

## THE CENTRAL BYPASS.

(Mr. Eric Byne has written for us this pre-Guide Book account of a recently made Tryfan climb.)

CENTRAL BYPASS. *Standard: Very Difficult.* 336 feet.

The climb lies up the South Gully Wall of the First Pinnacle Rib, Central Buttress, Tryfan, and gives 12 pitches, bypassing the Pinnacle Rib all the way except for one scrambling break at the level of the Pinnacle.

*Start:* best approached by ascending the First Pinnacle Rib to the level of the Gash on Gashed Crag, where a large rock platform will be found. Round the corner of the platform to the left and facing the Gashed Crag is a rock wall with a narrow sloping crack at its base.

*First Section, 150 feet. To the Pinnacle and Yellow Slab.* Ascend the 20-foot crack somewhat awkwardly to small stance and belay, then move right for a few feet and—again awkwardly—attain a heather ledge which is left by means of a sloping slab and so to an incut stance on the wall (belay). Next move left over a prominent pinnacle (or, easier, through the crevasse) to a stance below a sloping slab leaning against the main face. Go up the slab and from its top ascend the wall above direct to a large ledge. Then step slightly down on ledges to the left, descend a 4-foot narrow slab and up a 5-foot pitch to a good stance and belay. The next move is the crux of this portion of the climb, although—unfortunately—it can be avoided. Move right on to a well-scratched sloping slab and attack the overhanging wall above on poor holds and so to a grass ledge, from which move up the 8-foot wall at the back almost under a projecting tooth of rock. A short scramble then leads to the Pinnacle and Yellow Slab.

*Upper Section, 186 feet.* Avoiding Yellow Slab, walk left to where a spur-like rib is thrown down at an easy angle on the extreme left of Pinnacle Slabs. Ascend this rib easily to a sloping mossy groove and climb the overhanging flake crack on the right—a neat piece of work, which leads to a small grass stance and belay. Then up the steep mossy wall directly above on surprising holds, followed by an easy slab roof leading to two prominent sky-pointing rock teeth. On the wall behind the teeth direct upward progress is made to a small stance and belay round a rib on the left. Continue by an ascending traverse across the slabs, going left, to an overhang with a sharp incut crack underneath. Using this for the left hand move up the wall to the right to grass stance and belay. Then up the right groove above it to ledge and finishing cairn. Immediately above is the grass terrace below the Final Chimney of Central Buttress.

*First Complete Ascent.* Eric Byne, J. B. Alexander, F. H. Restall, 3rd August 1945.

First nine pitches were worked out by Eric Byne and Kim Beck at Whitsun 1945.