

'He was not only brave, he was cool, determined and resourceful when action was needed, as I have seen on more than one occasion that called for all these qualities. Nothing daunted or confused him. He dashed at a fire or rushed in search of an incident, after a bomb had fallen, with incredible speed.

'Fanshawe had served with this Post since before the beginning of the war, and was Senior Warden until he moved to another area only a few days before his death. He was not on duty when the raid started, but he rushed out to a fire in an adjoining area and was killed instantly by a heavy bomb which destroyed the burning building. I know he died as I have seen him on many occasions—putting every ounce of his strength and skill into his voluntary task.

'He is a great loss to our work. He has made that greatest of all contributions to the cause of freedom and decency. I know his example of high heroism and devotion will not be wasted. And for himself—and I like to think of that side to which he paid no regard—he has reached the heights towards which we all climb.'

ALPINE NOTES

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY :	Year of Election.
Pilkington, L.	1878
Harrison, H. E. B.	1890
Worthington, A. H.	1894
Williamson, O. K.	1895
Goggs, F. S.	1906
Macartney, H. J.	1911
Clark, Professor A. J.	1923
Fanshawe, R. A.	1929
Sussdorf, Louis, jun.	1934

MEMBERS SERVING WITH HIS MAJESTY'S ARMED FORCES.—It is requested that all members now engaged in full-time service will kindly forward the necessary information to the Assistant Secretary.

ALPINE CLUB MEET IN LANGDALE.—What is believed to be the first official meet of the Alpine Club took place in Langdale from September 25 to 30, 1941, when a number of members assembled at the Dungeon Ghyll Hotel. Those A.C. members present for part or the whole of the time were :—G. Winthrop Young (President), G. Anderson, Bryan Donkin, John Donkin, G. A. Dummett, A. F. de Fonblanque, J. W. Healy, Peter Lloyd, G. Graham Macphee, N. E. Odell, G. R. Speaker, Eustace Thomas.

The weather was warm with occasional rain, but in spite of this the following climbs were done :

Gimmer Crag : A Route, B Route, Bracket and Slab, Chimney. Bowfell : Buttress, Cambridge Route, Plaques. Raven Crag ; Scout Crag ; Middle Fell Buttress ; Dow Crag, C Route.

In addition, various fell walks were made, including Pike o' Blisco, Three Tarns, Harrison Stickle, Pavey Ark, etc., the President being amongst the most active in these walks.

On Saturday afternoon, September 27, a number of members went over to Windermere to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Fell and Rock Climbing Club, and on Sunday a number of Fell and Rock members came over to Langdale and joined in the activities of the Alpine Club.

Monday the 29th saw a few members returning to work and Tuesday, the 30th, closed a brief but apparently well enjoyed interlude in the history of the Club. It is hoped, circumstances permitting, to hold a meet next year.

Thanks to the generous and kindly attention of Mr. and Mrs. Bulman and the staff of the Dungeon Ghyll Hotel, we were comfortably housed and very well victualled.

BRYAN DONKIN.

GIFT TO THE ALPINE CLUB.—Lady Helen F. Hort and her son Sir Fenton Hort have very kindly presented to the Club three books of Alpine sketches made by the late Rev. Fenton J. A. Hort, an Original Member. References to the sketches will be found in *The Life and Letters of Fenton J. A. Hort*. We acknowledge this gift with sincere gratitude.

POLISH MOUNTAINEERS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—Several members of the Polish Tatra Society, which is the leading mountaineering club in Poland, have established a London branch of their club at 3 Warwick Avenue, W. 2, with M. Marek Zulawski as Organising Secretary. This Society was founded in 1874 in the province of Galicia and Lodomeria, which was then under Austro-Hungarian rule, and no attempt was made by the authorities to subordinate it to the D.u.Ö.A.V. It has done much to foster mountain travel both in summer and in winter in the Carpathians and especially in the Tatra, and has organised expeditions to the Caucasus, High Atlas, Andes, Ruwenzori and Garhwal. Since the invasion of Poland in 1939, all the possessions of this society have been confiscated¹ by the German authorities for the benefit of the Deutsche Karpathenverein, an institution to which the Polish Tatra Society had always granted reciprocal rights in all its huts. M. Zulawski hopes that this new branch may form a centre for all his climbing compatriots now exiled from their homes. We give him every good wish for his new enterprise.

¹ Visitors to the D.u.Ö.A.V. Alpine Museum during the last decade may recall the direction inside the building to an underground room, where 'Die verlorene Stadt' was to be found. This consisted of a large green ground upon which were models of the 91 huts, formerly the property of the D.u.Ö.A.V., at that time in the possession of the Italians.—EDITOR.

FROM NEW ZEALAND.—In a letter to our President Mr. A. P. Harper writes :

‘ This year is our Jubilee, fifty years since Mannering and I founded the N.Z.A.C. So feeling the need for a “ mental rest ” we decided to go on with our Jubilee Dinner, etc., in spite of the war. We had a great week-end. Dinner on Saturday in Christchurch, and at 4 A.M. on Sunday went off by train to Arthur’s Pass and had two days in the mountains. Mannering and I, the two founders, managed to climb a 6000-ft. peak in spite of the short winter daylight, and I, at any rate, came back feeling ten years younger after three days with those lads who call me A.P.H. and make me one of themselves.

‘ We have 70 Members serving abroad, so the Club hasn’t done so badly. Several more are in camp for overseas.’

FROM CANADA.—The following letter has been received by Mr. G. Lipscomb from our member, Mr. Legh Powell (*æt.* 85, elected in 1882) :

‘ My love of the mountains in no way slackens and mercifully I am still in tolerably good form for wandering *at my own pace*. I have joined the local section of the A.C. of Canada in the grade of interested member ; and last summer I attended the A.C. Camp, reached from the then newly opened Jasper-Lake Louise Highway. Each member slept in his own sleeping-bag under canvas. But a truce to more details or I shall never end this letter.’

FROM SWITZERLAND.—In a letter from La Fouly, Val Ferret, dated June 4, M. Charles Gos writes :

‘ This has been a fearful spring, it snowed four or five times in May at Praz-de-Fort. It is still winter at La Fouly, snow everywhere, and the earliest flowers are only just in bud. There are still huge masses of snow on the high peaks, and every day one hears the voice of avalanches—it is magnificent and most impressive.

‘ There is a climber here who has been here for the last three winters. Last January he saved the life of a young chamois engulfed in the snow, which would have died from cold or been eaten by the foxes. Micky, the young chamois, settled down quickly and became quite tame, following his master like a dog. A week ago, Micky suddenly felt the call of the wild : he looked towards the Glacier de la Neuvaz, sniffed the air, thought a moment, then off he fled to the heights, in answer to the stern call of his race. He has not been seen again.

‘ I heard the other day of Helene Lochmatter’s brilliant success in her Doctorate of Medicine examination at Zürich. She is the first Valaisanne to obtain this distinction. How proud and happy Franz would have been ! She is to begin work in August at the children’s hospital in St. Gall.

‘ I am hoping to see Josef Pollinger soon. “ Puisque vous êtes malade,” he wrote in his kind way, “ c’est moi qui viendrai vous voir.” I have sent the *Bulletin d’Information* of the British Legation at Berne to the guides of St. Niklaus, Zermatt, Grindelwald and Champex.’

CENTRAL COMMITTEE, S.A.C.—The office of this Committee has been transferred to Pontresina, Haus Stiffler, II Stock, under the presidency of Dr. R. Campell.

A PROTEST AGAINST VANDALISM.—In the *Gazette de Lausanne* of July 10, M. Charles Gos protests against the disfigurement to the countryside caused by zinc roofing. It appears that a by-law of the Bernese Oberland demands that zinc roofs be sprayed with a dark brown solution, and he urges that a similar regulation be enforced for the Valais, where this disfigurement is spreading even to the highest pastures.

FROM AMERICA.—We learn that Mr. Walter Wood has visited Alaska, in the region of Mt. Wood. Miss Elizabeth Knowlton has returned from Colombia, where she climbed two peaks. We apologise for the error in our last number, in which her companion's name should have been Mrs. Cowles.

The following is an extract from a letter received from Mrs. R. L. M. Underhill, dated July 25, 1941 :

' We are having a quiet, simple summer at a farmhouse in New Hampshire. I have an enormous vegetable garden which I take care of all myself, except when I get Robert to drive in stakes for the beans and tomatoes. Then we do some walking—you can't really call it climbing when the peaks are from four to six thousand feet high. But there are some mountains up in the northern part of Maine that have a particular charm because they are inaccessible. Of course there is no point in climbing them, except to see if you can get to them. Sometimes it takes a couple of days travelling with canoes, and just crashing through the woods by compass, of course carrying sleeping-bags, food, etc. It is very wild country up there, with deer scampering around like chipmunks, and rabbits jumping on you at night. Bob and I have more or less taken on the idea of climbing all the big ones in the wildest area—this being the best we can do now that we can no longer "collect" the four-thousanders. We are starting out in a couple of days, by car, to see if we can add a few more to our list. We drive as far as we can, and then see what we can do next. Lumber railroads, canoes, kickers (which is a small boat with an outboard motor), and finally our feet take us up these peaks.'

FROM ALASKA.—We are glad to learn that Mr. and Mrs. H. Bradford Washburn have succeeded in ascending Mt. Hayes (13,740 ft.) on August 1, after a fortnight's expedition from Fairbanks. The weather was bad during the ascent. Mr. Henry S. Hall, jun., who was of the party, remained at the highest camp during the final ascent.

FROM CHAMONIX.—It is reported that in November of last year Armand Charlet, while travelling alone on ski during a snowstorm, was carried down by an avalanche for about 500 ft. The accident occurred between the Refuge Albert Ier and the Col de Balme. He succeeded in getting rid of his skis and thus saved his life ; by moving arms and legs he remained on the surface of the avalanche, though he suffered several light wounds. Four days in hospital and a fortnight's convalescence set him right again. Since then, he has acted as instructor, with many other Chamonix guides, in certain youth camps, mainly in Savoy and Dauphiné.

KENYA EXPEDITIONS.—We are permitted to quote the following passage from a letter by Mr. R. A. Hodgkin, who visited Mt. Kenya with two companions in June of this year :

‘ I knew it was a very fine mountain before we came here, but I have come away very much impressed. It is harder and more impressive than any Alpine mountain I know, and rather on the lines of Ushba. There was a lot of very fine firm rock-climbing on the ordinary route to the top of Nelion (17,800 ft.), which was the peak we tried. But at this time of year, though the weather was good, all the so-called easy bits, shelfy slopes and gullies, were inclined to be choked with snow and ice, which made the climb harder than it ought to be. On the second attempt, having passed all the recognised difficult bits, we found the last 200 ft. so plastered in snow and ice as to make our attempt unjustifiable. I came away with the rather “ good ” feeling of having turned back at the right place, and very pleased at having had such grand climbing.’

Since this expedition Mr. Hodgkin has succeeded in climbing Ruwenzori. No details are available.

From information received just before going to press, we learn that Mt. Kenya was climbed this year by Wing-Commander Lord Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton. We congratulate both our members on their success.

HERR MAX BACHMANN.—We regret to learn of the death of this well known Swiss mountaineer on December 1, 1940, as the result of an avalanche on Piz Lucendro in the Gotthard district. A full notice of his career is to be found in *Die Alpen*, February, 1941, written by his constant companion S. Plietz, whose book was reviewed in *A. J.* 49. 138. His record of climbs covers all seasons of the year, including winter ascents of Aiguille Verte, Aiguille du Triolet and Calotte de Rochefort, first ascents of N. faces of Gross Doldenhorn and Tiefenstock, E. face of Monte Rosa, Aiguilles du Diable and Péteret ridge of Mont Blanc. He also paid two visits to the Atlas mountains. On April 3, 1939, with Emil Meier, he made the first spring traverse of the Weisshorn by the N. and E. ridges.

M. ALBERT GOS.—This distinguished Alpine painter, father of our Honorary Member M. Charles Gos, celebrated his ninetieth birthday last April. He is an Honorary Member of the Geneva Section of the S.A.C. He is the first mountain painter to be represented in the Luxembourg Museum at Paris ; his works are to be found in many galleries in Europe and in America, and it is stated that one of his pictures is in Buckingham Palace. M. Gos is one of the oldest *habitués* of the Riffelalp. In 1874 he paid his first visit to the Riffelberg in company with Emile Javelle. The portrait of Alexander Seiler in the Riffelalp diningroom is by M. Gos, the only portrait painted by him during his career. He has just completed a book entitled *Souvenirs d'un peintre de montagne*, which is to be published shortly.

THE CHRONICLES OF MONTE ROSA.—In the course of last year the firm of Leykam, Graz, published the latest work of Dr. Julius Kugy (Hon. Member of A.C. 1934–1940), under the title *Im göttlichen Lächeln des Monte Rosa*. The book is reviewed in *Die Alpen*, February, 1941. It contains the narratives of Tyndall, Taylor, Mathews, Otto Zsigmondy, Walther Flender and others, besides Dr. Kugy's personal contributions. It will be recalled that Dr. Kugy first crossed the Swiss frontier by the E. face of Monte Rosa—an entrance probably unique in the annals of Switzerland. It was through correspondence over this ascent that the warm friendship arose between Farrar and Dr. Kugy.

S.A.C. HUTS.—The total number of visitors in 1940 amounted to 61,506 as against 66,491 in 1939. The Boval hut with 3002 visitors leads the way, while 30 only entered the Topali. 33.7 of the visitors were members of the S.A.C. From *Die Alpen*.

MADEMOISELLE D'ANGEVILLE.—Mlle C. E. Engel writes: 'I have found in the *Nouveaux Mélanges Politiques, Moraux et Littéraires*, by the Comte de Sellon (Geneva, 1838, vol. 3, p. 47), that Mlle d'Angeville was a "Chanoinesse," and consequently had the right to term herself "Mme la Comtesse d'Angeville." I had never seen that anywhere else. Sellon was a prominent person, acquainted with many well known figures in every country of Europe, and he knew the lady's brother. He was a Genevese, with a French title bestowed by Napoleon, and he had met Atkins and Martin Barry.'

PACCARD'S UNPUBLISHED BOOK ON MONT BLANC.—Books about Alpine history have often mentioned the Abbot Jean-Maurier Clément (1736–1810), vicar of Val d'Illiez in Valais, who made the first ascent of the Haute Cime of the Dent du Midi in 1784. This very remarkable man had a large library of 5000 or even 8000 volumes, according to some authorities.

In July, 1941, I discovered the catalogue of this library in the archives of Val d'Illiez. I do not think this document has ever been seen, even by H. F. Montagnier, owing probably to the fact that it is not catalogued in the new inventory of the archives, made in 1913. Clément died in 1810, his library was sold and his books catalogued for the sale. There were about 4500 volumes. Clément was most interested in Swiss and Alpine history. Roughly speaking, he owned *all* the books about mountaineering and mountains which were procurable up to 1800. It would be too long to make a list of them. Let me just state he had all the Bourrits (2 copies of some of them), Saussure's *Travels*, Deluc, Gruner, Meyer, Robert, Halley, Josias Simler, Besson, Coxe in Ramond's translation into French, Abraham Stanyan, the *Mercure Suisse* where Windham's letter about Chamonix was first published, and even the *Voyage pittoresque aux glaciers de Savoye*, by Bordier (Geneva, 1793), which was very rare. Bourrit

had seen to that, as he suspected the author of having plagiarised one of his own volumes.

Now, I did *not* find the title of Paccard's *Voyage au Sommet du Mont-Blanc*. I emphatically take this as a proof that no such book ever existed.

C. E. ENGEL.

A FAMOUS ALPINE STORY.—In the short article on Melchior Anderegg's 'Ich gehe nicht,' published in the last number of the JOURNAL,² it was stated that the story was first told by C. E. Mathews in *The Pioneers of the Alps* (1887). I have since noticed that Mathews had related it earlier—but with one significant difference—in his paper on 'The Alpine Obituary'³ (1882). In the earlier version he had spoken of his party coming to 'an *impracticable* spot,' which of course was almost a contradiction in terms, inasmuch as Melchior admitted 'es geht, aber . . .' In repeating the story Mathews changed the inappropriate word into 'a *dangerous* spot.' I venture to think that this confirms my suggestion that his recollection of the original circumstances had become dim, even six years afterwards.

In regard to the light the story casts upon Melchior's character, it may be interesting to recall an incident in the famous first crossing (in 1863) of the Col de la Tour Noire (I quote the original title).⁴ H. B. George relates that Christian Almer, who had gone ahead to the summit of the pass, 'telegraphed that it was all right,' and the party went on to take 6½ hours in the descent to the Glacier de Saleinaz, during which, as George says, Almer and Melchior, 'rivals in reputation, worked together like brothers.' Half a century later⁵ Dr. Dübi related that 'Melchior once told him that Almer never ought to have given the signal to advance, by which he committed his party to the terrible descent of the E. face' of the pass. George mentions that on reaching the top of the pass he and his companion Macdonald halted 'to consider the prospect for ourselves and wait while the guides did a little private exploration. It certainly looked extremely ugly.' That being so, Melchior could surely have advised against the descent if he considered it too risky, and it hardly seems fair to put the blame on Almer for 'committing his party' by calling them up to look for themselves. Melchior's recollection was perhaps coloured by the fact that while he was coming down last to the bergschrund 'the rotten ice gave way under one foot,'⁶ and he fell over the schrund, escaping serious injury, but losing his axe—or rather Almer's axe, which he had borrowed 'as a better ice-weapon than his own.' The incident is illuminating.

E. H. STEVENS.

FRITZ STEURI.—With regard to the reported thousandth ascent of the Jungfrau (*A. J.* 52. 284), we learn from Mr. G. A. Hasler that it

² *A. J.* 53. 81–83. (The date 1874 in note 5 should be prefixed to note 4.)

³ *A. J.* 11. 83.

⁴ *A. J.* 1. 274 *sqq.*

⁵ *A. J.* 31. 281.

⁶ *Loc. cit.* p. 280.

was Fritz Steuri *Vater*, the one-time great ski champion, who made the thousandth ascent of the Jungfrau last year.

It was also he who seconded Amatter on the first ascent of Mittellegi, when they took Yuko Maki supported by Brawand up Eiger by that route (*A. J.* 34. 166).

Fritz Steuri *Sohn*, who did such good work in Garhwal, has not yet had time to do a thousand ascents of anything. He was also of the party, with G. A. Hasler, invited to celebrate Fritz senior's thousandth ascent.

OBLIQUE CHIMNEY, GREAT GABLE.—In the review of Mr. Amery's book, *Days of Fresh Air* (*A. J.* 52. 143), it is stated that Mr. Amery 'made the first ascent of the Oblique Gully of Great Gable with the late Owen Glynne Jones.' Mr. A. E. Field points out that this should read 'Oblique Chimney,' and that the ascent was Jones' first ascent of the Oblique Chimney, and not the first ascent by any party. See *Rock-Climbing in the English Lake District*, p. 120. The first party was led by Joseph Collier, on December 31, 1892.

CORRIGENDUM.—*A. J.* 53. 16, for 'Alois Pollinger, jr.' read 'Rudolf Lochmatter.' Mr. Sydney Spencer writes: 'Arthur Thorold was invariably accompanied by Josef Pollinger and Rudolf Lochmatter and the latter was one of the Grands Charmoz from Mer de Glace party. Actually Rudolf was a closer friend of Thorold's than Josef. It was while they were with him that I got to know them so well, as we frequently were together on the same climbs.'

E. L. STRUTT.

'MEMORABLE DAYS.'—With reference to *A. J.* 53. 11-12, I have received a most interesting and charming letter from the American Secretary of War, Mr. Henry L. Stimson, from which I venture to quote:—

'... Referring to an incident in 1896 when you and I crossed the Zinal Rothorn together, your article brought back very pleasant and deeply interesting memories to me. You refer to your interest in the problem of my identity with your companion of that day. I am very happy to answer your question in the affirmative and to express my interest and pleasure in finding that you are still in this world and remember the keen adventures of that day in 1896.

'Since I have seen your article I have met another friend of mine, Mr. William Williams, an Alpine climber of former days, who tells me that he is well acquainted with you. . . . I send you my hearty wishes for the best of luck. . . .'

E. L. STRUTT.

NEW BOOKS OF PHOTOGRAPHS.—The two books of photographs edited by Mr. Smythe, and the book entitled 'Snowdonia' by Mr. Poucher (see Library section, p. 182 of this number), will be reviewed in our number of next May. The photographs are of the highest standard of merit.