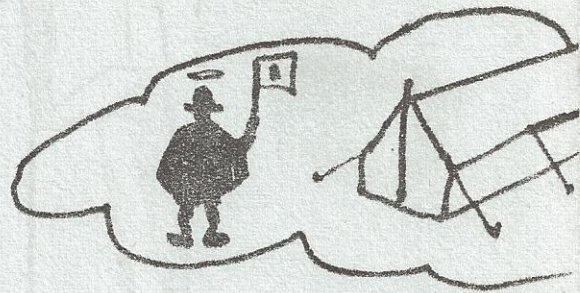
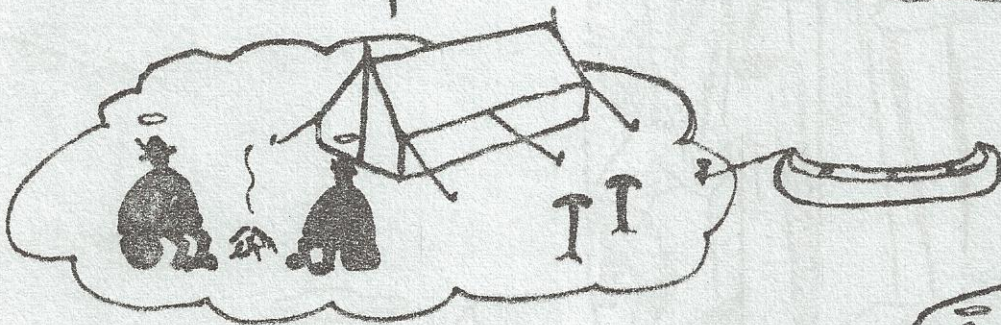
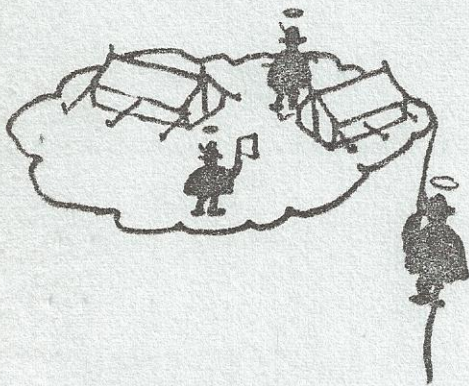
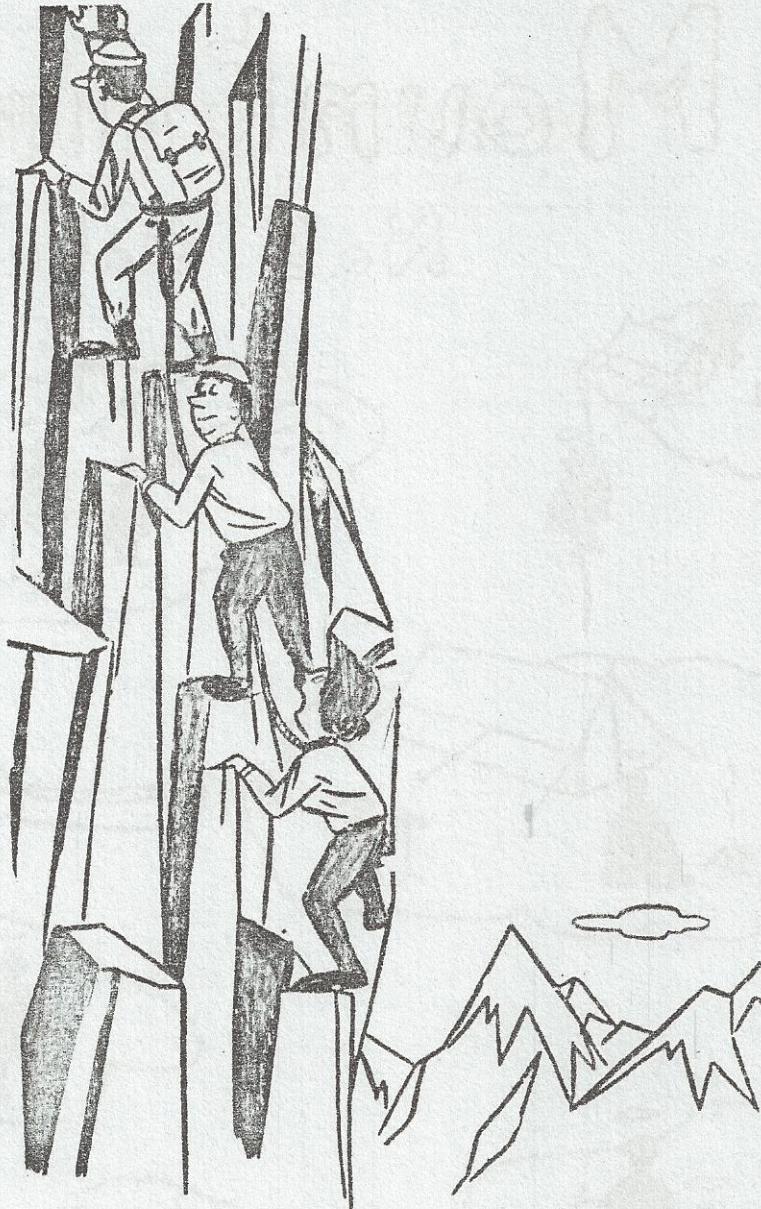


# The Mountaineer.

No. 5 October 1971.



"Sorry  
— all the campsites are taken"



*"How come you didn't tie the rope around my waist the same as you two have it?"*

FRONT COVER; drawn by Ros Escott.



TRIPS PROGRAMME

- November 6-7 Feathertop Hut.  
Mid-swat-vac bludge.  
Leader- Duncan Stevenson.  
Transport: Private.
- November 16 Monthly Meeting,  
7.30 p.m.- Raymond Priestly Room or  
Sports Union Activities Room.  
BRING SLIDES.
- November 20-21 Post-Exam Bludge.  
Lake Catani, on the Mt. Buffalo Plateau.  
A relaxing place to spend a weekend after  
a torrid fourth term.  
.....swimming, fishing, canoeing, walking,  
eating, sleeping.  
Transport: Van.  
Cost: \$5.00
- November 27 Australian Orienteering Championships  
Location: Unknown.  
Organizer: Max Corry.(3382306)  
Entry forms available from the club.  
Bookings close November 11.  
International Representatives will be  
competing.
- December 4-5 Feathertop Hut Work Party  
MUMC and Federation Huts.  
Organizers: Ron Frederick,(2882136),Barry  
Parsons.  
Transport: private.
- December X-Y Bogong High Plains.  
-including Hotham, Feathertop, Fainter,  
The Niggerheads, Bogong.  
Anyone interested in a medium, 8-day (approx)  
walk sometime in December (before Xmas),  
contact Rhonda Jones.(346204).
- December 11-12 Canoeing.  
Probably an easy paddle on a gentle river  
in bright sunshine with friendly people,  
good fishing and excellent spirits.  
Transport: private.  
Leader: Ellen Davies.
- December 11-12 Jordan River ; Gill's long postponed trip to  
the area around Aberfeldy.  
Transport: private.  
Leader: Gill Hume.

- December 18-19 Mt. Bogong to junction of Cairne Creek and Big River, where the biggest trout live.  
Leader: Tom Kneen. (347 3818)  
Standard: medium.  
Transport: private.
- December 18-19-20 Lake Tarli Karng and environs.  
- provides a good river bash up the Wellington River on the Saturday, swimming in the lake, and excursions to Mt. Wellington and the Sentinels which overlook the lake.  
Three-day trip; private transport.  
(Possibly hire a 12-seater mini van.  
Bookings close with Tony Kerr, (3298040 evenings) on Tuesday 14th Dec.
- December 21 Christmas Party....Last Tuesday night meeting of the year.  
Venue: Sports Pavillion, Northern side of University Oval. 7.30 p.m.  
Some savouries provided by MUMC.  
PLEASE BRING: Food (girls), Grog (blokes), records and slides.
- December 29-  
January 12. Cradle Mt.- Lake St. Clair Reserve, and Lake Pedder.  
Probably your last opportunity to see Lake Pedder before it sinks.  
Standard: Medium  
Fares: \$40.00 approx.  
People interested must contact Gary Whipp at Aikman's Road or ring 3405643 before the end of October.
- December 31-  
January 2 New Year's Eve Party.  
Location: Feathertop Hut.  
Singing Leader: Harry Schaap.
- January 15-16. Wilson's Promontory; Northern End.  
St. Kilda Jn., 5-Mile Beach, Johnny Sooley Cove.  
Leader: Required.  
Transport: private.
- January 22-23. Canoeing- 2 day trip.
- January 29-31. Australia Day Weekend; Mallacoota Inlet.  
(Eastern Tip of Victoria.)  
....Lake Baracoota, wreck of S.S. Riverina, Howe Hill, Cape Howe.  
.....beach bashing; beautiful green sea.  
Leader: Ros Escott.  
Transport: private.

- February 12-13     Lake Mountain, Keppel's Falls, Mt. Margret.  
Leader: required.  
Transport: private.
- February 5-6       Canoeing trip.
- February 19-20    Feathertop Hut Work Party.  
Organizer: Ron Frederick (2882136).
- March 4-5         Leadership Instruction Weekend at Blackwood.  
Organizer: Rod Tucker.



Anybody wishing to go on extended trips during the long vacation, either to Tasmania or elsewhere, is invited to advertise on the special notice board at Aikman's Road. If you just want to tag along, come over to the club-rooms and we will help you find the right trip.

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COMING ORIENTEERING EVENTS.

- October 17        You Yangs.  
Organizer: Tom Andrews.  
Starting Time: 11.00 a.m.  
How to get there: Proceed along Geelong Road, and off approx. 5 miles past Werribee. Proceed through Little River to the main gates of the You Yangs Reserve. Look for Orienteering signs.
- November 7       Black Forest.  
Organizer: Sture Lantz.
- November 21      Location to be advised.  
Organizer: Rod Harris.
- November 28      Australian Championships.  
Australia vs. New Zealand challenge.  
Organizer: Max Corry.

For information on events ring Barry Parsons (348377) or come to the MUMC clubrooms.

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WANTED: Any girl interested in a hitch-hiking holiday in Tasmania this January, ring Vicki: 241382.

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WANTED: Second-Hand Rucksack, preferably H-Frame. Ring Roger Holloway, 381205.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Madam,

I wish to reply briefly to a letter by Dave Mudie (September Mountaineer) which embraced the aims of the Club with the organization of the store.

The aims of the club are carefully set out in the constitution and Mr. Mudie's interpretation is perfectly correct. Our only disagreement seems to be how to put these aims into practice, so that mountaineering can be encouraged with the provision of club equipment where necessary. Rules regarding the provision of food and equipment are only introduced, and after very careful committee consideration, when some Club members fail to show consideration for the needs for others. Furthermore, rules become more numerous the more the equipment is misused by some members, to the detriment of most.

The Club caters adequately for beginners and non-members by providing a lot of equipment free of charge on beginners' courses. I would further like to suggest to Mr. Mudie that a lot of people hire club equipment because it is good and cheap, and that they could not give a damn about mountaineering or the Mountaineering Club.

Harry Schaap,  
Stores' Officer.

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Dear Rhonda,

In reply to Dave Mudie's letter in the last Mountaineer, I would like to make the following comments.

It is indeed the Club's purpose to provide a focal point for people who enjoy mountaineering activities- be it rock climbing, ski-touring, caving, bushwalking, canoeing, orienteering etc.,- and are eligible to join MUMC and also, to a lesser extent, those who are ineligible to join. For the former group many services are provided - organized functions, library, equipment, etc., and for the latter group, the Club has produced maps, 'Equipment for Bushwalking' and the Guide Book, and provides delegates to many groups through which experience gained in MUMC is disseminated. Such groups include the FVWC and its various sub-committees (Search and Rescue, Tracks and Huts, etc.,) and various conservation groups. The Mt. Feathertop Memorial Hut provides comfortable refuge for any group visiting Feathertop.

The Club has done in the past, is doing now and will continue to do much to inform people of the pleasures to be gained from outdoor activities. A third, expanded edition of the Guide Book is under way; an artificial climbing wall is high on the priorities for the next extension to the Sports Union; it is hoped that the club will be able to acquire ski-touring equipment next year; it is also hoped that MUMC will prepare submissions for the Land Utilization Council in an effort to ensure preservation of areas suitable for mountaineering activities,

Unfortunately, the Club has one major failing, and that is the lack of interest of the majority of its members in helping to further the club aims, that is, to help provide the various services mentioned above. This lack was reflected in the few nominations for committee positions last AGM. MUMC, of which you are a member, is not fulfilling all of its aims unless all who make use of its facilities help to provide them. It is understandable that the small nucleus that is maintaining the various services rebels at extending them (such as opening the store after hours) to those who continually use the services but offer nothing in return.

Yours faithfully,  
Tony Kerr.

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Track Notes for Updating the Guidebook.

Track notes are always wanted for guidebook areas. For those who do not want to wreck their copy of the G.B., we have some copies of the first edition that can be used if you ask for them.

Summer vacation jobs.

The FCV wants some people to work on the Alpine Track, starting about December. They are very keen to have MUMC members, so here is a good vac. job. You need to be:-

1. Keen, with a certain amount of enthusiasm for the project.
2. Fit and healthy.
3. Sensitive enough to think about how a track of this kind should go.
4. Prepared to spend a bit of time on it.

Pay is about \$65 per week.

Work will be on either the Mt. Skene - Mt. Howitt section or the Barry Saddle - Viking section.

If you are interested, please contact me personally.

Tom Kneen,  
377 Canning St., North Carlton,  
3473818.

Lake Pedder Exhibition.

I am organizing an exhibition of Lake Pedder photos at the State Savings Bank, Elizabeth St., from 18th October, in connection with the A.C.F.'s campaign to save the Lake. It will soon be destroyed unless we do something about it. So might I suggest that members write a letter protesting against its needless destruction, sending copies to the Tasmanian Premier, the Minister for Tourism, Parliament House, Hobart, and Mr. Howson, the Minister for the Environment, Parliament House, Canberra. Letters are the most effective form of action.

Les Southwell.

New Edition of the MUMC songbook.

Anyone who is interested in editing, or helping to edit the new edition of the Songbook, should apply to the Secretary.

The Club History.

Anyone who would like to have a full copy of the Club History should put in an order at Aikman's Road.

Conservation Sub-Committee.

People who may be interested in forming a sub-committee in order to help prepare submissions to the Land Utilization Council concerning areas for development in Victoria, should contact Pat Miller. (452236).

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FOR SALE: Crash Helmet, Unused....\$6.00,  
 Climbing Boots, P.A.'s, size 9½-10, As New.  
 \$10.00 or reasonable offer.  
Phone: David Elder 347 5146 (A.H.)

New Zealand: Anyone interested in 3 weeks of walking and climbing in South Island, N.Z., early February, 1972; please ring F.Fisher on 676756.

NZAC: For information on group flights to New Zealand in December, see the secretary.

Air Drops in Tasmania: Notes on supply dropping are available from the Secretary. For packing details, see 'Safety in the Bush'.

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THE STORE

- (1) Vacation store hours will be from 1.00 to 1.30 p.m., Monday to Friday, and 7.00 to 8.00 p.m. on Thursdays.
- (2) Ice axes, for use by members in New Zealand, may be hired at a flat rate of \$2.50 with a deposit of \$5.00. Snow ropes are available at the same rate.
- (3) Equipment will be available to club members only. (These members must have been on at least one club trip during the year). Each member is entitled to one of each item of equipment only. Because of the great demand on equipment during the summer season, periods of hire may have to be restricted.
- (4) Equipment is available for mountaineering purposes only, and this excludes hitch-hiking, staying at permanent camping grounds, or the usual beach holiday.

With love from your Stores' Officer.

P.S. We are stocking the store with some goodies for the summer period, including low-calorie base drinks (Happy-Ade), chocolate, dehy, and lemon and lime powder. And just to make sure that our customers are satisfied, I shall be running the store daily during the vacation.

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ANSWERS TO 'SPOT THE DIFFERENCE' (Page 18 )

- 10. GULL on bottom man's left hand.
- MAN'S trousers. 2. Bend in line to the right of the robe.
- MAN. 1. Underedge of top man's roof. 8. WHITE patch on middle
- 2. KNEE of bottom man's trousers. 9. TENDRY of bottom man's
- 3. Pocket on backpack on the ground. 4. SNOW on nearest bench.
- 1. BOW-BOW on top man's hat. 5. SHIRT spine bottom man's drink

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NEW MAPS

In recent months a number of new maps have been added to the club's collection at Aikman's Road. These are as follows:

NSW:

- 1440 Kaputar (1:31,680, 50ft contours, Dept Lands 1968).  
 - Mt. Kaputar National Park.  
 1481 Warrumbungles Tourist Map. (Hachured, 1"=1 mile, 1964)

Queensland:

- 1502 Lamington National Park. (Royal Australian Survey Corp. 1969, 2"=1 mile, 20ft. contours).  
 1511 Mt. Linesay (National Mapping, 1:100,000, 40m. contours, 1967)  
 1512 Warwick ( " " " " 1968)  
 1540 Carnarvon Gorge National Park (Tourist Map, 1"=1 mile, hachured, 1965).  
 1541 Mt. Barney (Brisbane Forestry, 2"=1 mile, hachured).

Tasmania:

- (a) National Mapping. 1:100,000, 20 or 40 m. contours.  
 1220 Forth  
 1221 Tamar  
 1222 St. Patricks  
 1225 Conical Rocks  
 1226 Pieman  
 1227 Sophia  
 1228 Mersey  
 1229 Meander  
 1234 Franklin  
 1242 Wedge  
 1244 Derwent  
 1249 Huon  
 1250 D'Entrecasteaux.
- (b) Hobart Walking Club:  
 1301 Cape Pillar (2"=1 mile, 1967)-Tasman Peninsula.  
 1320 Mt. Anne Massif (4"=1 mile, 1960).  
 1325 Lune River to Precipitous Bluff (4"=1 mile, 1963)

Victoria.

- (a) National Mapping. 1:100,000, 20 or 40m. contours.  
 210 Beaufort  
 275 Omeo p.  
 284 Murrungowar p.  
 289 Cann p.  
 290 Craigie p.  
 294 Mallecoota p.  
 295 Eden p.

p. =provisional issue. These have been compiled from aerial photographs only and have not been ground checked. They are printed in two shades - black and brown.

- (b) National Mapping. 1:50,000, 20m. contours.  
 238 Yan Yean  
 238 Yarra Glen.(£)
- (£) I would appreciate it if the person who has borrowed this map could return it.

- (c) Victorian Mountain Tramping Club.  
 717 Watersheds of the King, Howqua and Jamieson Rivers, 1"=1 mile, 1971.  
 730 Macalister River Watershed, 1"=2 miles, 1971.

731 Snowy Plains, 1"-1 mile, 1971.

733 Crooked River-Dargo, 1"-1 mile, 1971.

Recently, the club's collection of maps has been checked over and reorganized slightly. Most duplicate copies (especially older editions) which exist for some maps have been removed from the main collection and relegated to the bottom drawer of the filing cabinet. Club members wishing to use the library will now find all the maps arranged in numerical order as usual in the top three drawers of the filing cabinet.

Cataloging of the non-Victorian section of the map library has been started, beginning with Tasmania. It is intended that the cards from each state will be kept separate and located behind those of the main Victorian Section.

The same cataloging system as exists for Victoria has been retained for Tasmania. When attempting to determine the maps available of a particular area, one uses the index map on the wall next to the library to find the name of the army sheet map which covers this area. For Victorian maps, one then looks up, in the card index, the yellow card corresponding to it and this sets out all the maps covering all or part of the area. For the Tasmanian maps, the same system applies, only the colour of the card used is blue, instead of yellow. So for Tasmania, one looks up the blue card corresponding to a particular army sheet area and this sets out all the maps which infringe on the area.

Robert Jung,  
Map Librarian.

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A PLACE IN THE MOUNTAINEER

Engagements are still coming thick and fast. Congratulations to Lyn Tucker and John Gras, and also to Val Maitland and Chris Lang, for keeping up the 1971 tradition.

Congratulations to Dave Crewther, who celebrated his 21st birthday recently.

During his party, he was seen hobbling around on a walking stick.....was it in anticipation of next year's ski-ing injuries, or was he just trying to act like a grown-up??

Almost everyone who went on the Beginners' Ski-Touring weekend succumbed to the Dreaded Lurgi a couple of days later. Only those with a super-human constitution (eg. Cath Kerr, George Kuczera) were not afflicted.

You may have noticed that this Mountaineer is thinner than usual. The reason is....(you've guessed it)...EXAMS! Apart from the fact that your editor has little time to spare at the moment, most of you will have little time to read this edition anyway! On the subject of exams, best of kluck to everyone.

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A NEW WONDER DRUG?

The latest edition of "Scientific Yogistani" reports the world known Dr. O.X.O. Pong as having discovered the long sought after antidote to the common illness that afflicts Yogistani porters on expeditions. Visiting climbers relate that the Yogistani have no natural immunity to even small quantities of Happy Ade, and after inhaling the vapors of discarded sachets, are sent into fits of frenzy and violent convulsions.

Complete and immediate relief is obtained from one injection of 15.3 mls. of the new wonder drug. For the technically minded, the drug has a structure of 153 units of the recently discovered "oxygen double-cross bond".

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Dr. Pong is a fellow of the Romdoodle Academy of Unnatural Sciences.

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EYEBALLS OVER THE WAVESDEPARTMENT: CLIMBING REPORT.

After hitting an all-time high, then an all-time low, MUMC climbing is getting slowly back on its feet. Two major setbacks were the departure of Gordon Talbett to England (where it seems he joined up with Chris Baxter and set off almost immediately for Wales) and the marriage of Peter McKeand.

Alex Gluekawatsit has been steadily improving; leading two grade 17's at Werribee Gorge, and falling off the Fang.

Exactly five years after the first ascent of Fuerher, a new route was made on the North wall of the Buffalo Gorge. Named 1066 (And All That) it is graded M5 and worthy of comment. It was climbed in mid-winter conditions by Andrew Thomson, Tim Hancock, Keith Lockwood (VCC) and Chris Dewhirst (VCC) in a single day. Steps had to be actually cut in snow on the steep wall, and Dewhirst came very close to frostbitten toes after standing for four hours in a waterfall.

With new guidebooks being planned for Buffalo and the Northern Grampians next year, these areas are bound to receive much attention over the vacation, and MUMC climbers will surely be at the forefront of this.

Andrew Thomson.

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NEWS FLASH: This month's 'Australian Photography' features an article on the Aistralian Andean Expedition. (October). It is available now for 40c.

SAVE LAKE PEDDER! -SOME ISSUES INVOLVED.

On Thursday 16th September, the MUMC and MU Conservation Society received a lunchtime talk from Dr. G. Mosley - assistant Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation. He discussed the current Hydroelectricity Commission (HEC) development in South West Tasmania, the Gordon River Scheme, which will inundate the existing Lake Pedder. His talk featured a collection of slides, which served to highlight the natural beauty of the area, and formed an essential part of Dr. Mosley's case.

Before the talk, the writer (and presumably many other people) were not aware that there were any reasonable alternatives to the creation of the two large lakes in the scheme: Lake Gordon and a new Lake Pedder. However, Mosley revealed that there was an alternative viable scheme, which could be invoked in order to preserve Lake Pedder in its present state. Such a scheme though, would cost marginally more and generate less power. Hence it was not surprising that when a plan for the scheme was first presented to the State Government, that mention of an alternative was not made.

Mosley's talk and the questions which followed, to my mind, brought to a head the conflict which exists between two categories of people; the 'Conservationists' and The 'Developers'. Unfortunately, both groups base their stance too much on emotional viewpoints.

The Developers like to picture themselves as pioneers, opening up new territory, conquering difficult terrain and conditions for mankind. In the words of the HEC (Gordon River Power Development pamphlet):

"Tasmania's empty quarter is the last and most difficult corner of Australia to be entered and conquered by man." The Developer also sees himself as a builder of great monuments - dams being the modern equivalent of the pyramids.

The Conservationists see themselves as protectors of the environment from developers, ostensibly for the benefit of all mankind also. Many in this category, tend though to be more 'preservationist'; wishing to keep things the way they are, because that is the way they have been immediately up till now. Mosley, it seems, is one of these. (Victoria's Resources, 13, no.2, 1971, p.24). An attitude such as the latter is not a completely rational one, when (say) thought in terms of natural selection. (i.e. the evolution process is still continuing.)

Frequently, such emotions are cloaked by seemingly rational argument, but when these views are scrutinized more thoroughly, the underlying emotional basis can often be seen. The developers seem to be mesmerised, for example, by the idea of building large dams, which they strive to justify on economic and other rational grounds. How else could they overlook the bleak prospects ahead for the Ord River Scheme in Northern Australia? It could explain why the HEC proceeds seemingly blindly ahead with schemes submerging vast land areas of Tasmania, in attempting to

tap the large Hydro-Electric Potential of the state. Besides generating power, they see themselves as 'opening up the area' and creating large amounts of shoreline for recreational purpose.

In part, it cannot be denied that the HEC are doing just that, and what they are doing, in most people's eyes, is justified by the tourist revenue and the recreational value provided. However, they seem to neglect the fact that the modified scheme will still achieve all these aims by maintaining the existing Lake Pedder. More importantly, the HEC are overlooking the recreational value of the lake itself, which cannot be duplicated by the new lake.

There have been suggestions that the small power loss entailed by the incorporation of the modified scheme, might be better generated thermally. This is supported by the power shortages during the 1967 drought, which showed the need for diversification of supply.

It must be remembered though, that thermal power stations have their share of undesirable problems; even if air pollution is minimized, one still has the dissipation of thermal energy to consider, which is in itself a modifier of the environment. It may well be then, that the full utilization of hydroelectric potential is in everyone's best interests, including the preservationists.

It must be recognized that the HEC should, and will make further use of West coast rivers in the generation of Hydroelectric power, since if modern living standards are to be maintained (and this seems to be the general desire) then this asset must be utilized. However, the HEC have a responsibility to the people of Tasmania and Australia in considering what they inundate, and if this involves areas like Lake Pedder, then they should consider alternative schemes. The Commission have already shown one way to avoid submerging large areas and make use of the available head of water. This they have done along the River Derwent by constructing a series of small dams. To the Civil Engineer, the results may not appear as spectacular, but they are effective nevertheless.

Rational compromises on such schemes would seem to serve the interests of both parties and the community best.

Robert Jung.

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THE SNOWY PLAINS - SKI-TOURING, SNOW AND MUD WALK.

Our story begins some two years ago, when a group of the then 'heavies' set off for the Snowy Plains to undertake a hut survey. The 'hard' trip was pleasantly spent driving across and around the high country. Then it occurred to me that the area would be good for ski-touring.

As with many good ideas, nothing happened until some time later, when I offered to run a non-beginners' ski-touring trip - the area I chose was the Snowy Plains. The plan was to start from Tamboritha Saddle and ski an estimated 15 miles to Guys Hut via the road. The next day, a fit group would try a 26-mile return trip to Howitt and the rest would visit Bryces' Gorge and Mt. Renyard. The third day would be for skiing home.

Preparations began with a softening of my heart in allowing Dave to come - fit, but he couldn't ski. Sue could ski, but couldn't walk. Tony and Cath requested to be allowed to attend, and Carla and Bob said they were coming or else. Then disaster struck - Corry wanted to come. So our happy band assembled. Brenda also appeared, with an unsuitable pair of skis, for which she had paid a ludicrous price to a ski-hirer in Sandringham. After an unpleasant scene, we had left him, (having failed to gain a refund), and we thought Brenda would not be with us. But at the 11th hour, Ski-Hire, Box Hill found another pair of touerss and she was coming after all.

We arranged to meet at Licola at 7.00 a.m., on Saturday. At 10.00 p.m. Friday, a Toyota, Max and Sue knocked on our door at Moe. At 10.05 p.m. Tony, Cath and Brenda did likewise, so we all settled down to a comfortable night. Carla, Sue and Pat (that's me) slept well - they had the beds. Meanwhile, Tony and Cath on the bedroom floor tried in vain to deform it to a comfortable shape, while Bob, Dave and Max in the kitchen spent the night trying to dismantle the fridge in order to silence it. (a vain attempt also).

4.30 a.m.: The leader arises. Carla and Sue mumble half asleep in their beds. Tony, Cath, Bob, Max and Dave jump to their feet - they havn't slept anyway - mumbling something about a noisy fridge and hard floor.

7.30 a.m.: Three cars meet in Licola and set off for Tamboritha Saddle. Presently they arrive - no snow. Three miles further on chains are needed; one mile after that, the Lost Plain appears - lots of snow. We return the cars to below the snowline and prepare to leave.

While taking the cars back, Carla finds the right wax. The devil is with us - the dreaded klistervox is in order. Half an hour later, we are waxed up, but Dave's hand appears to be firmly stuck to his ski. He prises it off and picks up his stock which latches on like a leesh. Somewhat bewildered, he begins to fight with the sticky ooze of yellow wax. Little does he know, worse is to come. Meanwhile, everyone else has managed somehow to get their skis down on the snow and their hands detached.

We set off down a gentle slope towards the Moroka Road Junction. Dave falls over. (a performance to be repeated many times). Scorcher Russell disappears into the distance, leaving a trail of steaming snow. Everyone else proceeds at varying rates except Corry, who seems to be still in four-wheel drive.

1.00 p.m. : Lunchtime at the Gorge. Carla gives the leader a lecture on organizing trips because he has gone for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours without a rest. She waves her Mountaincraft Leadership Certificate at him but he isn't impressed.

We had covered about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles and had 8 to go, so things didn't look too good. Dave and Sue had been having binding troubles; Sue's were fixed by putting the clamp in right side up, and Dave's required a few additions of wire.

We pressed on after lunch, some becoming rather tired, and as darkness came nearer a few were suffering from visions of setting up out tents in the dark and wet, as it was starting to rain. However at 6.00, just after dark, we arrived at the hut, having walked the last  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile as there was no snow. Brenda swore the snowless part was at least a mile and made all sorts of rude memblings about how this was supposed to be ski-touring. Mutiny was near.

There was a cool reception when I asked who was interested in going to Howitt the next day. Tony said he would come if the weather was good and Cath would let him. He didn't sound very keen. With a fire, hot food and warm sleeping bags, silence reigned. Eight pairs of feet hung over the edge of the bunk which was a little too narrow, and Bob slept on the table. At 5.00 a.m. I looked out the door - foggy and misty rain; there wasn't much point in asking Tony about Howitt, so I returned to bed.

We arose about 8.00 a.m., breakfasted and collected wood to replenish the supplies we had used the night before. Skis were cleaned up and rewaxed, and after an early lunch, we set off down the road, not really knowing where we were going.



We had by this stage, spread purple klisters across the countryside and ourselves. We found a nice little valley and spent the afternoon fooling around and enjoying ourselves. When a fairly hard track had been worn, the leader was seen to speed down the hill. From the bottom there was a muffled cry: 'There's a hole here'. I'm told my skis dipped as they went over the ditch (3 ft. wide and 2 ft. deep) and planted themselves firmly into the opposite side. I scarcely need describe the resulting face-wash. Fortunately, the Miller-Made skis are unbreakable, or at least I think they must be.

We returned early, cleaned our skis, had dinner, then retired early. The return trip to the cars started with a 5 a.m. rise, and we were off by 7.15. There was a lot less snow, but progress was good and we covered the first eight miles by 11.30. Here we spent a sunny lunchtime practising slalom around the ski-poles. Tony eventually decided to put his skis in the line, placing the last one some 6 ft. from the creek - an act which was presently rewarded by the sight of Brenda, sitting skis and all in the watercourse. With lunch over, we continued, pushing on to the high spot from which there was a long downhill run to the Moroka Road Junction. Horrors - the snow was gone! We shouldered our skis and walked through the gooey mud.

Thus we ended, not in a flurry of spectacular skiing, but trudging through wet snow for 4 of the last 5 miles of the return trip. A brief 1 hour visit was made to the Heyfield Pub (Commercial Hotel) where for \$2.00, we were served a four course meal which kept us eating non-stop for an hour. (no time for drinks). A magnificent end to a good trip.

A few final comments:

Quote of the trip from Tony Kerr: "Roads mean progress and I'm in favour of that", (when discussing the Snowy Plains Road).

Recommendations:

Hire touring skis from Ski-Hire Box Hill, but don't hire them from Alpina Ski Centre and Hire Service, Sandringham.

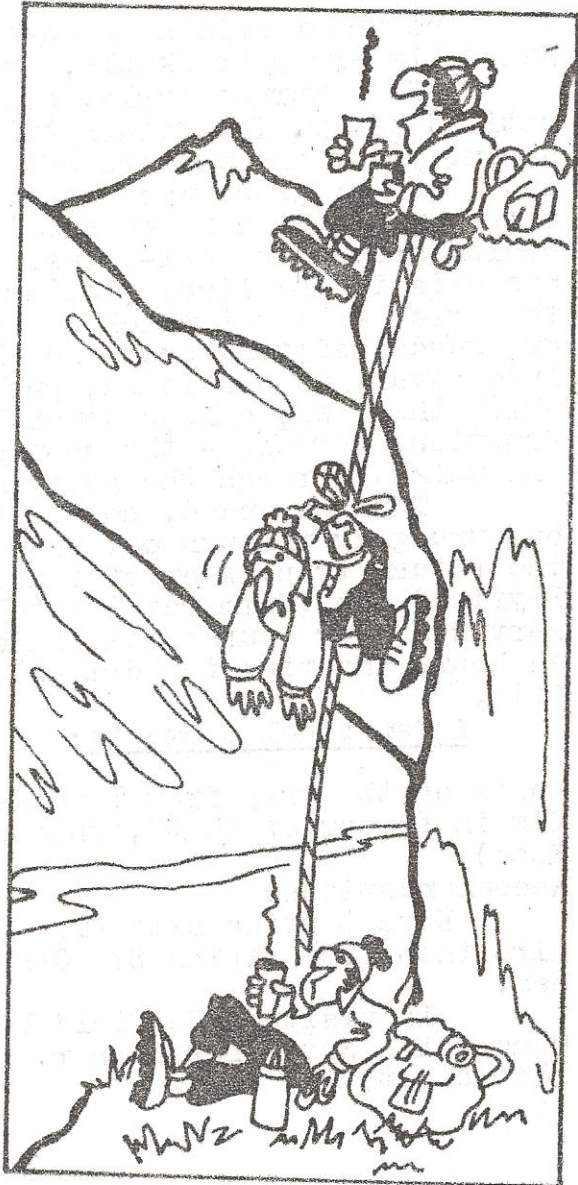
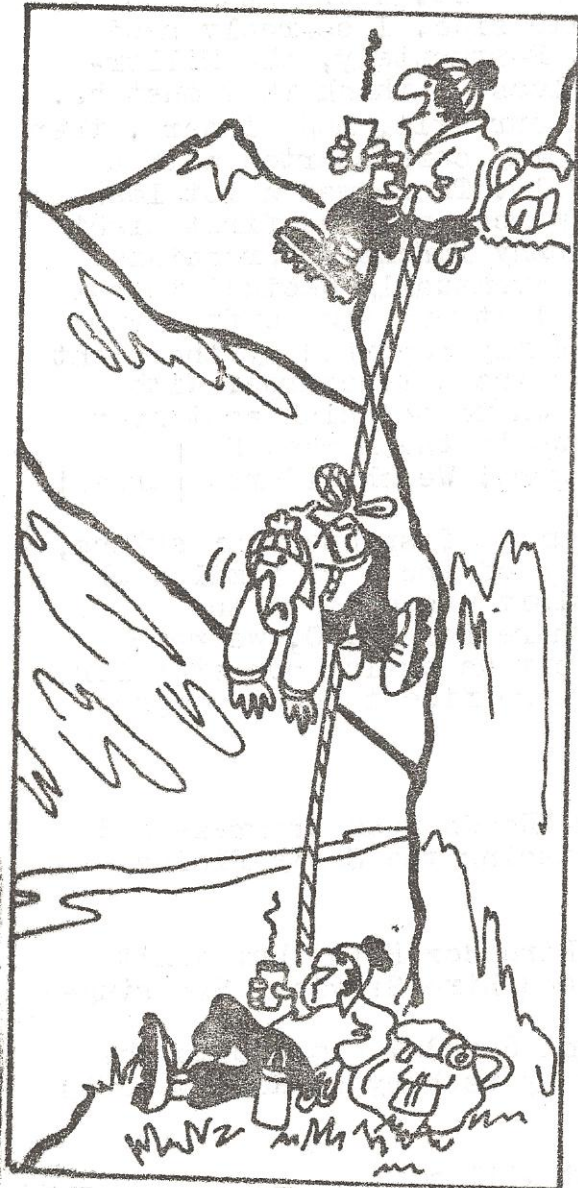
If visiting Heyfield between 6 and 7 p.m., go to the Commercial Hotel for dinner. (Monday is busy as Rotary meets that night).

Pat Miller.

OXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

Can You Spot the Difference?

There are 10 points of difference in the pictures below.  
Answers on page 8.



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COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT MOUNTAINEER!

.....MONDAY 29th NOVEMBER.....  
Articles, cartoons etc. will be most welcome.

67 3354

66 HARDWARE STREET

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MELBOURNE

Our shipment of Galibier boots has now arrived, and comprises: Terray FitzRoy high-mountain boots with stiff sole and ample padding and snow protection. Exact price is not available at time of printing, but will be approximately \$40.

Mouflon mountain boots which are a bit lighter and more flexible in the sole, making them more suited to all-round use as a climbing and snow-walking boot. Price about \$30.

Yosemite rock boots are very stiff and have a treaded sole. The upper is in blue leather with a heavy rubber rand.

P.A. in large sizes to fill the gaps in our existing size range, which is now complete from 5½ to 12 in half sizes. This friction boot has a stiff smooth sole with canvas upper protected by red leather facings.

MAPS

MAPS

MAPS

MAPS

MAPS

MAPS

Two new Algona Guides will be on sale shortly. They cover Mt. Hotham, all approaches to Mt. Feathertop, the Bogong High Plains and approaches to Mt. Bogong. (1" = 1 mile. Approx. 70c.) We also have new editions of the VMTC maps of Cathedral Ranges and Macalister River Watershed.

\* \* \* \* \*

More Bushgear packs will be ready soon: 6 oz. Kordux bags, welded aluminium frames, weight 3¼ lbs. Price: \$36.80.

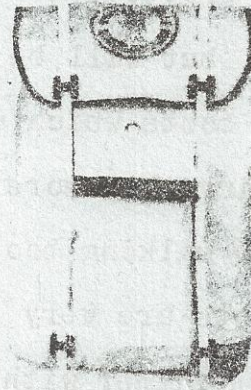
# FEATHERLITE

## KIMPTON'S 'MOUNTAIN MULE' PACK

Weight-Saving Starts  
with the PACK!

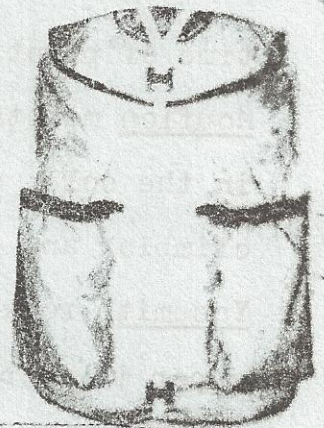


Terylene strapping is used for greater strength, less weight and its non-stretch properties.



Featherlite II has double bag-strap, one outside pocket, and a waterproof nylon plastic outer double bottom. Map pocket under the flap. Weight approx. 3lb. 4ozs.

Price:



Featherlite I has triple bag-strap and two outside pockets and waterproof nylon plastic outer double bottom. Weight approx. 3lb. 14ozs.

Price:

## KIMPTON'S "EIDERLITE" SLEEPING BAGS

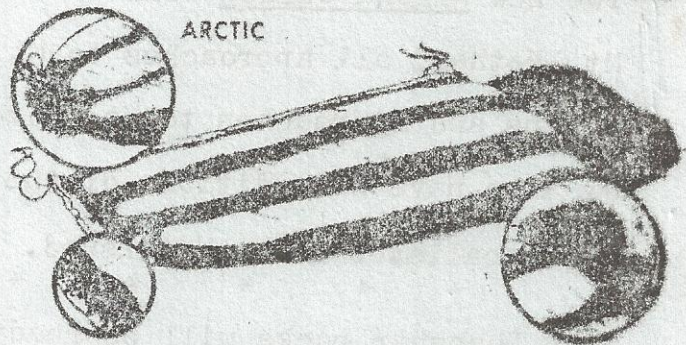
SNOW



**Snow:** Tailored hood — 36" nickel chest and circular insert for feet. Cut 6' x 30" plus hood filled with Super down, Feather down.

**Combination quilt — Sleeping bag:** Designed for all-the-year use as either an under-quilt, or sleeping bag. Simply fold in half and zip the bottom and side and presto! your quilt becomes a

ARCTIC



sleeping bag. A double sleeping bag can be made by zipping two of these quilts together. Super down or Feather down filled.

**Arctic:** FOR SUB ZERO TEMPERATURES. Cellular walls form length-wise flutes top, bottom and at the side joins,

thus a complete cell of super down gives the sleeper warmth all round. When hot the end allows no heat loss. However in hot weather the down can be compressed to the bottom of the bag and the end left open for ventilation. This makes the Arctic a dual purpose bag. Cut 6' x 30" plus hood filled with super down.

Obtainable all good sport stores and scout shops — if not contact —  
KIMPTON'S FEATHER MILLS, 11 Budd Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066