

## ANDEAN NOTES (CHILE)

BY T. CROMBIE

*German Chilean Expedition 1961/62*

The German Group of the Club 'Alpine Arbeitsgemeinschaft' of the German Democratic Republic, has made the first ascent of the Cerro Punta Hoft (5,035 m.) in the Alto del Yeso Zone on the Argentine frontier. The summit was reached by the Germans Percy Stulz (leader) and Fritz Uhlig and the Chilean member Ruben Lamilla of the Federación de Andinismo de Chile. The peak was christened Punta Universidad de Humboldt in tribute to the University to which most of the German members belong.

It will be recalled that this peak was attempted by the Japanese Expedition to the Central Andes in 1959, but the climb was abandoned owing to an accident.

The German group will attempt a new route on Cerro Bello (5,200 m.) and later will concentrate on Cerro Marmolejo (6,100 m.).

*Argentine Expedition to the Cordillera Darwin*

The Argentine group which had planned to attempt the Bowe Massif of the Cordillera Darwin in Tierra del Fuego has abandoned this owing to the lateness of the season, and will try again in 1963.

*Traverse of the Southern Patagonian Ice-cap*

For the second time a Chilean party has effected a crossing of the Patagonian ice-cap, this time composed of members of the Asociación Santiago de Andinismo. They were left by the Chilean Navy in the Fiord Tempañoy which, being hitherto unexplored, was re-christened Yelcho Fiord. The traverse took forty-five days during which a week was spent in camp at the foot of the Lautaro Volcano; but bad weather prevented the ascent and the party continued, to emerge finally at Lago O'Higgins.

It will be recalled that during the first crossing by members of the Asociación Universitaria de Andinismo accompanied by Eric Shipton, the Lautaro Volcano was also attempted, and five days were spent waiting for favourable weather conditions. The summit has yet to be reached, and it would be a good objective for a foreign expedition prepared to encounter difficulties of Himalayan standard.



*Japanese Expedition of the 'Aseda' University 1962*

This group has announced that it will visit Chile in August of this year to carry out winter ascents in the Chilean Andes.

*Italian Expeditions to the Paine Group (Chilean Patagonia)*

Two Italian expeditions are announced to this group as part of the centenary celebrations of the C.A.I. The first, from the Monza Section (Milan), led by Dr. Gianfranco Frigeri, will operate on the Central Peak of the Paine massif, and the second, led by Dr. Piero Nava, will concentrate on the famous Torres del Paine. It is possible that some Chilean climbers will participate in these expeditions.

*Chilean Expedition to the Cordillera Real of Bolivia*

The above expedition plans to attempt Tiquimani in July, 1962, and a preliminary air reconnaissance was carried out in May.

*Visit to Santiago of Mr. Eric Shipton*

Mr. Shipton paid a brief visit to Santiago on his return from his expedition to the Cordillera Darwin (Tierra del Fuego) where various climbs were made including a traverse of the range. He was accompanied by three members of the Chilean University Andean Association, Messrs. Eduardo García, Cedomir Marangunic, and Francisco Vivanco. Mr. Shipton has undertaken four expeditions to Patagonia. The first was to the Paine region: the second explored Mount Lautaro in the centre of the Patagonian ice-cap, and confirmed Mr. Shipton's theory about the existence of this volcano. During the third, on which he was accompanied by Messrs. García and Marangunic, the crossing of the southern ice-cap was successfully carried out, the party entering by the Montt glacier and emerging at Lago Argentino. An attempt was also made on the Lautaro Volcano; the Cerros Don Bosco and two peaks of the Cerro Murallón were climbed; and it was proved that the Viedman peak was not a volcano. In his fourth and most recent expedition to the Darwin Range, which was crossed, first ascents were made by Mr. Shipton's party of Cerros Darwin and Yagan, all this region being totally unexplored.

Mr. Shipton stated that his friend Mr. Tilman had often suggested to him that he would do better to buy an *estancia* in Patagonia, rather than make the long journey to visit it every year.

*A National Mountain School for Mexico*

The Mexican Government, in support of the activities of the many Mexican climbing clubs, has established the 'Escuela Nacional de Montaña de Mexico'.