

## ANDEAN NOTES

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PERU. In 1967 several of the more prominent unclimbed peaks of the Cordillera Blanca were ascended; a Japanese party from Nagano operated in the Rajucolta valley and made the first ascents of Pt. 5377 m. (17,641 ft.), of Pt. 5406 m. (17,737 ft.), of another unnamed peak ca. 5300 m., and repeated ascents of Yahuarraju and Rurec (18,620 and 18,700 ft.). In the second phase of its programme, the expedition moved north to the Alpamayo area and there, after several reconnaissances probing different routes, tackled the fluted West face of Santa Cruz Norte (19,125 ft.); this peak was at last climbed on July 23 by four climbers via a steep ice-wall and over the snow mushrooms of its West ridge. Pt. 5320 m. was also ascended for the first time by three members.

In the same Cordillera Blanca a group of seven Basques and Navarrese climbers, led by Juan Lorente-Zugaza, did the highest unclimbed peak of North Peru, Pt. 5986 m. (19,643 ft.), by the South ridge with two high camps, on July 20; it was properly christened Atanraju ('Big Snow Peak'). Its two northern neighbours were also climbed by the Spaniards: Pt. 5647 m. (18,527 ft.), quite difficult technically, which was named Ayucarraju ('Snow-covered Needle') and another unnamed point, which became Uchuraju ('Pepper Peak').

Finally, there should be mentioned the first ascent of a fine ice spire, Cashán Oeste, 18,704 ft., by an American party in which participated among others, H. Adams Carter and Jack Miller.

CORDILLERA HUAYHUASH. The famous peak of Jirishhanca, 20,099 ft., had its third ascent, by a Japanese party; H. Tanaka and T. Kato, from Tokyo, followed the route of the previous ascents, placed four bivouacs and reached the top on June 27. At the same time other climbers of this Tokyo party, reinforced by the Chilean Francisco Oestemer, climbed other peaks of the area: Ninashanca (18,495 ft.), Jirishhanca Chico (17,937 ft.) and the hitherto unclimbed peaks of Jirishhanca Chico Oeste (17,290 ft.), Gayoc Chico (16,404 ft.) and Guahuaraju (16,410 ft.). This same Japanese group was to travel three weeks later to the Urubamba range in Southern Peru and to make the second ascent of Verónica (18,865 ft.). Also in the Huayhuash district, another Japanese party from Tokyo made the second ascent of Yerupaja Chico, 20,082 ft., with two bivouacs, on July 14.

CENTRAL PERU. A seven man party of the D.A.V. completed the exploration and climbing of the area that connects the Yauyos and the Cochabambas groups east of Lima, previously visited by Scottish, German, Spanish and American expeditions. From June 8 to July 11, the Germans climbed twenty-six peaks of which more than half were first ascents; they varied from 16,400 to 18,500 ft., the better known peaks being Tunshu, Tuyujuto, Tembladera and Tatajaico. The leader was Herr Ekke Rubel.

BOLIVIA, CORDILLERA REAL. This fine range, the most important of the country for its height, extension and glaciation, was visited by an Italian group from Turin which, with the Bolivians Jorge Urioste and Ronnie Ibatta, climbed five peaks, all previously ascended a number of times; the most important was the fine Condoriri (18,556 ft.), on which a new route was opened via its East face.

Horst Chaha and Werner Kabl, of a German party, climbed Illampu (20,873 ft.) up its South-west face, steep and some 2300 ft. high, on July 27. They also climbed other high Bolivian peaks: Illimani, Ancohuma, and the volcano Sajama.

CHILE, NORTHERN ANDES. An expedition by the Santiago section of the Club Andino de Chile, placed a high camp West of Laguna Verde ('Green Lake') at 15,800 ft. and after some reconnaissances made the first ascent of El Ermitaño (20,145 ft.); the summit party was formed of E. Koch, S. Kunstmann, G. Maier, police captain P. Rosende and E. Vien. The following day, November 21, 1967, Kunstmann, Rosende and Vien climbed the unnamed (northern) peak of the twin Peña Blanca, surveyed at exactly 6000 m. (19,685 ft.); weather was excellent and thought to be the best at this time of the year for very high mountains surrounded by sandy deserts. A glacier between both peaks was found at about 5000 m. and *nieve penitente* was common above 4500 m.