first by the name of the point of the compass nearest the the direction required, or by a bearing. All map readers should know at least the sixteen major points of the compass.

A bearing is the angle measured clockwise from magnetic north to the line in question. When expressing the direction in degrees, give it from North round by East through the whole 360 deg. The direction is then given in so many degrees without the need for further specification.

Giving a bearing from point A to point B is the "forward bearing." While at point A you may wish to know the bearing from point B back to point A; this is known as the "back bearing." To find it, if the forward bearing is less than 180 degrees then add 180 to it; if the forward bearing is less than 180 degrees then subtract 180 from it.

When dealing with a compass the needle always points to the North Magnetic Pole and not to the geographic North Pole. The difference between the two in degrees is known as the "Magnetic Declination." In Victoria this is about +10 deg, i.e. the compass needle points about 10 deg East of true North, so to find true North from a compass needle simply take North as being 350 deg instead of 0 or 360 deg.

For all types of compass work the Prismatic Compass is the most useful. However these are very expensive and you will probably have to make do with one of the less expensive types. Make sure when using a compass that there are no iron objects or electricity pylons too close. Even small things such as billies and large belt buckles can seriously affect the compass.

Orienting a Map

The map cannot be read properly until it is oriented. On all maps is printed a line which points to true North. Some maps have a line pointing to Magnetic North; many have both. Determine by the compass or otherwise which direction is North and then rotate the map until it is facing North. The map is then ready for use.

Page Missing

Page Missing

wall which offers some very fine climbing. We returned to camp with high hopes for an attempt on the N.W. face on the following day.

Jan 24th

"What dreadful noise of water in mine ears!" - Richard III.

We awoke in the morning to the sound of rain on the tent. So much for our hopes of yesterday! This day and the 25th were both spent tent bound.

Jan 26th

The weather was much improved although still overcast. It was decided that it really wasn't good enough for such a long and exposed climb as the N.W. face. Instead we decided to tackle the N.E. corner; that is, the corner facing nearest to Bechervaise Plateau. This was a delightful climb, alternating between corner and face and with considerable exposure on the delicate moves. It was of five pitches with a total length of about 500 feet and reaching a standard of about V-. By the time we reached the summit the weather was glorious and again we were optimistic for the morrow.

Jan 27th was the last day we could afford to spend at Bechervaise. Unfortunately its beginning was not very promising and after an early breakfast, we were still waiting for the muck (as Reg disgustingly called it) to lift. About 8 we could not stand the waiting any more and decided to at least have a look at the climb. The gully which had to be negotiated before climbing up onto the Blade Ridge was greasy, dark and treacherous and slowed our progress considerably. As soon as possible we got out of it. This involved three pitches of climbing onto the Blade Ridge.

The first of these was led by Reg over the foulest ground imaginable - greasy, muddy scrub-covered rock. His faith in the staying power of those little earthen ledges and shifty-looking Hoparia bushes was incredible. We reached the top of the Blade Ridge at 11.30 with the weather still overcast. The N.W. face reared its 800' above us and we were faced with the decision as to whether we should continue. The weather at the moment was safe but would it stay that way? Frustrated by the week of waiting we decided to climb on.

The first three pitches above the Blade Ridge presented no problems and we were soon at the gully referred to by Bob Jones in his

account of the first ascent as the bus stop. The fourth pitch proved more difficult. After about 50' in a gully the steepness forced Reg out onto the face in a very delicate move. By the time Reg drew level with the difficult traverse made so much of by Bob Jones in his account he was a little jaded. When I nervously asked what the traverse looked like I received a reply which made me wish it wasn't my turn to lead. However, although very difficult, as described, the traverse proved enjoyable under the dry conditions and the climb seemed almost over with the only difficult pitch left being the overhanging chimney.

This proved to be the most difficult of all. Even with a top rope I found it a very trying experience indeed. The first 15' was very strenuous and I had to stop every now and then because I was cramping from loss of perspiration. The next 10' was even more difficult. Unable to get through the small "keyhole" chimney described by Bob Jones we were forced to climb the worst overhanging section of the chimney. This involved inching (no other word describes adequately the rate of progress) my way up with my body wedged desperately in the chimney and leaning out at an alarming angle towards the void, the soles of my boots pawing uselessly (so it seemed) at the smooth wall opposite and the heels of my hands groping for the slightest protrusion in the rock to give some lift.

After this section the chimney eased off, and we then had only 150' of scrambling to bring us to the summit which we reached at 6.15. Our gamble had been successful.

The weather was now glorious and the S.W. peaks were now clearly displayed in every direction. Dense puffy white clouds were seemingly anchored near the summit of the highest peaks but otherwise the sky was clear. Down below we could see our companions activity on Bechervaise Plateau and even further down Federation was casting its long jagged shadows down the Cracroft Valley. After a quick snack we elatedly made our fourth entry for the week in the summit book and then went on to abseil down the climbing gully as the evening mists swirled in.

Rob Taylor.

THE SOUTH-WEST WALKER

(Tune:- the Carlton Weaver - I think)

1. Oh, I was a walker, a south-west walker,
I tried it once but never again.
All I found out there was water,
Four dimensions of water and rain.

Chorus:- Water, water, I hate water!
I've got water on the brain.

2. Oh, I was a walker with great ambitions,
I was a walker with big ideas.
When I put them into practice,
I had mud from my toes to my ears.

3. Everything I own is sodden,
Water flow uphill on these routes,
And my dehyd. had all rehyd.
I pour soup each night from my boots.

4. And then one day the sun was shinging,
The sun was shining clear and bright;
Shone so bright it nearly fried me,
And I yelled with all my might.

Water, water, give me water!

Water for my fevered brain.

...ooo000ooo...

Rob Taylor is leaving for England on April 4th to try his luck as a mountaineering instructor with Outward Bound.

- - - - -

Don Hutton and Annettia Vincent have gone to New Zealand. Don has gone home to take up a lectureship in Physics at Christchurch Uni. Annettia is doing an Arts course there also.

- - - - -

Peter Morgan has arrived back from Wilks, having put on weight.
(So much for hardy Antarctic explorers).

"ANTARTIC CALLING"

The club this year is receiving the monthly newsletters from Mawson. These are radioed to ANARE, typed out and sent to people who have been registered to receive them.

Max Corry seems to have a jinx on aeroplanes, having a forced landing near the Masson Range, and then a month later the Beaver broke through the sea ice while taxiing. However, recently one surveying trip through the Framores Mountains to Kemp Land returned without mishap.

John Bennett and Greg Martin were in the running for "King Slushy" position. Greg is also a member of the Mawson Walking Club, qualifying with three others when they returned to base minus their vehicle, "Jokk - King of the Slots" (trastor).

Don Allison is reputedly trying to untangle the wiring system - a mighty task. "The weather was perfect, with temperatures in the forties" but no-one was sure whether men were trainging dogs or dogs were training men.

...ooo000ooo...

Ball's Pyramid, which has been previously attempted by MUMC members (Bob Jones 1962) has been climbed by Sydney climbers. The 1843' peak is an island near Lord Howe Is in the Pacific.

 Bill Bewsher has moved on the 4th March to
 30 Howard St.,
 Glen Iris, SE6.
 Phone 253667

The National Fitness Climbing Course is coming up soon. This is open to anyone and is before our own climbing course and is much longer. Anyone who is interested should contact National Fitness Council.

NIGHTMEN IN THE RESERVE.

Feb 2nd-13th. Ron Jelleff, Lorraine Feldman, Suzanne Bail, Rob Taylor.

The highlight of this trip was undoubtedly the superb weather we enjoyed for all but three of the twelve days we spent in the Reserve. This contrasted so sharply with the weather t at other M.U.M.C. parties had had in the previous months that I almost felt embarrassed by our good fortune. Nevertheless, it wasn't all beer and skittles, what with the 75lb packs, the March flies, the mosquitoes, the snakes, the possums, the need I go on?

The first four days were spent around Pine Valley and Lake Marion. It was here that we earned ourselves our name. On three consecutive days we arrived back in the dark. The third day we particularly excelled ourselves. We left the hut early in the morning, climbed onto the Geryon-Acropolos ridge and rock climbed the South Spur. I then climbed across to the South Peak, returned to the girls and we then climbed the Acropolis.

It was 7.30pm by the time we left its summit. Progress was reasonable until the moon set when we were halfway down the forest. After several frustrating moments of back-side crawling and feeling for blazes on the trees Sue remembered the stub of candle in the day pack. Never again shall I spurn one candlepower. It saw us safely down to the river but unfortunately expired a few hundred yards from home. We then resorted to several other sources of light including toilet paper. Fortunately St. John's gospel was sapred by our arrival at the tent at 10.30pm. Thereafter we a;ways carried a torch on our day excursions.

"Not for us the heat and grind of day,
Nor all the beasties mean and small,
Only cold and scrub and tiredness bar our way,
Until we stumble o'er the precipice and fall."

From Pine Valley we made our way northward, climbing several peaks en route. Some highlights of the remaining days include the steak given to us by two characters we called the "bushrangers" (they later turned out to be Devonport Policemen); the day spent sunbaking by the Pelion swimming pool and the following day walking through a heavy snowfall across Pine Forest Moor; the audacity and tameness of the native cats

at Windermere; the hutboundday at Windermere and the doggere/and ditties composed there; the hilarious entries by Dave Hogg and party in the Waterfall Valley Hut book; the glorious days spent on Barn Bluff and Cradle Mount; and last but not least - those lovely mattresses at Waldheim.

Sonnet - Written in Dejection, Windermere, Feb 1965.

Let me not deter thee walkers new,
But I must tell thee such a tale of woe,
That surely will make all but few,
Turn pale with fear and be of spirit low.
How walkers dauntless, men of strength and nerve,
Set off for regions south with jaunty stride,
Are soon deterred, soon lose their verve,
And muttering many a curse are sorely tried.
For if they scape the beasties mean and small,
The mud is sure to calim them for her own,
Or scrub impenetrable will their lot befall,
Or oft some windy ridge be blown.
Yet worry not dear walkers all,
Tis said that some survive what ere befall.

Rob Taylor.

...;ooo000ooo...

THE SUBMERGENCE OF TASMANIA.

(extracted from a paper presented by Darles Charwin to the Royal Sub-Aquatic Society on January 20th, 2465.)

Perhaps the most remarkable phenomenon of modern times is the submergence of Tasmania, a small, insignificant island, situated a few hundred miles from the mighty state of Victoria, and the evolutionary changes which took place as a result of this.

The change was brought about by a series of natural and man-made events of which the following are the most important:-

1. A gradual, but successful attempt to cover Tasamnia with water which was made by the Hydro Electric Commission. This body, was in fact a secret underwater movement of the Klu Klux Klan, who were jealous of the success of the local rival faction, the Van Demons, in eradicating the Tasmanian Aborigine, and were taking revenge by building dams which were slowly but surely covering the island.

2. A sudden increase in the local rainfall during the early 1960's as a result of which most of the island became a huge bog.

3. The decisive blow came when the Chinese hierarchy decided to celebrate the New Year by exploding their first nuclear bomb in the vicinity of Moscow (for which they later apologized, stating that they had beleived the area to be uninhabitated). However, this attempt was a fizzer (as is commonly the case with Chinese fireworks) and nothing resulted form the explosion except for a small grey cloud which circled the Earth and came to rest over Tasmania (as most grey clouds seem to do). This cloud reacted with the thick blanket of rain clouds already covering the island to produce an enormous deluge. This, when added to the vast areas of water already on the island, became the proverbial straw which broke the camels back, and, with a sudden roar, the island sank some four thousand feet into the sea.

It was fortunate that most of the inhabitants had been evacuated, with news of the approaching cloud to sunny Victoria, and so no great loss of life was experienced. There was, however a small group which was away form civilization at the time of the disaster. This group was known as Tasmanians, i.e. bushwalkers who delighted in walking round the countryside in most unpleasant conditions carrying most enormous loads on their backs.

These were engulfed by the rising waters, but unexpectedly managed to survuve the experience. The mysterious grey cloud had the unusual property of accelerating evolutionary processes and as the waters engulfed them, extraordinary changes took place in their bodies. An underwater respiratory system developed in their lungs, and their feet, already accustomed to constant immersion in water, became webbed. Instead of wading as they had been accustomed, they began to swim as the rising waters slowly filled Frog Lakes and Pine Inlet. It was all

Page Missing

JOEY MOUNTAINS 25/12/64 to 3/1/65

Les Southall, Don Iain, Bob Chappell, Tony Kerr, Nicholas White

Jagungal to Kosciusko.

Happy Jacks Road to Mt. Jagungal (first snow), Valentine River to Gungahon with one sick member who was dragged on down to White's River Hut where the others were too lazy even to fish. The next day was spent in beautiful weather and good views of the main range climbing up to Hedley Tarn where the cleaner members had a swim in the morning (New Year's Eve). The same clean members had a second ducking in Lake Albina while foolishly trying to cross it on ice.

The following climb was up 1000' of good snow to Mt. Townsend. The view at the top stretches right round from Mt. Bogong-Pilot=Coberras-Kosciusko etc. A welcome can of beer was also found on top. We were thus the "highest" people in Australia on New Years Eve at well over 7000' although the saner members in the blue tent did not appreciate the midnight revelry.

Ten days of perfect weather with a lot of snow (good glissading) made a perfect trip in the best walking country in Australia. A sample menu will be provided on application.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

"POWDERED RUBBER."

1. Usual method:- Mix with dried milk and water, place in frypan, stir till burnt and/or it is the consistency of rubber (edible but not eatable).

2. This can be prevented by not stirring, BUT the problem then is that it burns to a horrible black charcoal.

3. However this can be overcome by:

- (a) by steaming - place egg, milk, water mixture in billy or M & B tin inside other billy of boiling water.
- (b) using last night's soup packet to pour mixture into. Close packet in pyramid ("Jubbly style") and place in

fire for about 3-5 mins.

4. Omelettes - do not stir and use plenty of fat - mix some Reb (Proto) potato in with it.

5. Egg can also be used in cooking pancakes, steamed pud, batter for apple fritters, thickening stews etc.

6. Curry or onion flavouring is also tasty but the masterpiece is to use a packet of mushroom or oyster soup or cheese to make a tasty omelette.

Thus "India rubber" need not necessarily be on the breakfast menu if the cook uses imagination and DOES NOT STIR the mixture while cooking.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

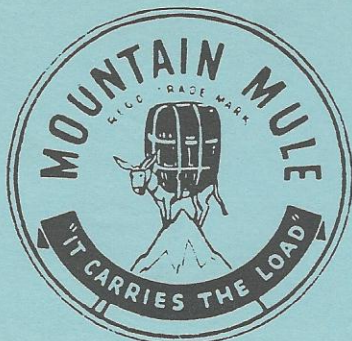
live for about 3-5 mins.

4. Emulsion - do not stir and use plenty of fat - mix some
 hot (Pinto) potato in with it.

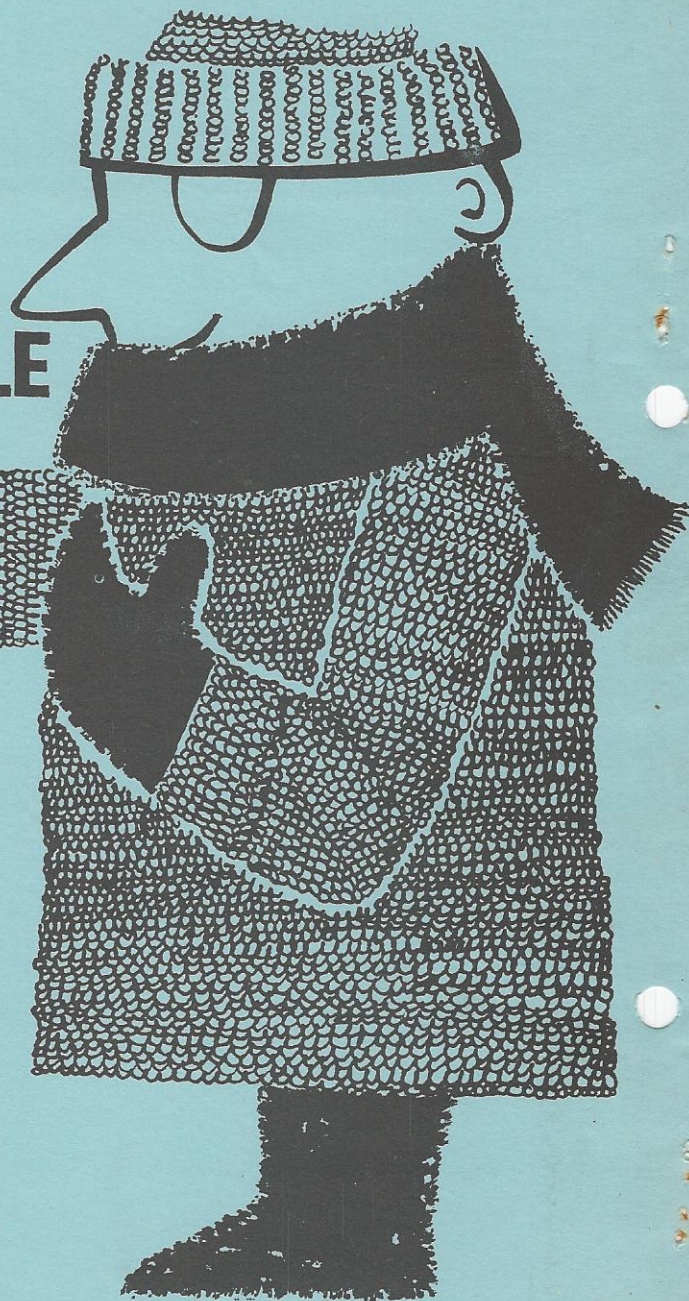
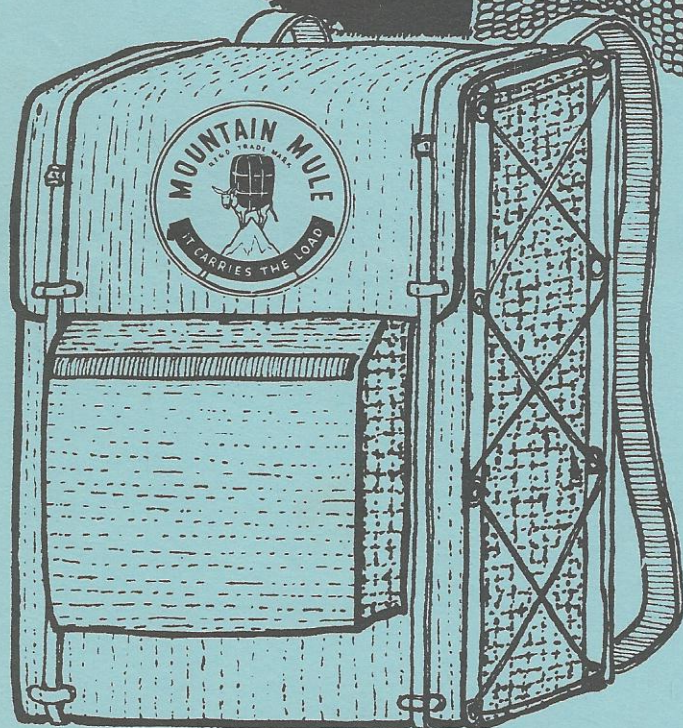
5. Egg can also be used in cooking pancakes, steamed bread, batter
 for apple fritters, thickening stews etc.

6. Curry or onion flavoured is also tasty but the masterpiece
 is to use a packet of mushroom or oyster soup or cheese to make a tasty
 emulsion.

Thus "India rubber" need not necessarily be on the breakfast menu if the
 cook uses imagination and USE THE MIXTURE while cooking.



THE ORIGINAL MULE



as used by Sir Edmund Hillary
on his Mt Everest Expeditions.
Now made in Australia by

KIMPTONS FEATHER MILLS Pty Ltd
5 Budd Street, Collingwood, Vic.
for Mountain Equipment Ltd.
(New Zealand).

ALL ENQUIRIES AT KIMPTONS. (Phone: 41 3964)