

one is facing away from the sea, that is, in the opposite direction to what is the case with fresh water.

In each instance the terms are used in the most convenient sense, —that is, they are applied in the direction for which information is of the greatest value. The same should be the case with mountains. A mountain has to be climbed before it can be descended, and so 'right' and 'left' should be used in the ascending sense. This is the logical and most convenient, and therefore the clearest method, and it is analogous to the practice universally adopted for both tidal and non-tidal rivers. No ambiguity results from the ordinary custom of drafting sailing directions for a river without reference to the points of the compass, but the use of the terms 'right' and 'left' in their unnatural sense has caused confusion in the case of mountains, with the result that it has been necessary to resort to the use of the points of the compass. But it is easier to visualise a locality from a written description if the words 'right' and 'left' are used.

P. J. H. UNNA.

DR. and MME. VISSER with FRANZ LOCHMATTER leave in February next for a mountaineering expedition in Kashmir.

MITTELLEGI ARÊTE.—The Grindelwald guides have determined to build a hut to contain 12 people near the Great Gendarme, in order to facilitate the ascent of the Eiger lately made by this route. They are subscribing 30 frs. or equivalent work each, and will welcome further subscriptions.

ACCIDENTS IN 1921.

NEWS reaches us from Canada of a tragedy which occurred on Mount Eon last summer. Mount Eon (10,860 ft.) and Mount Aye (10,640 ft.) are two striking rock-peaks situated a little to the S. of Mount Assiniboine; they attracted considerable attention from the occupants of the camp of the Alpine Club of Canada at the foot of Mount Assiniboine in 1920, but were not visited till the last days of the camp, when a party, which included Mr. A. W. Wakefield and Mr. L. Lindsay, made an unsuccessful attempt on Mount Eon.

In order to facilitate visits to the district, Mr. A. O. Wheeler, the Director of the Club, has now made this camp a permanent one, with a regular trail from Banff, about fifty miles in length, and four subsidiary camps on the way, where sleeping accommodation and provisions can be obtained. Early in July 1921 Dr. Winthrop E. Stone, President of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, left Banff with his wife, with a view to making a second attempt on the same mountain. They started from the Assiniboine camp alone on July 15, taking sleeping-bags, and after spending two

nights at a bivouac, attacked the peak on the 17th. They had reached a point not very far below the summit when Mrs. Stone stopped, and her husband went on by himself to prospect the route. It is now established that he had almost completed the ascent when the accident took place. There was no sound or cry, but Mrs. Stone saw the body falling. It was then about 6.30 P.M., and she spent the night where she stood. On the 18th she started to descend, and got down several hundred feet, passing the spot where Dr. Stone's body was lying. On the 19th she continued the descent, believing that her husband was still below her, and finally reached a ledge, from which she could neither advance nor retreat.

On the same day some other visitors at the camp went to the bivouac with provisions, Dr. Stone having requested them to do so if he had not returned; they saw no signs of the climbers, but seem to have felt no anxiety. On the 20th a packer named Reno climbed on to the mountain alone, but could find no traces of them, and on the 21st a message was sent to Banff asking for help.

Rudolph Aemmer, summoned by telephone from Lake Louise, where he had just returned from a climb, arrived at Banff by car at 1.30 A.M. on the 22nd, and started again at 6 with a small body of volunteers, hardy men, though untrained in climbing, on the long ride to the Assiniboine camp, which was reached at 7.30 P.M. The story of the rescue, a work of difficulty and danger in itself, and which also involved prolonged exposure and hardship to all concerned in it, is too long to be told here. It must suffice to say that Mrs. Stone was found and brought down on July 24, Aemmer carrying her on his back for a large part of the way—a great feat of strength and skill. She had been entirely without food, and depended for water on a cushion of moss on the rocks, in which enough moisture accumulated every three or four hours to provide a small drink. On July 29 she was brought to the nearest intermediate camp, and ten days later was able to proceed to Banff. Physically, she seems to have suffered surprisingly slight ill-effects from her terrible ordeal.

A second search party, strengthened by Conrad Kain, Edward Feuz, and Messrs. Lindsay and A. H. McCarthy, returned to Mount Eon on August 5. The recovery of the body proved to be even a severer task than the rescue of Mrs. Stone, and taxed their powers to the utmost. It was successfully accomplished after two days of strenuous toil, during which the workers were exposed to an incessant fire of falling stones.

Dr. and Mrs. Stone were active and popular members of the Alpine Club of Canada, and were present at the camp of 1920, where Mrs. Stone was the first lady to make the ascent of Mount Assiniboine. Dr. Stone had climbed in many parts of North America, and during several seasons both he and his wife shared in many of the expeditions—mostly new ascents—carried out by Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy and Conrad Kain in the Purcell range.