

(in the Chair), Howard Palmer, Allen Carpe, De Villiers-Schwab, Read, H. S. Hall, Lindley, Nicholls, J. Hall, Seaver, and Judge Puttenham.

Mount Logan Expedition. Captain MacCarthy stated at the Annual Meeting of the Alpine Club of Canada, held on August 5, that Mr. Henry S. Hall, jun., could perfectly well have completed the ascent but stood aside in order to accompany his friend, Mr. R. Morgan, who was so incapacitated by frostbite as to be unable to ascend or descend without assistance.

REVIEWS.

Petra: Its History and Monuments. By Sir Alexander Kennedy. 'Country Life.' 1925. £4 4s.

THE subject of Sir Alexander Kennedy's important and weighty volume may not at first sight seem to have much connection with the interests of our Club and this JOURNAL. Yet its title, 'Petra,' should suffice to suggest a link. Mountaineering has in the past found itself associated with very diverse branches of knowledge—with geology, botany, meteorology, history. Why should it not come to the help of archæology? The Club has of late years shown a marked tendency to specialize in rock-climbing, and it is made clear in these pages not only that Petra deserves its name, but that its remains cannot be adequately explored except by practised cragsmen. Sir A. Kennedy tells us of 'rough climbs—inaccessible summits—a distinctly *mauvais pas*, where much agility is called for.' And these expressions are fully borne out by many of the over-two-hundred photographs to which the text forms an appropriate and illuminating complement.

The site of Petra was marked out by nature for human habitation. Situated on the edge of the desert and at the crossing of two avenues of commerce it combines a relatively abundant water supply with ranges of honeycombed cliffs offering rude shelter in caves in the walls of the narrow wadis or clefts that pierce the sandstone masses. Here, as elsewhere, a primitive race found in prehistoric times homes in the natural hollows of the rocks and added others of their own making. To what extent these caves may have been used as dwelling-places seems obscure. It is beyond question that for many centuries they served principally as tombs, or chambers for funeral or ceremonial feasts, and as places of worship. From an early date the external rock-faces were smoothed and more or less elaborately decorated with architectural features.

A peculiarity of the Petra remains is that the ordinary dwelling-houses of its inhabitants, what we may call the commercial and residential quarters, have disappeared. Of the temples and colon-

nades of the Roman period little remains but a theatre, the foundations of a temple, and the fragments of an arch. Whatever was not dug out of the solid rock the destroyer has razed to the ground. It is the more regrettable, for it would have been interesting to compare the domestic architecture of Petra in the time of the Antonines with that of the Roman towns in the Hauran of a similar date.

Any popular knowledge of the history of Petra has been hindered in this country by the circumstance that many of its early visitors were zealots who looked on its desolation as an example of the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecy. To these egregious divines it did not seem any flaw in the argument that the destruction of the town took place after several centuries of Roman occupation and a thousand years at least after the alleged misdoings of the Edomites.

Several German professors, to whom Sir. A. Kennedy does full justice, have of late years examined the ruins more thoroughly and in a more intelligent spirit. But their works are rare and not easily obtainable in this country. The object of the volume before us is to carry on their investigations and to furnish English readers with an accessible account of the ruins as a whole and a survey of the natural features of the surrounding district made by the aid of an aeroplane survey and numerous photographs.

Most English readers have formed their impressions of Petra on the striking lithographs of its classical monuments in David Roberts's 'Sketches in the Holy Land and Syria' (1842). Sir A. Kennedy emphasizes the main fact that these monuments, which exhibit the familiar and graceful features of Greek and late Greco-Roman architecture, form but a small percentage—about one in twenty-five—of the whole. They represent only the latter period of the town's prosperity (300 B.C. to *circa* A.D. 300).

Long before the influence of Europe had made itself even indirectly felt in this remote Arabian borderland, Petra was included in a Nabathean kingdom and served both as a door between Assyria and Egypt and as one of the gateways to the wealth of the East. But as to who the Nabatheans—the successors of the erring Edomites—were; what were their gods and religious rites, their customs and traditions?—the learned can give us no definite answer. They appear to have made use of numerous 'high places' or altars of sacrifice, probably from their number mostly domestic shrines; they set up square stones as symbols of a god, who may have been the Sungod; they hewed out of the rocks monumental blocks of stone. But their unique contribution to architecture lay in the elaboration of the façades that line the sides of the wadis; natural clefts deeper and narrower than even the lanes of the business quarter of New York! The earlier fronts show traces of Assyrian or Egyptian Art. In some, perhaps the earliest of all, we find rectilinear designs and double cornices that recall those of Egyptian monuments: others exhibit the crow-step gables and friezes of

Assyria. In the long series of photographs we are able to watch the evolution from the plain mouldings and pilasters of the simpler type to the more ornate surface of the monuments of Nabathean date—prior to 300 B.C. Then gradually the external influences change, new ideas filter in from Greece; Rome, the decadent Rome of the later Empire, sets its stamp on the builders', or rather on the quarriers', work. They cut deep and boldly into the natural cliff and hew out elegant façades and pagodas such as might appear on a Pompeian fresco. There is one monument, here called an 'Urn' and figured in Photograph 126, which suggests more remote associations. It is a stone object, in shape apparently an exact facsimile of a Tibetan Chorten. The text furnishes no explanation of this strange intruder. Is it possible that some Buddhist trader may have settled and died at Petra and been commemorated after the fashion of his far-off home?

Sir A. Kennedy and his associates, Mr. Philby and Mr. Mumm, have rendered an important service to geographers and archaeologists. By the aid of aeroplanes lent, at Sir A. Kennedy's cost, by the Government of Palestine Survey, they have mapped for the first time the intricate labyrinth of rocks and ravines in the centre of which Petra lies hidden. They have illustrated its monuments by an admirable series of excellent photographs—which are reproduced by the permanent process of photogravure—and they have done their best to explain and classify them. Something more is left to be accomplished. At the end of their labours the party discovered, from the air, a fresh wadi which they had not time to investigate. It is clear from their narrative that to complete the exploration of Petra will call for the qualities of accomplished climbers. We trust that some in other respects competent members of our Club may be tempted to take up the task.

They will do well to carry with them the *Geographical Journal* (Vol. lxiii, No. 4) containing the paper read by Sir A. Kennedy before the Royal Geographical Society and the subsequent discussion. They will find there much useful information, and some general remarks and conclusions that are not contained in the larger work.

We note with great satisfaction from the Preface that 'in July last the Ma'an Province (including Petra itself) was annexed by the British Government to the territory subject to the Palestine Mandate.' This step should serve to remove many of the restrictions that have hitherto delayed or impeded the work of the investigator or excavator.

D. W. F.

The Mountains of Youth. By Arnold Lunn. Oxford University Press, 1925. Price 10s. 6d.

I AM afraid of overdoing it in praise of this book lest I should provoke the reader to impatience rather than excite in him a desire to read it, yet the fact is that I know of no book on mountains

on the whole so well written, and containing so many passages of admirable prose vividly descriptive and with a choice and command of words of singular aptitude. It tells many a story of climbing and ski-ing and conveys the reader through beautiful regions, and always in a fitting mood. Those of us who made early acquaintance with the Alps in childhood, and who fell immediately under their charm, will revive (as they read) the hours of undefined romance which are amongst the most delightful memories lasting through life. For Mr. Lunn is not merely an excellent climber with a now perhaps unrivalled knowledge of the broad regions of Central European mountains, but he sees glacier and peak with an imaginative vision, and always behind the thing seen for him is the vaguely felt spirit of beauty of which we get transient visions, but which we can never capture.

In this book we are not merely told the story of certain special climbs, but we are led through all the seasons of the year in the mountains. We see the snow melting in the spring, and the flowers pushing forth along its retreating edge. We see the full glory of summer, the fading of the year, and the short days and long, moonlight nights of winter when the snow-mantle enshrouds hills and vales alike.

Mr. Lunn has proved himself a keen and efficient rock climber, but it will be plain to every reader of this book that ski-ing is really his passion, or rather ski-ing in combination with climbing. For him the finest time of the year are the months of May and June, when there is still plenty of snow on the higher levels; when the days are long and great distances can be traversed among the *névés* and glaciers; when the ascent of some peak or passage of some pass can be combined with great sweeping traverses over snow. He is, in fact, the apostle of ski-climbing, and he writes with such enthusiasm and knowledge that it is impossible not to tremble with envy as one reads of the beautiful expeditions it has been his good fortune to make.

The book is illustrated with admirable plates, faultlessly reproduced and printed. I make no attempt to abstract the contents of this work, or to cite passages from it. It is a book to be taken up and laid down rather than read straight through. Thus its little gems of descriptive sentences, which bring a whole scene before the mind's eye, can be appreciated and returned to. Though I read the whole book through without missing a word, and enjoyed it heartily, I have found yet greater pleasure in returning to it and reading at random here and there than I even experienced at the first survey. 'The Mountains of Youth,' if it attains its deserts, ought to take high rank among the best books ever written about mountaineering.

MARTIN CONWAY.

Appalachia, Vol. XVI., No. 3: Fiftieth Anniversary Number.

THIS volume of *Appalachia* is unusually rich in articles of Alpine interest. The place of honour is given to a short account by Mr. H. S. Hall, junior, one of our own members, of the Mount Logan expedition. Mr. Hall was not one of the six who reached the summit, and his narrative will, no doubt, be superseded by a full record; but it gives a vivid impression of the appalling character of the weather conditions with which the party had to do battle. He passes very lightly over his own return (after reaching 18,700 ft.) in charge of a frost-bitten comrade, but it must have been a formidable experience. Of this, too, we shall no doubt hear more details later.

Of no less interest is a paper by another of our members, Mr. Howard Palmer (we take this opportunity of congratulating him warmly on his election to the Presidency of the American A.C.), on his visit to the Columbia region and to the Fortress Lake in 1920. We welcome this record of a memorable trip, of which the outstanding feature was the first ascent of Mount Serenity. Mr. Palmer's return to 'ancient history' needs no justification.

The most noteworthy of the minor items are a note on Mt. Alberta, an account of an ascent, presumably the first, of Mt. Katahdin, or Ktaddn, the highest peak in Maine, as far back as 1838, and a paper on North-Western Newfoundland. Gros Morne, the second highest peak in Newfoundland, is about 2500 ft. high. We are not told the height of the highest peak, but near Gros Morne are 'other bold peaks with apparently fine possibilities for exciting rock-climbing in their huge chimneys'; the region offers much to the botanist, the fisherman, and the mountaineer, and 'a small party, ready to rough it, and looking for new mountains to conquer and bold cliffs to scale, could hardly do better than seek this imperfectly appreciated corner of the oldest of British colonies.' The paper on the Grand Teton is tantalisingly brief, and leaves unanswered the problem with regard to its first ascent, which was presented some years ago to readers of the *ALPINE JOURNAL*.¹

This is a 'Fiftieth Anniversary Number,' and much of it is naturally taken up with retrospective summaries of the various activities of the Appalachian Mountain Club since its foundation. Among these are two papers of great historical value which

¹ *A.J.* xix. 536, 559.

together form an almost exhaustive review of mountaineering in Canada. We say 'almost,' because Mr. Bent, who takes the story down to 1906, the year in which the Alpine Club of Canada was founded, confines himself to the doings of early Appalachian climbers, and so passes over the great expedition of Dr. Collie's party in 1898. From 1906 onward Professor Hickson carries on the tale to 1925, and practically covers the whole ground during this period. His summary, packed with information, and at the same time lucid and readable, is a model of its kind.

Vers l'Idéal par la Montagne. Par Myrtil Schwartz. Illustrations de P.-F. Namur. Rey, Grenoble. 20 francs.

M. MYRTIL SCHWARTZ, the author of the work before us, is a native of Strasbourg who has spent several summers in climbing in the Pennine Alps, often accompanied by his wife. His title may possibly mislead some intending readers. For his volume is in the main a picturesque and vivid description of his various climbs rather than another description of the influence of mountains on their worshippers. His tale is told at some length; its moral pointed with comparative brevity.

M. Schwartz's favourite haunts have been Saas-Fee and Arolla, and among his principal climbs were Mont Blanc, Monte Rosa, the Matterhorn, the Strahlhorn, Rimpfischhorn, Portiengrat and Mont Collon; the last by the worst possible route, one which Marcel Kurz, in his 'Guide des Alpes Valaisannes,' describes as 'not to be recommended.' Since the ascent occupied seventeen hours, included a highly dangerous rock climb, and ended in a slope of hard ice some 600 feet high and at an angle of 60° to 65° (?), this warning can hardly be held superfluous.

It is a little perplexing to find the hero of so desperate an adventure as that just mentioned writing in his first chapter with exaggerated respect of the ordinary way up Monte Rosa. No one surely but a novice would describe it as an *escalade audacieuse*, or confess to having felt a wish to traverse the arête on all fours. May we venture to trace, in M. Schwartz's pages, a Climber's Progress in an upward direction, and assume Monte Rosa to have been his first venture above the snow-line?

Taken as a whole, however, M. Schwartz tells the story of his climbs lightly and pleasantly, and with a vividness—particularly in the case of the Matterhorn—that brings their characteristic features forcibly before his readers' eyes. They are invited to share his hours of enjoyment as fully as his struggles and perils. It is, perhaps, a pity that he has interrupted his narrative by fairly full summaries of the stories of Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn, and the catastrophes connected with them, annals in part controversial and by this time familiar to most students of Alpine literature.

Further digressions are two chapters devoted to a sketch of

Granada and an itinerary for the Sierra Nevada—a region where the tourist has not yet penetrated—and a spirited account of an ascent of Popocatepetl, one of the great volcanoes which give character to the landscape of Mexico.

When we come to his final chapter we find M. Schwartz at pains to justify his title and to explain the purpose that has inspired the preceding pages. He is convinced, he tells us, that mountaineering is the noblest form of sport, since it is a struggle against the forces of inanimate nature and one that involves neither the defeat of rivals, nor death or suffering to the lower orders of creation. In it he finds a discipline for the body and a means by which men may gain both nervous and moral self-control. He feels further assured that, by bringing its votaries into close contact with nature in her noblest manifestations, mountaineering assists in developing in them a religious emotion and in raising them above daily cares to a sense of the meaning of the universe. In short, he endorses the verdict of the old Swiss scholar who, in the thirteenth century, cut on the crags of the Stockhorn the words :

‘Ο τῶν ὄρων ἔρος ἀριστος

‘The love of mountains is best.’

Englishmen are commonly held abroad to lack either emotional feeling, or the power of expressing it. It may be that their feelings lie less near the surface than those of their Latin neighbours. We may, however, remember that no one has expressed more eloquently than Leslie Stephen—not even Pope Pius XI.—how for some of us the Alps may serve as sanctuaries and even take the place of cathedrals. But, whatever the popular sentiment of the time, there will, doubtless, always be individuals to whom mountain scenery makes no appeal, who refuse to look on the great peaks, or to treat them, as anything but a gymnasium. M. Schwartz holds that there are too many among his countrymen who take this point of view and he is bent on converting them. We wish him all success in his mission. The circumstances are favourable. For the Great War has had at least this good result. It has promoted and hastened the popularization of the French Alps. It has made the fortune of, and, some may think, ruined, Chamonix !

M. Schwartz's volume is furnished with some good photographs and a number of vigorous, but to our taste hideous, black and white drawings of peaks and climbing incidents. On railroad posters, inkblots may effectively represent snowpeaks ; as book illustrations their violence seems out of place.

Hoch über Tälern und Menschen. Im Banne der Bernina. Von Walther Flaig. 27.50 Swiss francs.

THIS volume consists of a series of lively chapters describing with youthful exuberance the adventures of a party of young Germans, including a lady, among the peaks and glaciers of the Bernina

range. They enjoyed themselves, and have done their best to convey a share of their enjoyment and high spirits to fellow-climbers of their own nationality. To visitors to the Engadine generally the main attraction of the volume lies in the series of excellent photographs by which it is illustrated. The crocus meadows of the Fex Tal in spring, or a group of marmots, lend variety to a number (84) of admirable pictures of the snow world, of arêtes and icefalls. Views taken from the air give a new aspect of the Roseg and Morteratsch basins and summits. Special praise is due to the management of atmospheric effects and the extraordinary clearness of definition obtained in the distant ranges, even as far as Monte Rosa.

Julius Payer's Bergfahrten. By Wilhelm Lehner (with twenty-one Illustrations). G. J. Manz, Regensburg. 8 marks.

PAYER was a contemporary of Tuckett and Freshfield in the 'sixties, and showed himself, under difficult conditions, a great explorer and topographer. It is a good idea of Mr. Lehner, best known as the author of the 'Eroberung der Alpen,' a work of great merit and historical value, which must have cost him an infinity of research, and will remain long the standard book of reference, to have devoted his attention to an edition of Payer's Alpine writings. He has included a number of sketches and drawings by Payer, which show him to have been no mean draughtsman.

Payer was born in 1841, went through the 1866 campaign in Italy, and was then attached to the Topographical Bureau in Vienna. But before this, on the miserable subaltern's pay, which was all he had, he had managed to make several Alpine journeys which place him high among explorers.

His first journey was to the Hohe Tauern in 1863, and in 1864 he was just forestalled on Presanella by Mr. Freshfield and his party, but Adamello and Corno Bianco first fell to him, as well as another route on Presanella. He returned to this group in 1868.

It is, however, with the more important Ortler group that his name is closely connected. He spent the four seasons, 1865 to 1868, in exploration from one end to the other, his companion being the then little known but soon famous Hans Pinggera, in his day a great guide. The Ortler itself had been climbed in 1864 by Tuckett and Buxton, after an interval of thirty years. Payer repeated the ascent in 1865 and made likewise the fourth ascent of Königsspitze, another of Tuckett's conquests, while altogether he made more than fifty ascents in the group, and finally his carefully collected data were embodied in a map, long the standard map of the district.

Payer's descriptions of his expeditions may rank worthily with the best of our own explorers, and they read to-day as fresh and natural.

Payer took part in 1869-70 in the second German North Pole expedition, which reached 77° N. latitude, and again in Weyprecht's expedition in 1871. He was naturally invited to take a leading part in the great Austrian Polar expedition of 1872-4, which resulted in the discovery of Franz-Josef-Land, named by Payer after the Austrian emperor. The highest point reached and named, Cape Fligely, after the Field-Marshal Director of the Topographical Bureau, a patron of Payer's, was 82° N. latitude.

Payer died in 1915.

The book is well got up, and is a delightful record of the life history of a great pioneer.

J. P. F.

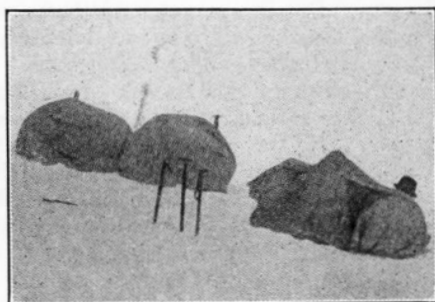
Eistechnik des Bergsteigers. By Walter Flaig. Dieck & Co., Stuttgart. 1925. 5 marks.

THIS is an admirable little work, with forty-two very practical illustrations from photographs of actual work—quite the best book of its kind that I have seen. Not only correct, but also incorrect step-cutting positions are shown, and few men will look through the pictures even if they cannot read the text without learning something that may stand them in good stead.

Formerly we used to complete our expeditions within the twenty-four hours, and benightal and still more an impromptu bivouac was looked upon as a serious matter. Nowadays the young French, German, and Austrian mountaineers seem to make nothing of sleeping-out.

According to the present book the German and Austrian mountaineers carry a Zdarsky 'tent-sack.' This is made of waterproofed Egyptian cotton sheet, like an ordinary ridge tent without any poles. The No. 2 size which I sent for cost 47s. including postage (from Viktor Sohm, Bregenz, Austria), and is 8 ft. along the ridge, while the sides from the ridge to the bottom are 5 ft. 9 ins. In case of a bivouac it is simply slipped over the heads of the party—it would hold four at least—and their heads or bodies support it while it is tucked in all round, and the inmates sit on the turned edges. It cannot well be blown away, and it is stated that if facing each other one could even cook with a spirit-lamp! No provision for ventilation is made! The weight is just under 3 lbs. I have been caught out, in years gone by, in places where such a tent would have protected us well. It might have saved the lives of the Americans in 1870 on Mont Blanc, and of Nettlehip, Fedschenko, and others. It might be worth carrying on a big expedition. Mr. Horeschowsky, the well-known Viennese mountaineer, it will be remembered ('A.J.' xxxvi. 408), when traversing the M. Blanc de Courmayeur, bivouacked *four* times in one of these tents, and Mr. Welzenbach, a brilliant leader of the Munich Academicals, I understand, used one on the Peuteret but urges ventilation openings.

The attached illustrations explain themselves.



The only other equipment which is new is pitons for ice, made about 12 inches long with a loose ring. These have been introduced by Mr. Welzenbach, and were used on his ascent of the N. face of Dent d'Hérens ('A.J.' xxxvii. 371), as belays presumably, as illustrated *ibid.* 282.

The practices advocated in the book appear to be sound, the illustrations are most instructive, and recall happy and unhappy situations.

J. P. F.

Dr. Julius Kugy: Aus dem Leben eines Bergsteigers. Rudolf Rother, Munich. 1925. Price 18s. post free.

I FEAR Dr. Kugy may not be known to many English climbers of to-day. Thirty years ago he was one of the outstanding figures in the Alpine world, outstanding not only for what he did, but also for his herculean frame and weight—nearly seventeen stones before he was thirty, and later even more, so he tells us.

Among German-speaking mountaineers there is no better-known name. His kingdom is the Julische, or Julian Alps, whose culminating point is the Terglou, better known to our people years ago than now. Visible every fine day from his home at Trieste, these mountains were only an easy day's journey, and year after year he devoted his energies to the thorough exploration of this difficult and intricate group. Among the sparse inhabitants—guides, chamois hunters, authorized and unauthorized—he was the uncrowned king, spoken of with reverence, only just behind the Emperor himself.

In the war the group, hard on the frontier, was the centre of intensive fighting. One day the rumour went round: 'Dr. Kugy is coming,' and out of every sort of hole crept war-worn Austrian Jäger. They had, many of them, been his disciples down in Trieste, to whom his advice, instruction, assistance had been ever free. They were

still his young men, here at the front.¹ Such homage comes not often to a man alive or dead, and few men can deserve it more.

But it was not only there, out East, that he was known. For years he was to be found at Zermatt, Arolla, Macugnaga, Chamonix, and, above all, at Courmayeur. He is the only mountaineer to claim ascents of the Brenva, of the Dufour, and of the Nordend both from the Italian side, and many almost equal ascents stand to his credit.

He was always attended by the best guides of the day—Komac,² Oitzinger, Pesamosca in the Julians; Bonetti, Alexander Burgener, Mattäus Zurbrücken, Daniel Maquignaz, Joseph Croux in the Western Alps. Komac and Croux, both long dead, were the closest to his heart, and one object of the book is that it shall serve as a monument to them.

When his book of 'Recollections' was announced, the whole of the Alpine world that knew him, or of him, was all expectation. We are not now disappointed. The very enterprising publisher, Mr. Rudolf Rother, of Munich, who issues volume after volume of mountaineering books—to read which it is well worth alone to know German—has treated his author very well in this superb volume with its series of excellent pictures.

It is the fascinating mountain book, not of the year only, but of very many years. It is written in a charming conversational style, candid to the last degree in its expressions as to men and occurrences, without a trace of malice. It is a great thing to read the judgments of this close and competent observer on men who, to many of the younger generation, are only traditions.

His first chapter tells of his boyhood and his home at Trieste, where he met men interested in the mountains, and particularly in botany, of which he became a zealous student. Among the visitors was Richard Burton, then British Consul at Trieste, whose principal interest to the youngster was the scar of a lance wound in the cheek!

His initiation into actual mountaineering is told with exquisite humour. For the summer of 1877—he must have been about sixteen—he showed his mother his plan, full of botanical projects, not a word of a mountain—and so started for Flitsch, in the Isonzo Valley, and there found a roadman willing to try an ascent of the fairly difficult Jalouc, of which the first and only ascent had been made in 1875. They picked up a chamois hunter, who wore his wooden clogs until it got difficult, when the whole party went *barefoot*! Kugy tells the tale at length with exquisite humour that carries us with him all the way. This is indeed the captivating style of the whole book. When they got back to the Alphut they were long out of food,

¹ *O.A.Z.* May 1926, a very sympathetic article by a well-known mountaineer, Gustav Renker.

² A great bear hunter. In one encounter a blow from a bear's paw tore his lower jaw right off, so that he could only feed through a tube. He lived for some years. I saw his somewhat gruesome photograph when that way in 1922.

and as there was no wine or bread there they ate turnips and drank snow-water and vinegar! As they parted, Cernutta, the hunter, asked whether two *Gulden* (four shillings) was too much. Kugy gave him three, and was rewarded with a bear-like embrace and two resounding kisses!

These were the days which the author brings back to us fresh and clear. There is nothing in Weilenmann to beat it. For over two hundred pages Kugy reveals to us in graphic language the glories of his kingdom. It is well worth the while of a young and ardent climber to follow him carefully, as he indicates several, yet unsolved, magnificent problems that will try out the best.

His Chapter V, 'Ice and Snow,' treats of the great western peaks, and will no doubt interest the many by their greater familiarity.

In 1886 he meets Prochaska,³ and they arrange a Swiss tour, Kugy stipulating that the entry into Switzerland from Italy shall be over the Monte Rosa! It befitted this lion-hearted Hercules. We looked dangers and difficulties fairly in the face even then! 'An unusual, a quite extraordinary way, always noble' had Susner described the route to Kugy!

Bonetti, the Santa Catarina guide, was quite prepared to go, although his own cousin, Pedranzini, had perished with Marinelli. Good men these Italian guides. They always seemed to me to excel in *flair*, and one or two among them had far to search even for their equals.

They picked up a second guide, later to earn great fame, Mattäus Zurbrücken. Kugy got called back home through urgent business. Prochaska did the job. Keener than ever, Kugy races back to Macugnaga, and does it too—of a truth a very man! That E. face, somehow, is a bit qualmy. I remember when Daniel and I, ten years later, left for the Nordend, technically much harder, he turned for a moment into the little church, good Catholic that he was, and somehow or other I followed him in. Ah, you moderns, you miss a bit of the exquisite mystery of the great mountain!

There are page after page of this kind of brilliant description, of exquisite sympathy. He tells us of meeting Luttman-Johnson, C. H. R. W.'s great friend and companion, 'the splendid guideless couple, Fynn and Murphy,' Mummery, Collie, and many another familiar name. 'In the Midi hut I met a party returning from the Aig. du Midi, led by Norman Collie, the famous companion of Mummery. I was gratified to meet him, and managed to raise a short smile on his "deeply-earnest, dark face," which seemed to me a greater "*Leistung*" than ascending M. Blanc.' And again, 'I was coming over the Théodule with Alex. Burgener when a tall Englishman came riding up to Schwarzsee. He did not look very knightly, bunched up and with legs almost touching the ground. Mule and ice-axe seemed droll. I asked Alexander, whom he greeted very

³ I cannot undertake to introduce them all. They were familiar names when I started serious climbing in the early 'eighties. The Zsigmondy brothers, Friedmann, and Blodig were typical of the set.

warmly, who he was. "That is Mummery—he climbs better than I do," was the answer.'

I cannot go, in a review, through the whole book, nor were I capable of reproducing the exquisite lights and shades that pervade it and make page after page a perfect delight.

If ever a book deserved translation, this does, but the outrageous cost of issue in England probably forbids it, and where, besides, can we find, as Guido Rey had the fortune to do, an Eaton, not merely to *translate the word*, but to reproduce the author, his very self?

You have written a very great book, *Geehrter Herr Doktor!* that is fit to be set, side by side *at least*, with the greatest classics of the past. I remember once asking Daniel Maquignaz with his modest eleven stones; how he dare guide you with your seventeen stones. 'Ah! vous savez, Monsieur, jamais il ne fait un faux pas, jamais il ne manque.' Of a truth, you have not *manqué* even here, and if somehow I have written these lines from my heart, it is you with your great stalwart personality and your unforgettable frankness and charm of manner who have been looking over my shoulder.

J. P. FARRAR.

Account of a Photographic Expedition to the Southern Glaciers of Kangchenjunga in the Sikkim Himalaya. By N. A. Tombazi, F.R.G.S. With Illustrations, Map, and Tables. Maxwell Press, Bombay. 1925.

As described in the title this book is an account of a photographic expedition, and mountain ascents are merely incidental thereto. A height of 18,660 ft. was reached on an eastern spur of Kabru from the head of the Guicha glacier; the Guicha La (16,380 ft.) was crossed to the Talung glacier; and the southern side of the Zemu Gap (19,375 ft.) was ascended from the Tongshyong glacier; but the author does not recommend this route for reaching a base camp at the eastern foot of Kangchenjunga at the head of the Zemu glacier, thus confirming Mr. Freshfield's opinion of it. Mr. Tombazi is to be heartily congratulated on his perseverance through bad weather in accomplishing the first ascent to the Gap, which was likened by its first beholders to the Güssfeldt Sattel: it is the more provoking that persistent cloud and snow storms prevented photography, and put out of the question any reconnaissance of the descent to the Zemu glacier on the north.

This book is remarkable for the number and excellence of its photographs. These consist of actual quarter-plate positives neatly pasted into the volume. Their artistic merit is great, and the management of light and shade on the snows quite admirable. Kangchenjunga from Jubonu (opposite p. 22) stands out amongst a wonderful collection. These photographs are so good that, with the aid of a magnifying glass, a mountaineer intent on a campaign in this region could do most of his reconnoitring at home, before he started: in fact, with such a mass of material as is here made available to us, it would be folly not to do so. The map is adequate for the utilization of the photographs. The thanks of the Club are due to the author for a most useful addition to our Library.

T. G. L.

The Glittering Mountains of Canada: A Record of Exploration and Pioneer Ascents in the Canadian Rockies 1914 to 1924. By J. Monroe Thorington. Published in Philadelphia. 1925.

It is considerably over half a century since books were published dealing with the first ascents of the giant peaks in the Alps. The literature of climbing in the Canadian Rocky Mountains is now in a similar condition to that of Alpine literature in those days, and amongst the books that deal with the conquest of some of the giant peaks of the Rockies, Dr. Thorington's account of the glittering mountains of Canada will take a high place.

For over ten years this enthusiastic mountaineer has been actively interested in the icefields at the sources of the Saskatchewan and Athabaska Rivers; he has climbed in all the important groups of mountains that lie between the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian National Railway. Here he has made first ascents of the North Twin (the third highest summit in the Canadian Rocky Mountains), Mt. Hooker, and Mt. Saskatchewan. Dr. Thorington's account of his ascent of Mt. Hooker shows that climbing in the Rockies can be quite as strenuous as in the Alps. The party was two nights and nearly three days on the mountain; a somewhat similar experience was also met with by the Japanese party who recently made the first ascent of Mt. Alberta.

Although nearly all the highest summits have been conquered, there yet remain dozens of other peaks still to be ascended. Nowadays travelling has been made far easier than it was thirty years ago, when there were no maps, no trails, and the very existence of many of the big peaks was unknown. In those days exploration had to come first. A new era has now opened, and mountaineering takes the first place. Mountaineers, however, who visit the Canadian Rockies will find much more to interest them besides making first ascents, and Dr. Thorington's descriptions of the rivers, the valleys, the forests, the camp life, and the many moods of the mountains tell us that the Rockies are no ordinary mountainland; that the free life spent amongst mighty woods, rushing rivers, and lakes set like jewels amidst the precipices and the snows, all combine to make one of the most beautiful mountain regions in the world.

The Canadian Rocky Mountains are the heritage of a coming generation, where those who can appreciate an open-air existence, far from habitations, will find a land full of every kind of interest, 'days of crag and precipice, of ice and snow in sunshine and storm, days with the pack-train winding along the northern trails, and nights—starlight nights in the country of the fur-trade routes—with song and story beside the camp fire.'

Besides mountaineering, Dr. Thorington's book is a book of mountain history, geography in the making, and he gives an excellent account of all the early 'Voyageurs' or the fur-traders of a century ago, and of the few other people who visited the Rockies some thirty years later. It is a story that has never been properly gathered together, and the historical material has now been collected by

Dr. Thorington, with much painstaking research, from all possible sources.

A century ago David Douglas probably was the first to climb a mountain in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. He named it Mt. Brown; close by, on the other side of the Athabaska Pass, was another that he named Mt. Hooker; nearly a century has passed before the latter has been conquered by Dr. Thorington.

Two whole chapters deal with the various accounts of the early travellers who penetrated into the wild mountainous region of Western Canada. The account of Athabaska Pass gives for the first time all available information collected from the letters and diaries of the fur-hunters and trappers, David Thompson of the North-West Company, David Douglas, Ross Cox, Henry Ross, and others. Excellent portraits of some of these are given, together with a map and facsimile of handwriting in one of Douglas's journals.

Dr. Thorington's book is delightfully written, the photographs are excellent, there is a good index, and numerous maps and appendices.

J. N. C.

THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

The following works have been added to the Library:—

Club Publications.

- (1) **Akad. Alpenclub Bern.** 19. Jahresbericht. 9 × 6: pp. 20. 1923-4
- (2) **Akad. Alp. Ver. Innsbruck.** Bericht 1924-25. 9 × 6: pp. 32. 1926
- (3) **Akad. Alp. Ver. München.** 33. Jahreshb. 1924-5
- Akad. Sektion Wien d. D.u.Oe.A.V.** Jahresbericht. 8½ × 6: pp. 70, xvi: ill. 1924
- (4) **Akad. Turnverein Graz.** Zum 60. Stiftungsfest von 1914-24. 9 × 6: pp. 123, ill. Graz 1925
- (5) **Alpine Club of Canada.** Journal, vol. 14. 9 × 6: pp. iv, 159: plates. 1924
- Constitution and list of members. 6½ × 4½: pp. 36. 1925
- (5b) — Gazette June 1925. Account 4th ascent Aconcagua, April 18, by party engineers under M. F. Ryan, and of the Mt. Logan expedition.
- 20th Annual camp 1925. O'Hara Lake Camp. 6 × 3: pp. 8.
- (6) **Appalachian Mountain Club.** Bulletin. 50th anniversary number. 9½ × 6½: plates. 1926
- Bulletin 1924-5: 7½ × 4½. pp. 128.
- Guide to paths in the White Mountains and adjacent regions. 6th ed. 6 × 3½: pp. xii, 529: maps. Boston 1925. \$3
- Associated Mountaineering Clubs of N. America.** 5¾ × 4¼: pp. 48. New York 1925
- California Alpine Club.** Schedule, no. 25. 5¾ × 3¼: pp. 12. 1925
- Seventh Annual Outing. 5¾ × 3¼: pp. 10. 1925
- The Club Pace, vol. 2, no. 8. 9 × 6: pp. 4. June 1925
- Centre excursion. de Catalunya.** Butlletí any 34. 9½ × 6½. 1924
- Club académique français d'alpinisme.** Statuts. 8¼ × 5½: pp. 11. Paris 1926

'Un groupement d'alpinistes se proposant de réunir les amateurs de courses sans guides. . . . Pour être membre actif, il faut être âgé de plus de