

into the Cariboos with Professor Rollin Chamberlin. Alighting from the train at Shere station of the Prince Rupert line, they proceeded up Kiwa Creek and camped 2 miles above the snout of the large glacier on the E. side of the valley. In spite of abominable weather for two weeks, during which precipitation was recorded every day, and the largest dry period was 12 hours, they climbed Mt. Kiwa and Mt. Welcome, over 11,000 ft., and obtained very fine photographs. One photograph of Mt. Welcome showed Mt. Robson distinctly in the background over 40 miles away in the Rockies. As with previous pictures made in this district, Carpe obtained excellent contrasts by the use of a colour screen, and many of the lantern slides were very effectively coloured, the whole giving an unusually clear and striking impression of this, until very recently, little known district.

After considerable informal discussions on various topics brought out by the evening's programme, the meeting adjourned at about midnight.

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## ACCIDENTS.

### THE ACCIDENT ON ACONCAGUA.

ON Monday, December 17, 1928, I accompanied Señor Heriberto Guillermo de Magalhaes Hafers, of Santos, Brazil, with the guides Lobos and Pasten, on a climbing trip to Aconcagua.

At 4.15 P.M. the same day we reached a camp site at about 4000 m., and found there a sealed bottle containing a certificate, which had been deposited by the guides who had been sent out as a search party for Captain Marden in the month of July last, and which constitutes proof that the search party had reached so far.

A tent was put up and the night passed at this place. The next morning at about 8 A.M. we left camp and continued our journey up the mountain-side, and after travelling some 15 mins. on mule-back the guide Lobos, who was in front, pointed out a green package lying in the valley below our path, and, just above it, what looked like a body lying on a pinnacle of ice about 4 ft. high. We descended and found that it really was a body, and that the green package was a sleeping-bag. The guide Pasten was thereupon sent back down to Inca for assistance, and I, together with Señor Magalhaes and the guide Lobos, continued our ascent to the 5500 m. level, where we passed the second night.

On December 19 we went up as far as we could get, and descended again that night to our first camp at 4000 m., near the body. The next day at about 10 A.M. we heard animals coming up the valley, and in a few minutes a party on mules appeared, among them being Señor Apostolo, manager of the hotel at Inca, two members of the police force, the guide Pasten, and Mr. John Munro, the only member of the party besides myself who is fluent in English.

The whole of the two parties then proceeded to the spot where the sleeping-bag was lying; it was opened, and the contents inventoried in the presence of all. The whole party then climbed the slope towards the body, which was lying on an ice pinnacle some 50-70 m. up the slope in the obvious path of an avalanche. The body was lying face downwards, fully clothed except for hat, gloves, and the right boot, which was missing. It was immediately recognised by Señor Apostolo of the Inca Hotel and the foreman of the Camp Section of the Hoteles Sud-Americanos, who had both known Captain Marden in July of last year when he was staying in Inca, and they have duly signed a declaration of identification.

The body was then examined and found to have a very severe wound in the head and, obviously, a broken leg, besides other injuries, but, there being no doctor present (or in Inca), no proper examination could be made.

The body was then removed from the pedestal and taken down the frozen slope to the river, where a mule was waiting to transport it. We then reached the slope above, where the body had been lying, and found one ski, supplied by Messrs. Fortnum and Mason of London.

So far as we can judge, the body was found exactly where, on the 'Fitzgerald' map, are marked the figures 13.534 underneath 'Glacier A.' As already stated, the slope was searched, but no trace was found of any instruments, cameras, rucksack, or the missing ski and boot, which may possibly lie in the frozen stream which runs underneath where the body was found. It is our opinion that Captain Marden was probably caught by an avalanche, quite possibly when he had made a bivouac and had removed one boot and ski, and was swept down the slope to the river and instantly killed. It is notable that the sock on the leg from which the boot was missing showed no signs that the boot had been forcibly torn off. The ski we found is slightly splintered, and the metal fastenings are broken away from the wood.

The search being concluded, the whole of the two parties were gathered together and left the spot for the 4000 m. camp, from whence we left for Inca at about 1 P.M. and reached there at 7 P.M.

The next morning, December 21, the body was buried in Puente del Inca cemetery, where several other English people are also interred.

May we mention the initiative and excellent organisation of Señor Apostolo and his guides, without which we could not have recovered the body.

(Signed) JOHN WILLIAM LANCE ORTIZ,  
of the Transandine Railway.

(Signed) J. MUNRO,  
Superintendent of the Pacific and  
European Telegraph Co.; Head  
Office, Electra House, Moorgate  
House, Moorgate, London.

M. F. RYAN.