The line is also so very obvious that I am at a loss to explain why the later parties struck out another line instead of following it.

I have here confined myself to the question of the best approach to the arête, but above the sharp ice arête, when once out on the great ice-slopes, any party of climbers is always, and more particularly when held back by long step-cutting, exposed to ice falling from the séracs high up on the left. Fortunately, in most years these séracs are more of the nature of a vertical square-topped ice-wall, so that the risk, though ever present, can by a thoroughly trained and well-led party of mountaineers be accepted with a reasonable amount of justification. I think however that the unfortunate fatality of last year, which happened not on the approach to the arête but after the face had been gained, was a pure accident which might have happened anywhere to any party always bound to accept with its eyes open certain inherent risks of mountaineering. I do not think it need have been foreseen or that it is one of the inherent dangers of this route.

My apology for this somewhat lengthy note is that it is the duty of a society like ours to study closely the lessons of safety so as to shape our future course accordingly.

J. P. FARRAR.

THE ALPINE CLUB EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS, 1914.

OWING to the exhibition of the late Dr. Wilson's sketches and water-colours taking place in the Hall of the Club in December last, the Annual Exhibition of Photographs was postponed until May of this year.

Possibly it was the wet summer of 1913, or it may have been the contrast provoked by some of Mr. Ponting's wonderful Antarctic pictures, but the fact remains that the exhibits of members and their friends on this occasion seemed somewhat below the average.

We think, too, that the Club, as a whole, scarcely gives Mr. Spencer that support to which he is entitled. That there should be twelve lady exhibitors is very gratifying, but that only some forty odd members of the Club should consider it worth while to send in exhibits out of a membership of over 700 is surely disappointing.

In many instances the photographs would have benefited by being enlarged to a greater size; in a few cases the subjects were scarcely worthy of being reproduced on so large a scale.

The framing and mounting had also provided pitfalls for some of the exhibitors. This is perhaps not the place to discuss the advantages or objections of framing close up or with a margin, but generally speaking, where the subject matter of a print is not

very striking, it is a mistake to use a heavy frame, and so weaken the picture, and a brown frame more often than not clashes with a photograph in black tones.

To proceed to the exhibits, the very large prints of Mr. Ponting's Antarctic work showed an astonishing brilliancy and a perfection of technique that was quite unapproached by the other exhibitors. In four of them Mt. Erebus appeared, and there was an excellent portrait of our late member Dr. E. A. Wilson at work on one of his water-colour studies, and another of Captain Scott.

The mountain ranges of other countries, besides those where the Alps extend, furnished material for many exhibits, and there were pictures taken in Canada and in the Caucasus, in Iceland and in India, in Japan and New Guinea, and last but not least, in the British Isles.

Mr. Mumm's pictures, taken on his expedition in the Rockies last summer, were all interesting, that of 'Mount Robson from the N.E.' being particularly striking.

Mr. Young showed three pictures of the Caucasus, and the Rev. A. A. E. Murray two of Iceland.

Mrs. Bullock Workman and Dr. Hunter Workman once more delighted us with views of mighty peaks and vast glaciers, this time taken in the Karakoram Mountains. Mrs. Workman's telephoto picture of 'The Hawk, 22,160 feet' being very striking, while her 'Birdseye view of the Siachen Glacier,' taken from a height of 18,900 feet, gave one a wonderful impression of the great sweep of this mighty glacier.

Dr. Workman's 'Cloud from an Avalanche' was most interesting, while his picture of 'Khondokore Glacier' was remarkable for its curious effect of dappled sky.

Mr. C. F. Meade had six very fine Himalayan views, some of them almost too big; his 'Kamet and the 24,170 ft. Neighbour' we liked the best. Another view of the peaks of Mana and Kamet was quite Alpine in character.

The Rev. Walter Weston lent several views of Japan taken by native artists, one being of the active volcano of Yake-Dake.

Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston's panoramas of mountain ranges in Dutch New Guinea were curiously interesting, and suggested an atmosphere charged with moisture, although this effect may have been due to the action of the climate on the emulsion of the negatives!

It is unfortunate that Mr. Wollaston lost not only his cameras but the bulk of his negatives by the upsetting of a canoe. In fact, we believe he narrowly escaped with his life on that occasion.

Mr. W. N. Tribe had some good views of the English Lake district, and Mr. G. Bartrum a most wintry looking picture of 'Snowdon at Easter 1913,' with leaden sky and grey distance.

Mr. F. N. Trier's two winter views near Gstaad showed the contrast in climates, and reproduced most successfully the clear, brilliant atmosphere of the higher Alpine slopes, the smooth expanse

of snow, and the almost purple shadow of the ski tracks. Mr. Elliot Peel also showed some good winter scenes.

There were several interesting portraits, notably one of the late Monsieur Loppé at work, and another of 'Clara' of Saas Fée with an appropriate tea-cup.

Mrs. Bernard Allen showed a frame containing four very charming studies of cloud and water. The beautiful soft brown tint of these prints was particularly pleasing.

The Rev. W. C. Compton's exhibits were all good, the view near St. Christophe, Dauphiné, being the most successful.

Mr. H. Candler showed one of the many Matterhorn pictures. Col. Capper's picture of 'The Weisshorn' was very striking, and the frame of this exhibit exactly suited its subject.

The Rev. J. E. Dawson showed three frames, amongst them one of the many panoramas of this year's exhibition, but in most cases, and we think in his panorama from the Gorner Grat, although the view was comprehensive and interesting, the peaks themselves appeared insignificant, and the general effect was disappointing. A point of view for a successful panoramic photograph should be near its subject, otherwise the amount of sky included seems to reduce the size of mountains to insignificant proportions.

Mr. G. Fuller England showed a good picture of what may be called the back of the Blumlisalp.

Mr. Gover had three fine pictures in the Dauphiné, the most effective being 'The Pelvoux from the Pointe de la Pilatte.'

Mr. Thurston Holland's 'Above Chamonix' was the most noticeable of his exhibits.

Mr. R. L. G. Irving only favoured us with one exhibit this year, a particularly striking and well-composed picture of 'Monte Viso,' and it is a pity that this enlargement showed signs of discoloration.

Sir Alexander Kennedy showed four interesting pictures in the outlying mountains of France, his most successful picture being one of 'The Rocky Stronghold of Les Baux,' situated in that quaint little toy range of mountains, Les Alpilles.

Mr. Benson Lawford favoured poetical titles for his subjects, even for our old friend the Matterhorn.

The six entries of Mr. Victor von Leyden all attracted attention. His panoramas seemed to overcome the difficulties of this class of mountain photography. His striking picture of the summit of the Zinal Rothorn must have required some manœuvring to obtain, while his view of the Matterhorn appearing through the mist, from above Giomein, was also a most successful capture of an atmospheric condition

Mr. E Douglas Murray's exhibits were all good. His stormy sunset from the Brevent was most impressive, and his picture of 'The Dru,' with its clouds and glacier, was well composed. 'Séracs on the Nesthorn' showed well the texture of the snow and ice.

Miss Edna Walter showed some delightful studies of peasant life, all most happily composed.

Mr. Reginald Nevill's pictures in 'The Graians' and Miss Sophie Nicholls' photos of Savoy were most pleasing examples of sub-alpine subjects. The former's view of Cogne taken against the light, and the latter's picture of the valley of Contamines must both have recalled to many mountaineers the delightful days spent in those less frequented valleys.

Mr. Somerville Tattersall lent a picture by Lieut.-Col. Pitman of a Himalayan Pass which struck us as being the only exhibit which approached in any way the technique of Mr. Ponting's pictures. This enlargement showed the brilliancy and clear atmospheric condition which one knows so well, and which seems almost impossible to reproduce. The green tone, although not suited to many subjects, certainly suited this picture, and may have had something to do with its success.

Mr. Kenyon Parker had an excellent series of views in the Italian valleys.

Mr. E. de Q. Quincey's pictures are always interesting. His 'Séracs on the Mer de Glace' suggested most accurately the ice scenery of the upper glacier.

Mr. C. J. Reid showed two most sensational views of rock climbers at work, crack climbs which would have delighted the heart of Owen Glynn Jones.

'The Planereuse Ridge' by the same member was one of the most successful rock and cloud pictures in the Exhibition, and was worthy of larger reproduction.

Dr. Hugh Roger-Smith's pictures this year were all in the Dauphiné. We think his most successful exhibit was a view of 'Les Ecrins, from the Tête de la Maye.'

Mr. Atkin Swan's pictures of the 'Dru,' and 'Gabelhorn and Wellenkuppe,' were both of outstanding merit.

Mr. Sydney Spencer had a charming view of the little visited Brenta group, and two other pictures in the Stein district.

Mr. L. J. Steele's three pictures were, in tone, mounting, and framing, the most artistic pictures of the show, but, in our opinion, his subjects were scarcely worthy of their setting; or was the setting of the pictures so pleasing, so appealing to the eye, that the pictures themselves were overburdened and obscured?

'Kandersteg, Oeschinen See, and Blumlisalp,' by Mr. G. D. R. Tucker, was a wonderful piece of composition. In the foreground rocks and rough grass, then the deep plunge into the Kander Valley far below, while in the distance, above the clouds, rose the gleaming white peak of the Blumlisalp, a most successful picture.

Mr. P. J. H. Unna's 'Schreckhorn' showed a masterly effect of clouds and jagged peaks, and the 'Dent du Géant,' by the Rev. Valentine Richards, was a good piece of work.

Mr. C. F. Stuart sent three views of the Engadine. These

pictures appeared to have a photographic basis, and to be coloured by hand with water-colour; the effect by day was even more pleasing than at night.

In conclusion, Mr. Spencer is to be heartily congratulated on the collection and arrangement of the Exhibition, although he had certainly skied two of his own pictures in favour of less worthy material.

IN MEMORIAM.

THEOPHIL BOSS.

In March last Theophil Boss, an old friend, particularly of the middle generation of English mountaineers, passed to his rest. In the old days of the 'Bär' the cheery welcome of Fritz and Theophil will always be remembered, and in the later days when the 'Bär' was run on more modern and business-like lines, Theophil still tried to keep up the family tradition and never failed to greet his old friends with a warm-heartedness that was always charming.

Perhaps, Theophil, you never quite took to modern methods of hotel-keeping; perhaps they put you a bit out of joint. We won't forget you, mein Lieber, and returning some day to the old 'Bär' will still greet you in memory, still seem to feel the warm grasp of your big right hand. *Schlaf wol!*

J. P. F.

THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

The following books have been added to the Library since April:

Club Publications.

Akad. Alpenklub Bern. VIII. Jahresbericht 1912–1913. 1914
9 × 6¼: pp. 18: plate.
Contains new ascents described:—
A. O. Hug, Gr. Dent. de Morcles N.W.-Wand: Gr. Muveran N.-Grat: Tête à Pierre Crept O.-Grat; *E. Häberli*, Bietschhorn Abst. N.-Flanke.

Akad. Alpenklub Innsbruck. 19. u. 20. Jahresberichte. 1912, 1913
9 × 6: pp. 88: 75.
These contain:—
1912: *O. P. Maier*, In der Melzerwand.
Neue Turen; *O. P. Maier*, Kaskarsp. N.-Wand: Walderzunderkopf S.-Wand; *R. Mair*, Querkogel W.-Grat: Mutmalsp. N.O.-Grat; *H. Kees*, Camp. di Canali.