

danger. But I may say that the difficulties, as well as the dangers of the route, are less in the early part of the summer (June or July) than for instance in September, which month has sometimes been recommended. The later you undertake the tour, the looser get the rocks on the Nordend, the more torn gets the glacier, the more ice there is on the last steep slope and in the Marinelli couloir, and so much deeper and more difficult are the furrows in the latter.

### *Bernese Oberland.*

JUNGFRAUJOCH (3470 m. = 11,385 ft.).—June 3, 1925. Mr. E. G. Oliver, with Adolf and Alfred Aufdenblatten. The party left the Guggi hut at 4 A.M. and descended the couloir, which was much encumbered with snow, to the Guggi glacier (5.30). Thence to the foot of the middle ice-fall (6.00) which presented no particular difficulties, arriving on the nearly level plateau between the middle and upper ice-falls at 7.15.

From here there are two alternative routes, that to the left being less steep but more broken by crevasses, that to the right considerably steeper though more even.

From the hut and from where we stood the left-hand route looked practicable, but it was impossible to see right up to the top. After discussion we therefore selected the right-hand route, and after a halt of about half an hour started up it (7.45).

At first all went well and we were able to kick steps in fairly good snow. About half-way up the slope, however, we found hard ice (8.10), and had more than two and a half hours of continuous step-cutting in hard ice before arriving on the more gentle final slopes (10.50). The last piece, which involved working round an overhanging bulge of ice just at the top of the ice-wall, was quite sensational.

Arrived on summit ridge to the right (West) of Pic Mathilde which we traversed to the Jungfrauoch (12.0).

Time 8 hours from Guggi hut, including halts; we had expected to do it in about 5 hours.

When we arrived above the ice-wall it became apparent that the left-hand route, which I understand is more generally followed, would not have been possible.

## WINTER EXPEDITIONS.

GROSS SIMELISTOCK (ENGELHÖRNER), 21 Dec. 1924.—MM. W. Richardet and P. v. Schuhmacher, both of A.A.C. Berne. 'In the Ochsenthal eight to twelve inches powdery snow. Below the Simelisattel the rocks were covered with the same. Crampons useful.

The "Egg" rocks were so dry that we used Kletterschuhe but no gloves! Just below the summit a little snow. The ridge to Kl. Simelstock was completely snowed up and in places actually corniced. Descended by the Macdonald chimney with four *abseils*. Times—ascend from hut, 2.55; descent 2.50.'

JUNGFRAU FROM ROTFAL. Dec. 22–23, 1924.—Mr. P. v. Schuhmacher with G. von Allmen of Mürren. Reached hut in 5½ hours. Eight to 12 inches powdery snow.

'Left hut 5 A.M. Followed the ridge—good snow. At first no difficulties—then a long, fairly easy traverse in the slabby snow-covered rocks of the N. flank. From where the ridge was regained, and to the summit splendid conditions exactly like summer. Reached Hochfirn 11.40–12.10. Summit, 2.15 Summer-ski used on Hochfirn! Descent to Jungfraujoch about four hours.'

DENT BLANCHE. December 30, 1924.—MM. E. Liechti and P. v. Schuhmacher, both A.A.C. Berne.

'Left Schönbühl, 5.10 A.M. Reached foot of Wandfluh (ca. 3550 m.), 7.20. In order to avoid the deep snow we followed chiefly the little rib in the face. S. arête Pt. 3912, 11 A.M. The first great gendarme was turned by the W. flank, much snow and ice enabling us to cut steps. Followed arête to top, 2–2.10. Hut, 8.45. Next day we reconnoitred the Zmuttgrat and went about four hours till below the snow ridge (ca. 3500 m.) and saw that the whole ridge was in splendid order, but the weather was too stormy to risk the ascent.'

ZINAL ROTHORN. January 3, 1925.—MM. E. Liechti and P. v. Schuhmacher, both of A.A.C. Berne. Left Zermatt, 2 A.M. Sheltered under a rock above Trift hotel 5 to 8, on account of slight snowstorm. Through deep powdery snow we reached on snowshoes the S.E. arête (ca. 3900 m.) at 2.15. Gabel, 4.30. Summit, 5.05. The rocks were throughout iced or snowed up. Left 5.07. S.E. arête, 8.10. Zermatt, 11.20.

BIETSCHHORN. The times of Mr. Lauper's ascent on January 26, 1918, were: Kippel to hut, 7 hours; hut to summit, 13 hours; summit to hut, 8½ hours; and of MM. P. v. Schuhmacher and W. H. Amstutz on Nov. 29–30, 1924: Hut to N. summit, 9½ hours; foot of W. arête, 4½ hours; bivouac in Bietschthal, 2¼ hours.

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