

THE ALPINE JOURNAL

VOL. LIII

NOVEMBER 1941

NO. 263

A DEDICATION

THIS year marks the Golden Jubilee of the New Zealand Alpine Club and of the Mountain Club of South Africa. When our own Club celebrated its fiftieth birthday, Charles Pilkington spoke of those who 'take their share in the noble work of preserving for future generations the beauty and mystery that has charmed and elevated their lives.' The future generations of his day are, in these noisy years, upholding in many lands the spiritual values which find voice in the eternal silence of the hills. Now, when the strife of nations has drawn even closer the bonds uniting the brotherhood of mountaineers throughout the Empire, it is our privilege and our honour to dedicate this number of the ALPINE JOURNAL to these two Clubs, rich in achievement and mature in tradition, and especially to each of their members now on active service

sive per Syrtis iter aestuosas
sive facturus per inhospitalem
Caucasum vel quae loca fabulosus
lambit Hydaspes.

The mountains uphold us and the stars beckon to us. The mountains of our lovely land will make a constant appeal to us to live the higher life of joy and freedom. Table Mountain, in particular, will preach this great gospel to the myriads of toilers in the valley below. And those who, whether members of the Mountain Club or not, make a habit of ascending her beautiful slopes in their free moments, will reap a rich reward not only in bodily health and strength but also in an inner freedom and purity in an habitual spirit of delight, which will be the crowning glory of their lives.

J. C. SMUTS.

From a speech at the unveiling of the Memorial
to the Mountain Club of South Africa.