

1-28-39 Spent today on a cross country trip up Pole Heaven Canyon. Tom Gessford called by Sunday Morning and by the time we had picked up Joe Seethaler and Al. Groneman the early dawn had broken through the heavy mist screen that was blanketing the valley. This misty condition prevailed until we arrived at the mouth of Hobbie Creek Canyon, when, at a point where road passes the springs some 2 or 3 blocks ^{down} from the mouth proper, it ended abruptly and we continued uninterruptedly in a clear crisp and cold atmosphere. Visibility varying from 60 to 500 feet. Arrived at mouth of Pole Heaven Canyon in left fork of Hobbie creek, and by the time we had adjusted ski harnesses and packs, was 7:55 A.M. From our point of departure could see the higher exposed ridges at the head of Snowslide canyon with its ridged cornices and pure exposures of snow. At this time of morning when the sun is just making its first appearance, there is a certain light intensity on high peaks that is seldom or possibly ever reproduced at any other time of the day. These first rays of light produces a quality and tone of reflection that is indeed most beautiful. To always have throughout the day these elegant early morning lights coupled with certain colorful and inspiring sunsets would certainly approach the glories of heaven. But like all sunsets, these morning lights only too soon subside into lighter and less colorful qualities. Many ridge cornices present a perpendicular wall to the facing morning rays, and thereby reflecting more light than the sloping mountain exposures, and so, as a consequence, they appear more radiant in contrast to the blue of the clear sky and the golden yellows of the slopes. The trail was in excellent condition with new snow smoothing out all the harsh irregularities of the canyon bottom. Al. tried a climbing wax that proved to be adequate for the grade of the road we were following. For subsequent trips up this particular route would suggest that climbing wax be used because the grade is hardly