I can imagine the deep pleasure he must have experienced at taking part in such a great climb so early in his career, and with what a joyful heart he was returning to his comrades, who will regret so deeply the untimely end of what promised to be a splendid career.'

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1913 AND 1908.

Dauphiné.

TRAVERSE: MONTAGNE DES AGNEAUX (3660 m. = 12,008 ft.)—ROCHE DE JABEL (3602 m. = 11,818 ft.)—PIC DES PRÉS LES FONDS (3363 m. = 11,034 ft.). August 18, 1913.—Messrs. Harry Runge and W. R. Cæsar, with Abraham Müller, jun., and Gottfried Müller, left the Chalets de l'Alpe at 3.15 A.M. and followed the Coolidge route (July 17, 1873) to the W. summit of the Montagne des Agneaux. On reaching the névé basin between the N. arête and the great buttress to the W. they deviated from the Coolidge route by turning to the left (E.) and mounted to a snow col, overlooking the Glacier du Casset, in order to prospect for an alternative route home in case of traversing the Agneaux. Then, retracing their steps, they again followed the Coolidge route, circling round the névé basin, bearing to the right. This deviation and a previous halt of 45 minutes for breakfast occasioned some loss of time. The steep arête leading to the W. summit was in bad condition, with insecure snow, which had to be cleared away, leaving hard ice, entailing prolonged step-cutting. Crossing over the Central Summit (11 A.M.), they reached the E. and highest point by rocks 11.20 A.M. After a stay of 35 minutes they descended the E. rock arête to the small col between the Agneaux and the Roche de Jabel; thence traversed the N.N.W. face of the Jabel by cutting across an exceedingly steep, hard ice slope to a small gap at the E. foot of the rocks leading to the summit of the Jabel. After ascending a short, steep buttress, they gained the E. arête and then, bearing to the left, scrambled a short distance up the face, then on to the arête again, reaching the summit at 1.25 P.M. Descending again to the above small gap, they cut down, for about 50 ft., a narrow ice couloir leading to the Monestier Glacier and facing S.E., then turned left—N.E.—and ascended to the arête (rocks and snow), which they followed down to the Col du Casset; thence a somewhat broken arête, rocks and snow alternating, led to the summit of the Pic des Prés les Fonds. From this peak a broad snow arête runs down N.E., splitting after a short distance into two arêtes ending on rocks and enclosing a broad snow-and-ice couloir. They kept to the arête on their right at first, and then glissaded down to the broad snow col des Prés les Fonds,

from which they descended to the upper basin of the Glacier du Casset. They crossed this glacier in an easterly direction and cut up a small but steep couloir to the snow col * visited in the morning on their ascent to the Agneaux. Descending on the W. side to the Glacier d'Arsine they regained their morning's route, reaching the Chalets de l'Alpe at 7.30 P.M.

The tour of this amphitheatre of peaks is to be recommended on account of the fine views and interesting and varied climbing obtained, also for the insight it affords into the somewhat complicated ridge and glacier system of the Agneaux group.

Pennines.

THÄLIHORN (3485 m. = 11,431 ft.) BY THE N. ARÊTE. Messrs. Ferdinand Schjelderup and Geo. Finch, August 2, 1913.—'From a bivouac on the left bank of the Laquin Glacier we gained the foot of the N. ridge in 3 hours. Following the ridge and climbing over the majority of the numerous gendarmes, we encountered no serious difficulty until confronted by the last pinnacle before reaching the summit. Turning this pinnacle by climbing the slabs E. of the ridge (difficult), we gained the summit at 1 P.M. (4 hours; from bivouac 7½ hours). We each carried about thirty pounds in our sacks, which probably accounts for the somewhat lengthy times.'

STECKNADELHORN (4235 m. = 13,896 ft.) BY THE E. FACE. Messrs. F. Schjelderup and Geo. Finch, August 1913.—'We ascended the E. ridge of the Nadelhorn to a point slightly higher than the Ulrichshorn, cut down the steep N. flank of this ridge and crossed the bergschrund, under which we traversed in a horizontal direction until almost directly under the summit of the Stecknadelhorn. Mounting directly upwards over the snow slopes (in some parts exceptionally steep) without ever being obliged to use the axe, we gained the Nadelhorn-Stecknadelhorn ridge immediately to the S. of the latter peak. Thence in three minutes to the top. Time from point on Nadelhorn E. ridge, one hour.'

[This route is on the same face as Messrs. Williamson's and Symons's descent from the Stecknadeljoch, described in 'A.J.' xxv. 362, but lies apparently rather more to the N.]

DENT DES ROSSES (3620 m. = 11,877 ft.) BY THE N. ARÊTE. Messrs. C. G. Monro and J. M. Rattray with Antoine Bovier, père, of Evolena. July 1908.—'We made the ascent by the N. ridge which is narrow and consists of sound rocks giving a most enjoyable scramble of about an hour from the Col de Moiry. We descended by the S. snow ridges and went on to the Col de la Pointe de Bricolla

* N.B.—This col is clearly visible from the pastures above the Chalets de l'Alpe.

and so back to Ferpècle. We did not think the expedition could be new and so did not record it sooner. It provides an enjoyable day's round from Ferpècle.'

The first ascent of this summit was made in 1891 by Mr. Monro's party as recorded 'A.J.' xv. 546.

Tödi District.

BIFERTENSTOCK (3426 m. = 11,241 ft.). ASCENT BY THE W. RIDGE. Messrs. T. G. B. Forster and Geo. Finch, September 9, 1913. —'From the Bifertenlücke (7.20 A.M.) we followed the ridge until further progress along the crest became impossible. Traversing about 10 metres on the N. side of the ridge, we then climbed almost directly upwards over a 10-metres-high wall (partly overhanging, bad rock; very difficult) and reached a small ledge providing sufficient standing room for one man, but no belay. Climbing from here directly upwards after some 10 metres further progress became barred by a huge overhang, directly under which the leader drove in a piton, over which the rope was passed, and after descending about 6 or 7 metres was able, thanks to the protection afforded by the piton, to accomplish a very difficult traverse of about 15 metres on to the ridge. Thence the overhanging nose at the top of the first great step was gained by climbing close to the crest of the ridge, partly over slabs and partly through a difficult crack (9 A.M.; cairn). Following the ridge, avoiding some steps on the N., others on the S. side, comparatively easy ground, one or two difficulties, brought us to the summit of the last but one great step (cairn). An attempt to climb the last step, about 30 metres to the S. of the ridge, failed. Traversing still further to the right over some very bad difficult slabs, we gained the foot of a shallow slabby couloir, up which some 30 metres very difficult climbing brought us out on to easy broken ground about 15 metres below the heavily-corniced ridge. Through a gap in the cornice we gained the ridge without further difficulty (1 P.M.). Following the ridge and keeping well on the N. side (owing to the cornice), the summit was gained at 2 P.M. The view, during the last hour of the ascent, down over the precipices of the Biferten N. Wall was remarkably fine. Return via S. ridge and Frisallücke to the Ponteglias hut.'

[In the photograph the ascent lay up the left-hand arête—the position of the piton is about the level of the man's head. The cairns are indicated by white circles. The line of descent is down the right-hand arête.]

Eastern Alps.

NEW ASCENTS IN 1912.—The 'Mittheilungen des D. und Œ. A.-V.,' 1914, pp. 39–44, contain a very careful summary, prepared by Dr. Franz Hörtnagl, of Innsbruck, of the principal new routes in the



Geo. Finch, photo.] [*Swan Electric Engraving Co., Ltd.*

BIFERTENSTOCK.

(From the Bündner Tödi.)

Eastern Alps which were opened in 1912. The summary is divided into groups, and gives the necessary references to published accounts of the various expeditions.

The 'Oesterreichische Alpenzeitung,' 1913, pp. 401–7 and 422–427, also contains a similar detailed summary compiled by Herr Fritz Hinterberger, of Vienna. Among new ascents are mentioned: Three new ascents of the Totenkirchl; the direct ascent of the W. face of the Predigtstuhl; and the direct ascent of the W. face of the Rosengarten.

VARIOUS EXPEDITIONS IN 1913.

Pennines

WELLENKUPPE (3910 m. = 12,825 ft.).—The N. ridge of this peak, from the Triftjoch, deserves to be better known. Many climbers go up and down the mountain by the ordinary way from the E., either as a training expedition, or because it can be done under bad conditions or in doubtful weather, and probably find it, except for the 'steep wall of firm rock, a delight to climb' (Conway, p. 99), rather dull. To traverse the peak only adds about 1½ hours to the length of the expedition, and gives some varied and excellent rock-climbing.

Mr. Gilbert Davidson and I left Zermatt at 2.30 A.M. on August 25, 1913, in weather which certainly would not have done for a big mountain, warm, cloudy, with slight rain—so bad, in fact, that parties sleeping at the Trift Inn did not start. But it improved a little, and though the higher peaks remained in clouds, ours cleared, and we had nothing to complain of but a high wind on the ridge. The ordinary route brought us close to the couloir, mentioned in Conway, which leads up to the ridge a little S. of the Triftjoch. This was soft snow at first, then became a steep and narrow gully filled with ice, so we took to the rocks on the left (S.), which did not give us much trouble, except in one place where we wandered rather too far from the couloir. But it would probably take no longer to begin from the Triftjoch itself. The ridge itself falls into two sections. In the first the rock is narrow and broken, but sound and nowhere difficult; two formidable-looking towers are easily turned on the E., though they could probably be climbed if necessary. This part, which took us three-quarters of an hour, was free from snow. The second section consists of rock and snow mixed, the rock in flat or shelving slabs, not difficult, but on this day carrying much fresh snow. Forty minutes took us up this, and another five minutes on a broad snow ridge brought us to the top, in 7½ hours easy going from Zermatt, of which 1 h.