

to standard routes and are more for *le jet et la montagne* type of mountaineers. Heights are only approximate. Peaks cited are few. Information regarding access, roads, interesting places, standard camps, etc, is very good, not to be obtained from any other source. With all its limitations, this guide is vastly better than no guide at all.

Yuraq Janka Guide to the Peruvian Andes, Part 1, Cordilleras Blanca and Rosko John F. Ricker (Alpine Club of Canada/American Alpine Club, 1977, pp xii, 180, maps, photos and pull-out panoramas, npq). In 1974, a guide to the Cordillera Raura was published in the *American Alpine Journal* and this has now been followed by John Ricker's major work on the Cordilleras Blanca and Rosko in book form, in what is hoped will be the first of a series. It can be said straight away that it will be indispensable for anyone travelling through or climbing in the area. The book is divided into 3 main parts. The first covers the whole of the Andean region in Peru, with sections on early mountaineering in the region, the Indian inhabitants and general expedition hints. The second covers the particular features of the Blanca, including weather, glaciation, access, etc, whilst the third and largest section gives details of every mountain in the range in 15 sub-sections, from Champara in the N to Caullaraju in the S, with Rosko tacked on at the end. The information given includes a description of each mountain group with heights, and then individual routes with approach, brief description of route, date and participants for the first ascent, time taken and literature references. An extensive bibliography and section on the Quechua language completes the book. This invaluable guide and work of reference also contains a 32-page section of excellent photographs and 11 fold-out panoramas, plus 4 maps on 2 large loose sheets at a scale of 1:100,000.

POLAR REGIONS

Ned Gillette, Doug Wiens, Allan Bard and Chuck Schulz completed a 450-mile ski trip round the N end of Ellesmere Island. Each man pulled his own fibre glass sled and no food caches or air drops were used in the 52-day trip. The trip was partly on frozen ocean (with 20 to 40ft pressure ridges in the Robeson Channel) and then latterly on the interior ice-cap, which rises to 1500m; 7 peaks up to 2100m were climbed. See *Mountain* 60 14 for further details.

A Canadian party visited the Pangnirtung Pass region in Baffin Island in August 1977. Barry Nelson, Ken Hunter and Frank Gordon were repulsed by stone-falls on the S face of the W rib of Mount Turnweather, after climbing some 400m of 55° ice and snow, and 6 rock-pitches at 5.9. Hunter and Gordon were later successful on a rock-route on Gauntlet Peak which involved 21 pitches at 5.9 and above.

Off Belay (36 35) contains an account by Jim Savage of the first crossing of Bylot Island, off the N coast of Baffin Island by a 5-man Canadian team in the summer of 1977. The expedition ascended 20 peaks of around 1800m, the highest being Angilaak Mountain (2062m). An article by another expedition member, Rob Kelly, appears in *Canadian Alpine Journal* 61 44.

La Montagne et Alpinisme (111 266) includes a general article on Spitzbergen by Jean-Louis Georges, which gives a bibliography and references to previous expeditions, although both are to French sources. The peaks are relatively modest in size, the highest being Perriertoppen and Newtontoppen at 1717m. *Les Alpes* (2/1978 65) also contains an article on an expedition to Spitzbergen in 1975, written by M. Liechti.

BRITISH ISLES

Early 1978 saw a change in the editorship of *Mountain*; Ken Wilson retired to pastures new after 8 years in the chair, having been responsible for the first 58 issues of a magazine which set a high standard from the start and which in a short time developed a considerable and deserved reputation both at home and internationally. It is a testimony to Ken Wilson's energy that his job has been taken over by 2 people. Tim Lewis is the new editor and Geoff Birtles is filling a new post of business manager. In 1978, the new team have carried on with the successful formula developed by their predecessor, the motto apparently being 'Business