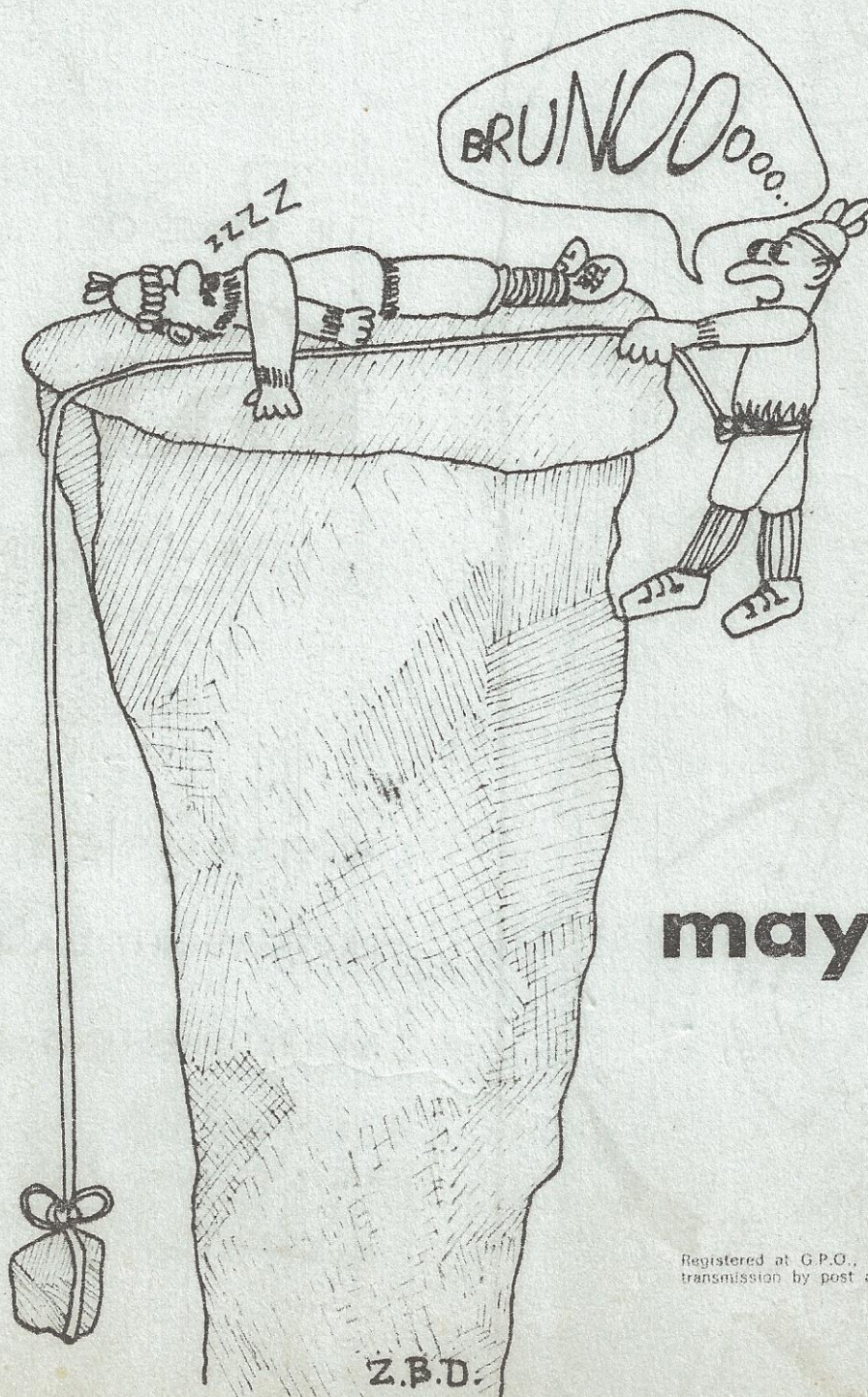


THE MOUNTAINEER



no. 2

may 1970

Registered at G.P.O., Melbourne, for
transmission by post as a periodical

Z.B.D.

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

PTY. LIMITED

THE HOME OF

fairy

DOWN SLEEPING BAGS

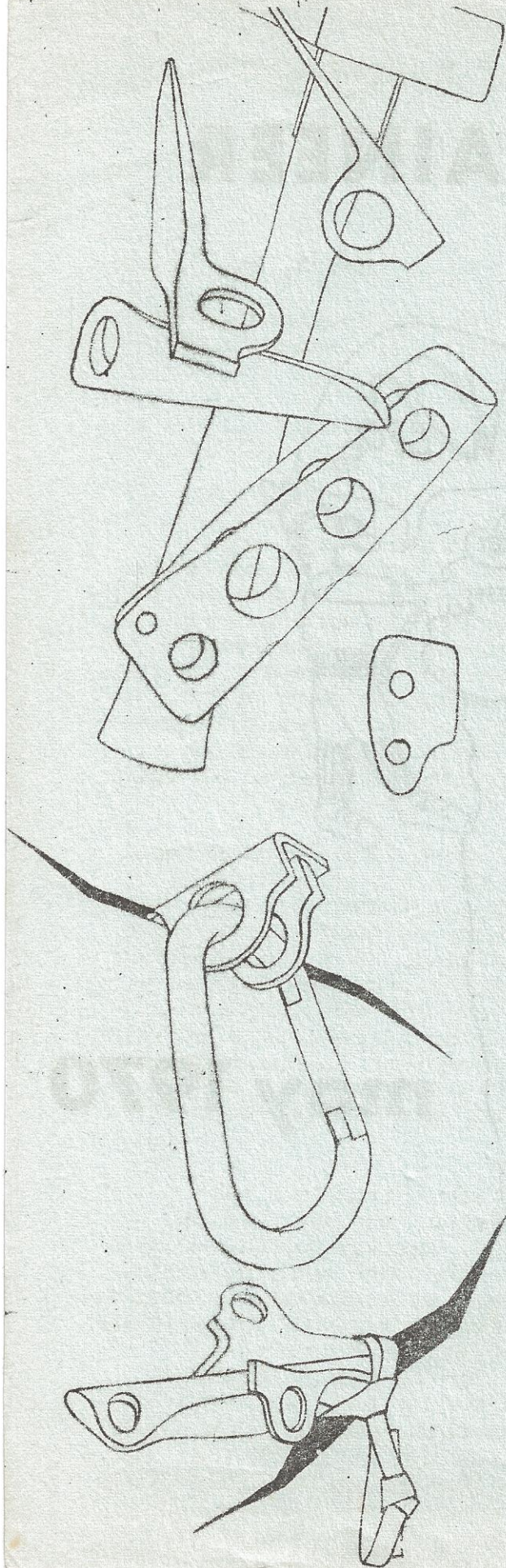
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The Mountaineer

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Price: 10¢

No. 2, May, 1970.

Official Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club. Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a periodical.

Correspondence: The Editor, M.U.M.C., Sports Union
University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3052.

-----oooOooo-----

Many Mountaineering Club members, both new and old, have already enjoyed some of the activities of our club this year. The Beginners walking trip to the Prom. and the Easter walking trips were particularly popular. However, it is about this time each year (perhaps a little later for some students) that the increasing pressure of University work begins to present itself. There is thus pressure to cut back on the number of trips that one would normally attend. Many lecturers try to shock students into study and begin piling work on at an extra rate. This trend is particularly noticeable at the beginning of second term.

It is not suggested that you let your work slip in preference to club trips, but the fact is - and it has been proved by many academically successful mountaineers - that one can mix mountaineering and study. Some planning of one's spare time is required, but the results are rewarding. A mountaineering trip - be it walking, climbing, caving or canoeing - is a great break from study and refreshes one for the continuation of work. Moreover, a trip after a period of concentrated study is all the more enjoyable as it is a complete change. Even the most heavily worked students (such as Engineers) should be able to afford 2 or 3 weekends each term with a break of 1 week each term vacation.

And now to a topic mentioned by most new editors of this magazine - cover designs, articles, jokes, recipes, trips reports, book reviews, cartoons, songs, letters to the editor etc. etc. All these are urgently required and will be gratefully accepted. The Mountaineer exists as a channel of communication between members and a means whereby members can express their views and ideas. Over the past few years there has been little correspondence appearing in The Mountaineer and it can only be concluded that either no one has strong views about the Club and its activities, or those who do, could not be bothered to express them. I am inclined to think that the latter is the case. Let's see those letters and articles come rolling in.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If there is a red line on the wrapper of this "Mountaineer," then your subscriptions for 1970/71 are now due. Subscriptions are payable at Aikmans Road any lunchtime. Failure to pay will mean, among other serious disadvantages, that you will receive no further issues of The Mountaineer. (This may seem a good reason for NOT paying but don't be tempted. The Mountaineer is worth receiving).

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GUIDE-BOOK

The most recent publication undertaken by M.U.M.C., "Guide to the Victorian Alps" is now on sale. This book contains a wealth of information about bushwalking country along the Great Dividing Range from Mt. Matlock to just beyond the Victorian Border. Included also are the ranges, spurs, high plains and valleys that branch north and south from the Great Dividing Range over this section. For convenience to the walker, there are six separate books, five of which are devoted to particular areas. The six books are bound in a cover and may be removed and taken separately on trips. Track notes are given for a very large number of routes and no bushwalker should be without a copy. The price is \$2.00 and the Guide-book may be obtained from Aikmans Road or any good walking equipment supplier.

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M.U.M.C. OFFICERS FOR 1970Committee Positions

President	: Tony Kerr
Vice Presidents	: Ron Frederick Tom Kneen
Secretary	: Carla Van Driel
Assistant Secretary	: Brenda Kaye
Treasurer	: Boom Cannon
Trips Secretary	: Paul Callander
Stores Officer	: Adrian Davey
Editor of Mountaineer	: Rod Tucker
Climbing Sub-committee convenor	: Peter McKeand
General Committee Members	: Brien Cohn Martin Wardrop

Caving Sub-committee Convenor	: John Taylor
Canoeing Convenor	: Mike McNicol
Equip. Testing Sub-committee Convenor	: Pat Miller

Non-committee Positions

F.V.W.C. Delegate	: David Hogg
F.V.W.C. Observer	: to be appointed
F.V.W.C. Track Clearing Delegate	: David Hogg
F.V.W.C. Mapping Delegate	: Boom Cannon
F.V.W.C. Search and Rescue Delegate	: Annabelle Roth
F.V.W.C. S & R Observer	: Max Corry
Victorian National Parks Assoc. Delegate	: Richard Dale
Australian Conservation Foundation Del.	: Alison Neville
Conservation Council of Victoria Delegate	: Leigh Peterson
Victorian Climbing Club Delegate	: Adrian Davey
Victorian Speliological Assoc. Delegate	: Russell Kaaden
Sports Union Delegates	: 1. Boom Cannon 2. Harry Schaap 3. Keith Thomas
Ropes Officer	: Peter McKeand
Map Librarian	: Boom Cannon
Librarian	: Sue White
Hut Wardens	: Ron Frederick Tony Crapper
Publication Sales Officer	: Graham Oakes
Duplication Officers	: Paul Callander Pat Miller
Assistant Editor of Mountaineer	: Leigh Peterson
Catering Officers	: Joan Holroyd Judy Hill
Public Relations Officer	: to be appointed
Farrago Liason Officer	: Harry Schaap
First Aid Officer	: Harry Schaap
Editor of the Guide-book	: David Hogg
Stores Officers	: Paul Callander, Geoff Fagan Geoff Lay Harry Schaap John Taylor Keith Thomas
Poster Writer	: Judy Whitaker

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TRIPS PROGRAMME

- May 1 Slide Night
George Paton Room
- May 3 Day Walk and Orienteering
Area: Kinglake
Transport: Van \$1.50 (approx)
Departs 9.30 a.m. Batman Avenue
- May 9-10 Blackwood Weekend Bludge and
Night Orienteering
Transport: Private
- May 16-22 Southern Snowy Mountains
Leader: Leigh Peterson
Standard: (a) Medium - Hard
(b) Hard
Distance: Approx. 100 miles
- May 23 Intervarsity: Adelaide
- May 22-30 Woollybutt Saddle - Mt. Stirling - King River - Mt
Cobbler - Mt. Speculation - Razor - Viking -
Speculation - Buggery - Crosscut - Howitt - Magdala
- Lovick - Bluff - Buller - Woollybutt Saddle.
This is a 7 day hard trip. Experienced walkers only.
Start walking Saturday, 23rd.
Transport: Private
Map VMTC King, Howqua and Jamieson Rivers
Leader: Pat Miller
- Notes: 1. Be prepared for snow and/or cold weather
2. The trip will be limited and the leader
will exercise his right to refuse
anyone whose ability he doubts.
- June 1-7 See page 18.
- June 6-7 Walhalla
Standard: Medium
Leader: Ron Frederick
Transport: Private (perhaps van)
Distance: ?
- June 13-15 Queen's Birthday 3 days
Transport: Van \$4.00 - \$4.50
(a) Howqua - Howitt - Bluff - Howqua
Standard: Hard (could be snow)
Experienced walkers only
Leader: required
Distance: 35 miles
(b) Howqua - Eagle's Peak - Governors - Upper
Jamieson Hut - MacDonald, etc. - Bluff - Howqua
Standard: Medium
Leader: Graham Oakes
Distance: 20 miles
- Map for both trips: VMTC King, Howqua, Jamieson
Rivers.
- June 1-7 Blue Mountains Walk - see page 18.

- June 20 24 Hour Walk
Transport: Van \$5.00 (all inclusive, blisters
 are free)
Map: Wouldn't you like to know!
Standard: Dead easy to Impossible
The event of the year: don't miss it
- July 4-5 Beginner's Snow Walk - Baw Baw Plateau
Leader: Paul Callander
Distance: ??
Transport: Van \$4.00 - \$4.50
Standard: Medium
- July 18-19 Feathertop Hut Work Party
Small group only
Leader: Ron Frederick
Transport: Private
- July 30 Annual Dinner Dance. - - More details later.
- Bookings: There are only two ways to book:-
 (a) Enter your name, address, etc. in the trips
 book at Aikmans Road
 (b) 'Phone Paul Callander on 560-7503 any evening
 Method (a) is preferable.

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TASMANIA '71

An open club trip will be held to the Cradle Mt. - Lake St. Clair National Park in February 1971. The trip will involve 14 days walking, 6 from Waldheim to the northern end of Lake St. Clair, where a food drop will have been arranged. A further 6 days will be spent in the Pinevalley - Du Cane area. The other 2 days are to allow for rest and bad weather, it snows regularly in summer.

The cost of transport will be approximately \$35.00 which includes:

Air Fare Melbourne to Devonport
 Hobart to Melbourne

or

Burnie to Melbourne

Bus Fare Devonport to Waldheim
 Derwent Bridge to Hobart

or

Derwent Bridge to Queenstown
to Burnie via Zeehan,
Roseberry and Somerset

The second route although costing no more requires that a night be spent at Queenstown. It should be noted that it is only necessary to leave Melbourne together-not return, this allows anyone wishing to go sight-seeing to do so.

Minimum requirement for the walk is at least a two day walk with a pack in 1970, excluding the beginner's walk to Wilson's Prom.

As it is necessary to book well in advance it is essential that those interested in going return the attached form to * Aikmans Road as quickly as possible. This is to give some idea of numbers, and does not mean you have to go.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs will be held on:

Wednesday, May 13th, 1970, at 8.00 p.m.
in Room 56 Victorian Railways Institute

All members of M.U.M.C. are welcome to attend. Would any club members interested in applying for any of the following positions please contact Carla Van Driel.

Chairman of the S & R committee

Chairman of the Track Clearing committee

Chairman of the Feathertop Hut committee

Hut Warden of the Feathertop Hut

Editor of the Federation News

Delegate to the Victorian National Parks Association

Delegate to the Australian Conservation Foundation

Delegate to the Youth Council of Victoria

Delegate to the Bushwalking and Mountaineering
Leadership Panel

The interest and support of members from ALL clubs in the F.V.W.C. is necessary if it is to operate as an influential organisation.

-----oooOooo-----

*

tear along dotted line

NAME		
ADDRESS		
PHONE		
AGE	SEX
STUDENT	-	FULL TIME	Yes/No
		PART TIME	Yes/No
NON-STUDENT			Yes/No

REPORT FROM THE LAST MEETING OF THE 1969/70 COMMITTEE

1. Policy Book: The Policy Book should be completed shortly after the Annual General Meeting.
2. Redrafted Constitution: This should be ready for production following the Annual General Meeting.
3. Damage to Dibbin's Hut: Some persons, be they Club members or not, have seen fit to deface Dibbin's Hut by writing "OXO" on the chimney in orange paint. There is no need for such an addition to any mountain hut - there being log books to record our passage. Whenever there is any indication of such defacement occurring in, on, or near our hut we become justifiably, a little upset. The Committee deplores and regrets the damage to Dibbin's hut and during the Easter walk restoration is scheduled.
4. Conservation Council of Victoria: As the affiliation fees appear to be much higher than just the registration, we are awaiting clarification before joining the C.C.V.
5. Stores: As part of the stores re-organisation, it has been decided to increase hiring deposits to \$2.00, subject to Sports Union approval, after the Annual General Meeting, to dissuade careless users.
6. Public Relations Pamphlet on Victorian Walking: This pamphlet, to be produced by the F.V.W.C., and listing club facilities in Victoria is to be supported in principle by the Club but as our members are drawn from University ranks and we are not therefore an "open" Club, our financial support is to be limited to the previously paid affiliation fees to the F.V.W.C.
7. Canoeing: The canoeing estimates (some \$700) were approved by the Committee and the case for the Sports Union Estimates meeting discussed.
8. Annual General Meeting: The preparations for the Annual General Meeting were finalized.
9. Search & Rescue Application: Elizabeth Jardine was approved for Search and Rescue membership subject to the usual conditions on female membership.
10. Guide-book: Selling price is to be \$2.00 and 50¢ for individual booklets if bought separately.
11. Climbing: Hire fees for climbing equipment will be abolished subject to Sports Union approval.

An amount of \$32.00 was added to our estimates for the duplication of Phil Seccombe's climbing instruction film.

Ian Thomas (Hon. Sec. 1969/70)

NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24TH MARCH 1970

The committee appointed Leigh Peterson to investigate our membership to the Conservation Council of Victoria. The actual registration fee is \$5.00 but we do not know what the membership fee is.

David Hogg wrote to the committee to ask if 40 complimentary copies of the guide-book could be distributed to various individuals and organisations. This was granted. Also, on Dave's suggestion, the non-committee position of permanent guide-book editor has been approved. Dave Hogg will act in this capacity for the remainder of this year. The committee extends its thanks to Dave for the wonderful job he has done in producing the guide-book.

Our use of a proposed new Ski Lodge which may be set up at Mt. Hotham or Falls Creek was discussed. It was felt the club would make little use of the Lodge on trips, especially if rates were charged. A letter to this effect was sent to Mr. Tickner.

Martin Wardrop was appointed Open Day organiser. Anyone with suggestions, or who wishes to take part, are asked to contact Martin.

Tom Kneen was asked to investigate suitable places for this year's Annual Dinner Dance.

Non-committee positions were discussed and those appointed are listed elsewhere in this "Mountaineer."

Leigh Peterson was approved for membership of the F.V.W.C. S & R section.

If anyone wishes to have anything discussed at a committee meeting please send it to the secretary for inclusion in the agenda.

Carla Van Driel (53-8591)

(Hon. Sec. 1970/71)

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

During our recent work party at Beaconsfield Upper a gross inaccuracy was detected in the M.U.M.C. songbook. Feeling suitably qualified we, the undersigned, recommend that all members should make the following amendment: Page 160, Line 4, should read "Kneen."
Hoping to prevent further innocent notches on the gold handled cane,

IIOTIII'S

The following is a copy of a letter sent to:
The Secretary,
Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs

Dear Sir,

On a recent trip to Wilsons Promontory I was deeply distressed by the condition of the campsite at Little Waterloo Bay (North Waterloo Bay). There is a vast amount of rubbish littered about the main-campsite area, the majority of this being of a relatively non-disposable nature such as tins, tubes, and silver paper. Minor efforts have been made to dig holes, but these have not been filled in and are, in any case, inadequate for the amount of rubbish.

It seems to me that the old adage of "burn, bash, and bury" is sadly inappropriate here. Indeed, it needs replacing by a new creed:

"IF YOU CAN CARRY IT IN, YOU CAN CARRY IT OUT!!" *

North Waterloo Bay is but one example - a particularly disheartening one - of a general tendency for campsites to become littered with rubbish. The accumulation of rubbish at this site during the last year indicates to me that no amount of burying will provide a satisfactory answer to the disposal problem. Bushwalkers should take the first step towards a solution - by carrying out what they carry in. Furthermore, they should attempt to make the public aware of the problem and its solution. To this end I would like to suggest that the F.V.W.C. do two things:

- (a) adopt the "carry in, carry out" motto as Federation policy and advise all associated clubs accordingly;
- (b) attempt to point out the problem to the Wilsons Promontory Committee of Management (or whichever authority is appropriate) and suggest that leaflets bearing such a motto be printed and presented to all visitors entering the Park - or that some other appropriate line of action be taken.

In addition to the rubbish problem (which also exists at Refuge Cove for example) there is the general problem of what might well be called campsite desecration. Both Waterloo Bay and Refuge Cove have suffered sadly on this point. The campsites are trampled endlessly until all grass disappears; trees are cut down en masse for firewood and for fun (or so it seems) until small wildernesses are created; people defecate indiscriminately and with no attempt to bury the faeces; the result is to turn a once-beautiful campsite at Waterloo Bay into something approaching a slum area.

I am disgusted and sickened - and I am not sure of the answer. At least I can try to make you aware of the disgrace, if you are not so already. Please let us do something - collectively we should be able to take a stand.

.....

Michael Griffin

*With regard to tins - it helps if, after use, both ends are cut out and the main part flattened - by this means much room in the pack is saved and the tins can be carried out and disposed of in the normal garbage collection. Plastic containers do not appear to deteriorate at all and therefore should always be carried out and disposed of similarly.

-----oooOooo-----

SPORTS UNION MEDICAL UNIT

This Unit, staffed by a Doctor and Physiotherapist is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4.00 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. for the treatment of sporting injuries acquired by Sports Union Members. The Unit is situated at the northern end of the main University oval. Apart from your yearly Sports Union Fees, there is no fee for treatment.

Those in attendance are specialists in their fields, so if you suffer any injuries while humping your bluey about the bush, don't hesitate to make full use of this service.

-----oooOooo-----

OVERHEARD IN THE NATIMUK PUB:

Holland : "Why do you come to the pub, Gordon, if you don't drink?"

Talbett : "Well, Brendan, why do you come to Arapiles if you don't climb?"

-----oooOooo-----

- ICPOTM - ICPOTM - ICPOTM - ICPOTM -

THE MOUNTAINEER, CLASSIFIED AD

For Sale : 1 pair size 6 new Brixia (Made in Italy)
Climbing Boots. (Screw in soles) - \$20.00

Ring Debbie - 29-1654 - any night after
6.00 p.m.

- ICPOTM -

WINDY OLD WEATHER

1. Up jumped Nick White with a gleam in his eye,
He cried, "Winter's coming, I'd better get high!"
- Ch. In this windy old weather, stormy old weather,
When the wind blows, we'll all go together.
2. Up jumped Annabelle Roth - she's cuddly and warm,
And she'll make up for any old port in a storm!
3. Up jumped Tony Kerr. Oh, what a pity,
He sat down and wrote ten letters to the committee!
4. Up jumped John Bennett all covered in hair,
He cried, "Snow is falling, but I can't see where!"
5. Up jumped Bob Chappell with his hand on the line,
He cried, "Fishing's started and I'm feeling fine!"
6. Up jumped Marg. James and went into a spin,
"My bikini's worn out and my jeans are worn thin!"
7. Up jumped Geoff Fagan - he seemed rather full,
He sat on his tail and shot off some bull!
8. Up came Sue Eager and Rosemary Seear,
They looked all around and asked "Any men here?"
9. Up jumped Bob Cannon with Blood on his hands,
He looked at his feet and said, "That's where she stands!"
10. Up jumped Ian Thomas with a mighty big smile,
On a clear night his teeth can be seen from a mile!
11. Up jumped Clive Parker with a piton and crab,
"Climb Vampire crack feet first - hell, I'll have a stab!"
12. Up jumped Max Corry with 'is foot in his mouth,
He said, "Melbourne's too warm, I'm heading down south!"
12. Up jumped Les Southwell with a pack full of gear,
With all of that junk, how did he get here?

Anonymous

-----0000000-----

OXONUTS



CLIMBING NEW GUINEA'S MOUNTAINS

Mt. Wilhelm 14,793 feet high is the territory's highest, although there are others higher in West Irian. Wilhelm's jagged peak forms part of the Bismarck Ranges just north of Goroka and Mt. Hagen.

The four highest peaks of the range were named after the children of Bismarck - Herbert Berg, Marien Berg, Wilhelm Berg and Otto Berg.

Although very close to the equator, snow often falls just around the peaks, in the gullies. Alpine scenery on a tropical island like New Guinea is quite unique.

Any experienced bushwalker with overnight camping gear would have no trouble at all in ascending Mt. Wilhelm itself in the space of a few days.

To reach Wilhelm from Goroka one can either fly or use 4-wheel drive to Keglsugl Mission at 8,000' altitude, then commence a good one day's walk from Keglsugl village at the end of the strip to the beautiful high altitude Pinde-Aunde Lakes and

waterfalls at 11,500 ft. On the shores of the lakes the A.N.U. has constructed a hut for research work in tropical high altitude flora and fauna. The two lakes are separated by a stepped 500' high waterfall, Lake Pinde being the higher of the two.

Beyond the half mile wide lakes a rugged mountain backdrop soars skyward in real alpine grandeur to the dominating peak of Wilhelm.

This area is strikingly similar to Cradle Mountain and Dove Lake region of the National Park in Tasmania.

At an altitude of 10,000' most people suffer from the lack of oxygen and would be a good idea for any climber attempting Wilhelm to acclimatise by staying around the Lakes for a few days, being a perfect campsite.

Anyone unsure of the route can hire a climber native guide from Keglsugl village for a nominal fee. From Keglsugl the route passes along a stony creek bed for a mile before climbing steeply through dense moss forest to the lower end of a terminal moraine at 10,000 feet.

Approaching the upper end of the moraine after an early walk along its bed of another mile, a waterfall can be seen which is actually just below Lake Aunde, situated on a small plateau above the timber line.

Base camp at the lakes can be established either in one's own tent or using one of the 3 or 4 empty native huts in the area.

The climb above the lakes starts on the western side, passing right by the remains of an aircraft (World War II American bomber) on the ridge below Wilhelm at about 13,000 feet. After the fairly steep scramble and over a saddle at 14,000' the summit cairn can be seen about half a mile off on a great pile of jagged rocks forming the top.

Apart from a short climb over an exposed face 50' below the top, which requires some care (there is a straight drop of several hundred feet below this on the eastern side) no real climbing skill is required.

Weather permitting the fabulous view of the rugged country and of the coast 60 miles away can be seen from the summit.

After Mt. Wilhelm any enthusiastic mountaineer could tackle Mt. Otto (11,634') within easy reach of Goroka, or Mt. Michael (12,500') 40 miles SW of Goroka which is reached by starting out from Lufa village, or attacking the unclimbed elusive Mt. Herbert, 14,000' about 8 miles NW of Wilhelm.

Howard Pascoe

DIBBIN'S HUT

Walkers on the recent 5 day Easter trip in the Mount Hotham area were disappointed to find that apparently due to the negligence of someone passing through the area, cattle had wandered through an open gate, entered the hut, and had quite a pow-wow inside. The mattresses and log book had been trampled and eaten, tables and ladder knocked over and broken, and the earth floor rather spoiled. A few makeshift repairs were rendered, but it is hoped that this rather historic hut will be restored to its original condition soon.

(The printed "OXO" mentioned earlier in this "Mountaineer" was removed by members of the party.)

-----oooOooo-----

SUMMER IN NEW ZEALAND

Once again last summer many M.U.M.C. members were lured across the Tasman by those two little islands known collectively as New Zealand.

The major attraction of N.Z. as far as a mountaineer is concerned, is the Southern Alps which provide walking and climbing opportunities unavailable in Australia.

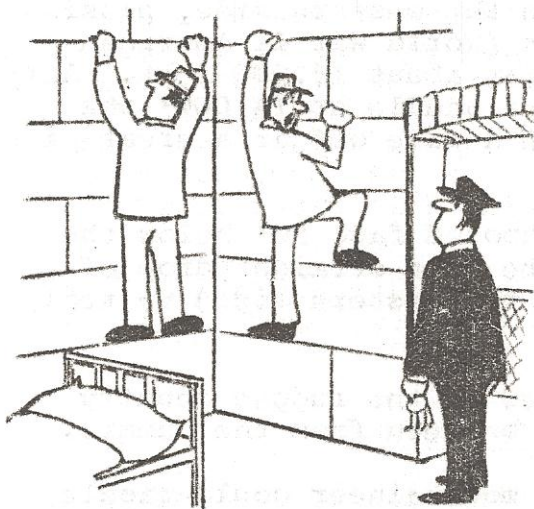
The purpose of this article is to give some general advice to M.U.M.C. members contemplating a long vacation in New Zealand, based on my own experiences of last summer:

1. Transport

Flying has advantages over sea in that it is considerably faster and that group concessions are available. Both N.U.A.U.S. and N.Z.A.C. (Australian Section) arrange group flights. If possible, fly to Christchurch from Melbourne or Sydney as this trip takes you over the Southern Alps - a magnificent view if the weather is fine.

2. Equipment

Even though the end of the academic year is many months away, if you are at present contemplating



"We're not going anywhere -
we're the Pentridge
Climbing Club."

purchasing new equipment WAIT until you are in New Zealand if at all possible. You will save \$10.00 on a Mountain Mule, about \$4.00 on wool skirts, \$2.00 on Japara parkas, and in fact on almost all items of equipment. Most M.U.M.C. members patronise Mountain Equipment in Christchurch who allow a student discount of 5 percent. Ice axes and ropes are available for hire from the Club store at the usual rates. Finally, Mike Feller and John Retchford have prepared suggested food and equipment lists for N.Z. trips and a few copies are still available free at Aikmans Road.

3. Instruction

If this will be your first climbing trip in New Zealand I would strongly advise that you attend a Basic Instruction run by Alpine Instruction at Bull Hut in Mount Cook National Park. You will probably find that the majority of the participants on the course will be Australians, but your instructors will be Kiwis, some of whom are likely to be Varsity students, and who can be of tremendous assistance in planning trips for after the Course.

The course not only provides practical instruction but contains a number of discussions on equipment, food, safety and techniques. I suggest that before you purchase items such as ice axes or crampons that you discuss with someone who has attended an Instruction Course the differing advantages of the various brands of equipment. For instance, it was demonstrated on the Course that ice axes with short picks were unsuitable if the snow was soft when trying to perform a self-arrest.

4. Climbing Trips - Note:

- (a) For safety reasons I suggest that a party should contain at least 4 members, one of whom has previously climbed in New Zealand.
- (b) An excellent set of guide-books are available and should be consulted when planning trips.
- (c) As many of the high huts have very limited accommodation bookings should be made at an early date, usually through N.Z.A.C.

5. Touristing

As this may be your only trip to New Zealand for many years, in addition to your mountaineering activities, I suggest that you do some sight-seeing. The country is ideal for hitch-hiking in that distances are relatively short, there is an extremely high ratio of cars to people, motor camps are generally superior to Australian caravan parks in that they contain well equipped kitchens and finally if you are looking

for luxury accommodation Y.H.A. Hostels exist in most major towns and at places of interest.

New Zealand drivers are well disposed to people carrying packs and will generally pick you up if they have room, and if you are fortunate, like I was, at times even invite you to their homes for a meal, a wash and a good night's sleep.

Finally, I would suggest that you spend the majority of your stay in the South Island, as many parts of the North Island are not unlike SE Australia.

Ron Frederick

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THE STORE

This article outlines the services provided by the store and the procedures to be followed. Many of the procedures have been altered and particular note should be taken that the deposit is now \$2.00 per person. It should be remembered that the services of the store are a privilege and not a right.

1. General: The store is open at lunchtimes and closes at 1.45 p.m. Only stores officers may hire out equipment or sell food. The stores officers this year are:

Adrian Davey, Paul Callander, Geoff Fagan,
Geoff Lay, Harry Schaap, John Taylor, and
Keith Thomas.

2. Food: In general, the items in stock are either hard to get, or considerably cheaper than available elsewhere. Food is only available ready packaged into conveniently sized parcels, and these unit packages will not be split. A list of stock and prices is posted on the wall in the store. Stock includes dried meat, quick dried vegetables, dried fruit, and other items such as chocolate and glucose.

3. Cord, Tape and Rope: The store has stocks of nylon cord and tape of several varieties available during store hours. British Standard climbing rope in four sizes is available for sale from the Ropes Officer only.

4. Equipment: The club hires out general hiking equipment for personal use. This equipment is available for mountaineering activities only. Members are encouraged to get their own equipment rather than continue to rely on the store. We do not have groundsheets or cooking equipment for hire.

The hire rates are:

	<u>Weekend</u>	<u>Week</u>
Four-man tents	50¢	75¢
Two-man tents	30¢	50¢
Packs	30¢	50¢
Sleeping Bags	30¢	50¢
Parkas (Club trips ONLY)	50¢	\$1.00
Choofers (Club trips ONLY)	30¢	50¢

Each person is required to pay a deposit of \$2.00. This deposit may or may not be refunded if the equipment is wet or damaged. (Normal wear and tear excepted.) Persons hiring out equipment must be club and Sports Union members. Sports Union members who are not club members must first obtain approval from the Sports Union. When hiring out equipment, UNION CARD must be produced, the equipment must be SIGNED for, and the person's course and year entered beside the name in the hire book. On beginner's trips no member except a beginner may hire equipment until the Wednesday before the trip. Equipment hired for club open trips has priority over that for club private trips.

LATE FEES of 20¢ per DAY per ARTICLE will be charged unless a satisfactory explanation is produced; lost tent pegs will be charged for at 3¢ each.

It is extremely important that tents be folded with THE NUMBER SHOWING. The number is always on both ends of the ridge at the guy. The officer on duty will ask for wrongly folded tents to be refolded before accepting them.

It would be greatly appreciated by the stores officers if all defects and damage to equipment be pointed out when returned. All club tents and packs are marked with a stencilled Oxoman and the letters "M.U.M.C."

5. Climbing and Caving Equipment: This equipment is only available for hire to competants and can only be hired out by leaders. No hire charges are made. Club ropes are marked blue in the middle, and all other equipment (Karabiners etc.) is stamped. Pitons, alloy karabiners, ascendeurs, and micro slings are only available for mechanical climbing. Lost, or damaged equipment should be replaced by the person responsible.

6. Ice Axes and Snow Ropes: These are available for hire from the L.H.S.O. only.

7. First Aid Kits : The club maintains First Aid Kits one of which all leaders of club trips must take. There is no hire charge. It is essential that any deficiencies in the kit be reported when it is returned.

The store is available for the convenience of all members. Please assist your stores officers by returning equipment promptly and well looked after.

Adrian Davey
Lord High Stores Officer

TRIP TO THE BLUE MOUNTAINS
IN THE MAY VACATION:

I am thinking of leading a trip to the central Blue Mountains in the last week of the May vac. The reason I chose a place so far afield is that very few club members have ever been there and because it is outstanding walking country. We will be going by train leaving Melbourne at 6.45 p.m. on Monday, June 1st. The train arrives at Mt. Victoria in the Blue Mountains at about 1 p.m. the following day for a walk down the Grose River Canyon lasting till Saturday lunch time, June 6th. The other alternative trip will be to take the train to Katoomba (some miles closer to Sydney) and then walk south-west toward Kanangra Tops visiting many of the better-known features of the Blue Mountains such as the Three Sisters and Leura Falls. This area is reasonably covered by maps 1469, 1471, 1410, 1414 in the club's map library; the N.S.W. Government Tourist Bureau has quite a good pamphlet available.



" Bless you....! "

Return to Melbourne will be by train arriving back on Sunday morning, June 7th. The standard will be fairly easy most of the way to give plenty of time to see the magnificent canyons and rock formations, with possibly a few harder sections.

Return fare to Katoomba with student concession is \$14-00 second class, \$18-00 first class (sitting up).

If any people are interested in coming on this trip, would they let me know at Aikman's Road or on 878.0469 (at night) fairly soon.

Martin Wardrop

--oOo--

OPEN DAY, 1970

The club's display for open day on May 2nd will be along the lines of former years with a general camping display on the North Court lawns (?) and a rock-climbing display on one of the Uni. buildings (yet to be finalised). To keep an interesting display going all day, plenty of people are required to explain the use of ropes, ice-axes, crampons, carbide lamps and the like, and to give a demonstration of the use of choofers etc. Anyone who is willing to help in this way or has any extra suggestions can find me at Aikman's Road most lunchtimes.

Martin Wardrop
(Open Day Organizer)

--oXo--

CANOEING

1970 will see canoeing commence as an official MUMC activity. Interest within the club is high and the Sports Union has allocated \$700 for the acquisition of four canoes and a trailer. The canoes will be constructed with MUMC manpower. Work parties will be advertised within the next month or so at Aikman's Road.

Canoeing activities will be featured at the next slide night (May 1st) so come and see the sort of fun that this sport provides.

A sub-committee will be formed and all experienced canoeists are invited to attend a meeting in the George Paton Room at 6.30, Friday May 1st. so that this can be effected.

--oXo--

WOMEN WANTED (4)

To accompany four (4) men on all expenses paid trip to Adelaide, May 23/24. Suitable experience is advisable. Further details available at Aikman's Road.

A CANOE TRIP

Rising mist, mingling with the smoke and smells of cooking fires; running water, canoes, the confusion of unpacked gear....

Morning on the Thompson. The skeleton of the bridge which once bore the old Walhalla road rises starkly above the ford.

Breakfast is eaten, and the waterproof drums are packed. Soon, the drivers return from the weir, tomorrow's destination, where the cars have been left. The ensuing explosion of hasty preparation ends as suddenly as it began, and we find ourselves gliding silently downstream in convoy.

Silently.....until we reach the first stretch of disturbed water. "HelpwheredoyouwanttogowhatdoIhavetodo??!!!" I inquire of Roger. "Just keep paddling," he says amiably, and I realise to my surprise that we're already back in smooth water, having negotiated the offending rocks quite easily.

Another stretch of broken water heralds its presence with a characteristic muted roar. This one is more - um - interesting than the previous one. That, I realise now, was just a quickening of the current, with the odd rock jutting out here and there to stop life getting too dull. Here, the river narrows, and the current rushes through a belt of jumbled rocks, which are scattered about in the most inconvenient places.

Roger stands up to get a better view of his course, then gives me all the appropriate instructions. We edge the bow into the triangle of clear water that marks a safe passage between two rocks, and off we go (scrape), well braced (thunk) and paddling like hell (grate). Disparaging comments are made about the record low level of the river, exposing rocks that would normally be safely submerged.

After several of these stretches I am beginning to quite enjoy myself, despite the chomping noises under the canoe, and the spray dumping into my lap. "I like rapids!" I announce. "Rapids?" says Roger, "we don't reach the first rapid for a while yet."

This is an unfortunate revelation. However, I am distracted from morbid thoughts of waterfalls by a shout, followed by a line of bobbing drums, paddles etc., and the glorious sight of Eskimo Nell sitting on a rock. "GoodonyerMal!" comes the cry, as other canoes swing out to rescue the escaping gear, and Eskimo Nell herself.

I regret my laughter a little later as we swoop down an easy rapid - straight on to a large rock that neither of us had noticed. This water is cold! By the time I unstick my legs from somewhere underneath the canoe, Roger is standing up, lifting the end. I grab two floating paddles, which unfortunately somehow got tangled up with Roger's legs. He is not amused. So I grab the other end of the Blob, and lift that. He is still not amused - I find out later that canoes have broken in half for less. I retreat, humiliated, leaving someone more knowledgeable to do the job of rescue.

After this, we are continuously awash, so we bail hell for leather before and after every rapid, until lunchtime, when the damage is repaired.

Canoeing has it all over bushwalking - at lunchtime, anyway. The river provides plenty of driftwood when in flood, so as soon as we beach, a fire is lit. Frankfurts, chops, jaffle irons and tins of fruit emerge, putting to shame any bushwalker's ryebread and salami. They take pity on me and feed me jaffles.

After lunch, we meet a real genuine rapid. Unfortunately (!?) it's too shallow at present for a double loaded Canadian, so Roger takes it down solo. Still, the consolation prize is a superb view from the rocks of every technique known to man of shooting (or not shooting) a rapid. Rescue operations are required again.....and again.....and again.....

At the end of the day we beach the canoes, and tents go up, dry clothes go on, and dinner. Beer is put in the river to cool, the flagon is passed round, then the green ginger wine, and someone's Marsala, and vermouth.....then suddenly we are all singing. At midnight we totter into our sleeping bags, only to wake up two minutes later, at eight o'clock, to the sound of clanking billies, and Geoff asking for Aspirin.

Today is rougher than yesterday, and soon everyone has been dunked at some stage of the weekend - everyone except Geoff. Morning tea time sees us beached again, mending one of the Monash canoes which has split badly in the middle. Another excuse for a fire and food, while it dries.

When the canoe has been mended, we take to the water again; more rough water, more rapids, more spills. Highlights include - Roger chivalrously volunteering to take a young lady's kayak down a rapid, then pranging it; hitting a rock wall with the bow, and watching the rock break and sink instead of the canoe; - hitting a five foot high rock in the widest and most placid part of the river, because the captain didn't see it (he was too busy thinking of the strength and rigidity of the hull!).

When we finally trundle out on to the weir, it's late and we're all tired, but it's been well worth it. Excitement, combined with the undeniable advantage of being able to carry almost anything necessary for a comfortable existence, makes canoeing a very satisfactory occupation.

Marg James

-----oooOooo-----

People who climb up mountains are known as mountaineers.....
People who come back are known as survivors.....
Professional survivors are known as guides.....

-----oooOooo-----

NEW MAP ISSUES

1. Lake St. Claire - Cradle Mt.

(1" = 2 miles) has been revised (1969) showing new tracks.

2. The VMTC "Snowy Plains" & "Baw Baw Plateau" maps have also been revised. The "Snowy Plains" map has been considerably improved - it is wider so that the start of the Tarli Karng track is now included and it also goes a mile further south than before but no longer covers the area north of Bryces Gorge. It would be the best map of the area for bushwalking.

3. The following 1:100,000 series maps have been released. (They have a metric grid and 20 or 40 metre contours). Ballarat, Creswick, Edenhope, Casterton, Balmoral, Grampians.

The Grampians map covers the south west section of the Grampians with Mt. Difficult on its north border and just misses out on Rosea.

-----oooOooo-----

THE 24 HOUR WALK

The 24 hour Walk is an annual event in the Club. For those readers new to the Club who may have heard the magic words around Aikman's Rd. and are perhaps mystified I shall attempt to explain.

To put it simply, the contestants pay the Club for the privilege of attempting a rather strenuous form of suicide for the enjoyment of sadistic organizers, but I think a fuller explanation may be needed. Thus, to enlarge on this we may quote from official descriptions of the event. First, a suitable area is chosen, suitably rough and suitably scrub covered, by the Chief Sadist, or Organizer. Then he scouts the area with his helpers to pick the least likely most remote points for checkpoints and feeding stations, more accurately known as Hash Houses. The maps are bought, the course laid and the food and drink prepared.

Finally, the great day dawns. The legions gather in the Bourepaire Trophy Hall to receive their maps and matches, list of checkpoints and instructions. The morning is spent planning routes with other team members. For safety, there are two strict rules in the contest. The first is that no-one may compete or continue in the contest without at least one companion.

There is no maximum number allowed in teams but the practical limit is about twelve. Serious competitors usually go in pairs. The second is that checkpoints must be visited in order, so if anything does go wrong, teams are easier to find for teams are signed in and out of Hash Houses and must also sign at checkpoints.

At about midday everyone is packed into vans which head for the start. The start!! That is a sight one never forgets. Anything from one to two hundred people suddenly erupting from a quiet country lane and streaking for the horizon in several different directions. The different directions define the three different courses. One is for all male teams, the second for mixed teams and the third coincidentally for all female teams. The latter two are, respectively, approximately six and twelve miles shorter than the male course.

The fun really starts with darkness which falls early as the date for the 24 is traditionally the week-end closest to the full moon closest to the Winter solstice. This year that means the week-end of the 20th-21st June. The full moon helps but navigation is much harder at night and helpful people, themselves lost, try to mislead other teams by flashing torches and other tricks.

Finally, the first Hash House is reached after about eighteen miles (male teams, twelve for others). Here, or so it seems to parched tongues and empty stomachs, is a veritable gourmets paradise, hot soup, pies, sandwiches and other delicacies as well as your own private stock that you have craftily sent along.

Then just as blistered feet and cramping muscles are beginning to feel a bit better some clown announces that it is time to go and the team staggers off for another eighteen miles (except for girls who do twelve) to the next Hash House which the organizers have probably arranged to be the same one so that after your big loop you seem to be getting nowhere.

Then off again unless the twenty-four hours are up by now in which case you collapse onto the vans, wondering how the hell you were so gullible as to be talked into this in the first place. By the way, the winners have covered about 60-70 miles by this time and still look fit and fresh. The winners are the team that is furthest along the route at the end of the 24 hour period after visiting each checkpoint.

Usually they don't finish the course but if they do, then the route back to Melbourne is tacked on and they set off along this; See, you can't win!

Well that is what the 24 is all about and, if you are still game, join us on the 20th-21st June for the walking event of the year. If you do not feel up to competing but want to indulge your sadistic instincts, then you will be welcome as a helper both before and during the event.

Paul Callander

-----oooOooo-----

One prominent female O.T. when asked why she was offering her services as a "bait" in the recent S and R practice week-end replied....
"It would be the only time that I will ever have 200 blokes chasing after me through the scrub."

EDITORS FOR EQUIPMENT FOR MOUNTAINEERING

Applications are called for editors for a new edition of "Equipment for Mountaineering". Applications are to be sent to the secretary.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

As a mountaineer's enjoyment of a particular trip increases proportionally with the number of times it is discussed, the committee has decided to organise monthly meetings which will be more informal than recent general meetings. The meetings will be partially organised in that half of the evening will be devoted to gossip, showing of slides of recent trips, planning coming trips, etc. Supper will be provided.

The venue is the George Paton Room at the eastern end of the 2nd Floor at Union House at 7.30 p.m.

So roll up on -

Friday, 1st May
Thursday, 4th June
Wednesday, 8th July

-----ooo0ooo-----

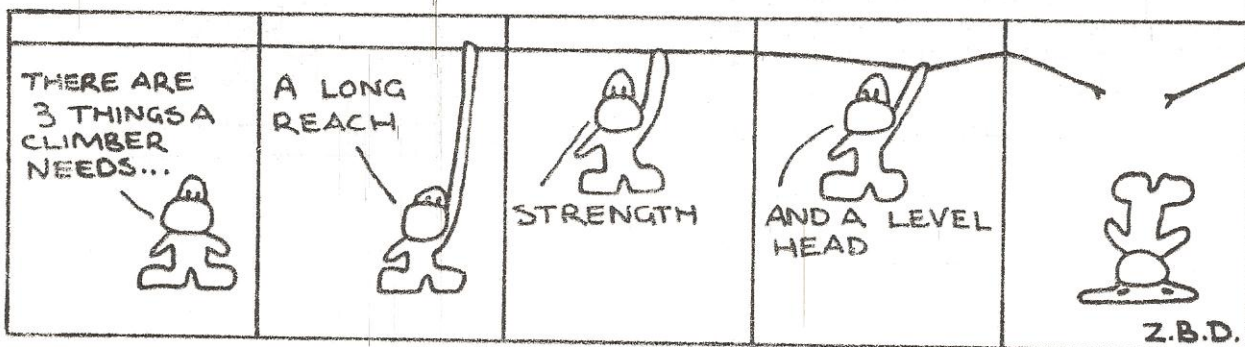
FEATHERTOP HUT PHOTOS

The Club needs two black & white photos of the Feathertop Hut, preferably but not necessarily under snow. If you have any clear negatives that might be suitable please send the photos to Brien Cohn, C/- Aikman's Rd.

-----oooo0oooo-----

Overheard at a recent Vice President's Vice night:

"The trouble is I don't know any girls who can last the distance."



SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE 18th-19th APRIL, 1970.

This practice was conducted as a joint exercise between the F.V.W.C., the Police, and the Land Rover Club to primarily test the three different types of search technique proposed by a revisionary sub-committee. The area selected was the region of Mt. Donna Buang. Familiarity with this area, it is thought, may prove advantageous in the future. Approximately 80 people participated in the exercise, this including not only the 45 searchers but also the L.R. contingent, the female bait, and the H.Q. staffs.

The exercise tested the following search techniques:

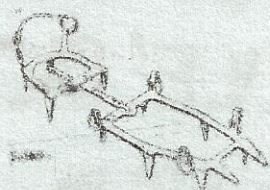
- (i) Extended style. Full packs carried all the time. This technique is well established but greater communication between H.Q. and the parties would be useful.
- (ii) Land Rover supported fast sweeps. This technique relies on light day packs and an area with vehicle access. It has been used already - aircraft search 1969 - and basically the technique appears sound.
- (iii) Sub-bases within areas. A new technique.
- (iv) Within the H.Q. Organisation. During this practice a rather fixed form of approach to the search problem - outlined on a flow chart - was tried, and some deficiencies found.

Ian Thomas
Practice F.O.

--oOo--

Contributors to The Mountaineer are requested to write neatly or to type their articles (double spaced) on one side only of foolscap paper. Copy deadline for the next Mountaineer is June 12.





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KAIAPOI SHIRTS

SWANNDRY JACKETS

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EVEREST SOCKS

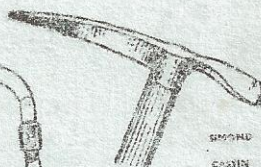
HUSKY & PETONE
TROUSERS

EVEREST BUSHMAN
& POLAR KNITWEAR

FAIRY DOWN
SLEEPING BAGS

EIDEX PARKAS

BORDE STOVES



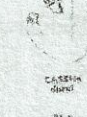
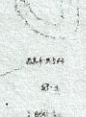
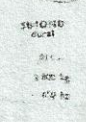
Rup

Knifblade

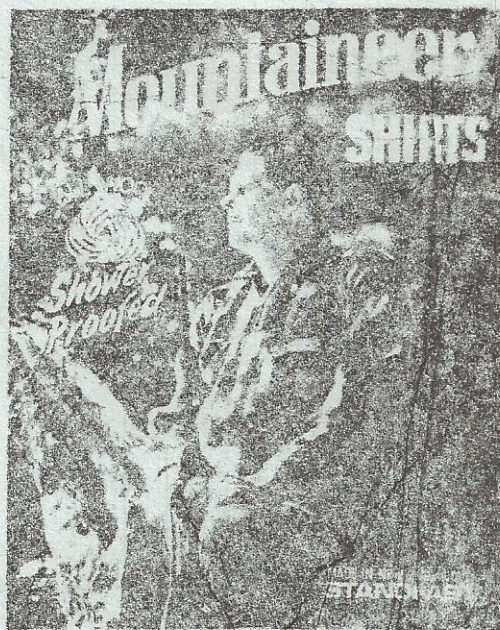
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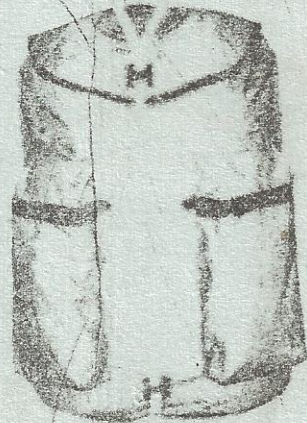
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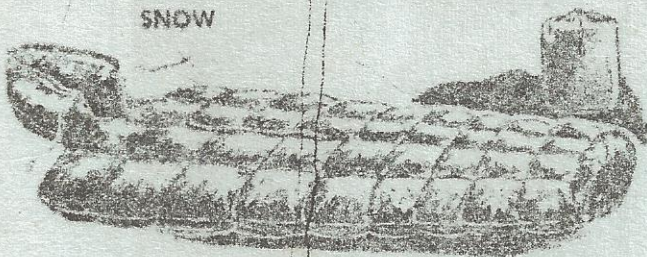
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