

THE E. FACE OF THE TROLLTINDER.¹

AMONG the famous peaks of Norway the Trolltinder in Romsdal are perhaps the most interesting. They rise abruptly from the main highway, the crest appearing like a row of giants standing on guard. The highest Trolltind was ascended for the first time in 1882; since then many persons have climbed it, including before 1914 several Englishmen, who have also discovered some new routes. Various ways may be used when scaling the mountain from the back, but as the front or E. side seems to rise almost sheer for about 1500 m., it is unlikely that an early attack was made there. Beneath the pinnacles a gully leads to the serrated edge, and its outlet lies a little to the left of Gt. Trolltind. From the base this route looks very imposing. It is the longest climb that can be done in Romsdal, and has long been a burning problem among climbers.

The lower slabs seem impracticable at a distance, but in 1929 I made a reconnaissance, and learned that the first half of the route was not really so. In 1931 I obtained the opportunity of visiting it again. By this time the ascent had been discovered by many who were waiting for favourable weather, but during the summer the mountains were shrouded steadily in mist and rain.

On August 18 it finally cleared up, but, alas, fresh snow covered the tops. Yet not having the time to wait any longer, I set off from Aandsnes, accompanied by my cousin, Eirik Heen.

At 7 A.M. we started from Fiva—the farm on the Rauma river belonging to Sir William Bromley-Davenport. Every summer English tourists stay there, and the tenant explained that the explorer N. E. Odell had been there, intending to return in order to try the climb. Of course it was necessary to hasten!

At the beginning the route led obviously towards a little glacier half-way up. There the well-marked gully began, but this was too smooth and was streaming with water. We had to turn to the left and follow a buttress which from the valley is seen running up between Gt. Trolltind and the Bridgegroom, the chief peak on the left.

This buttress was difficult in some places, and the rocks rotten as everywhere in these mountains. It connected with the wall at last, and we jumped across a cleft and continued nearer the chief gully. We were little by little urged to a crevice which ended below a mighty overhang. Then we followed a narrow oblique traverse, and I had a hard climb of about 50 m. before I could gain anchorage. Here we encountered the snow. The ice-water made it slippery everywhere, and to make matters even worse, mists were gathering

¹ Cf. pp. 137–8.



Photo, Lysholm.]

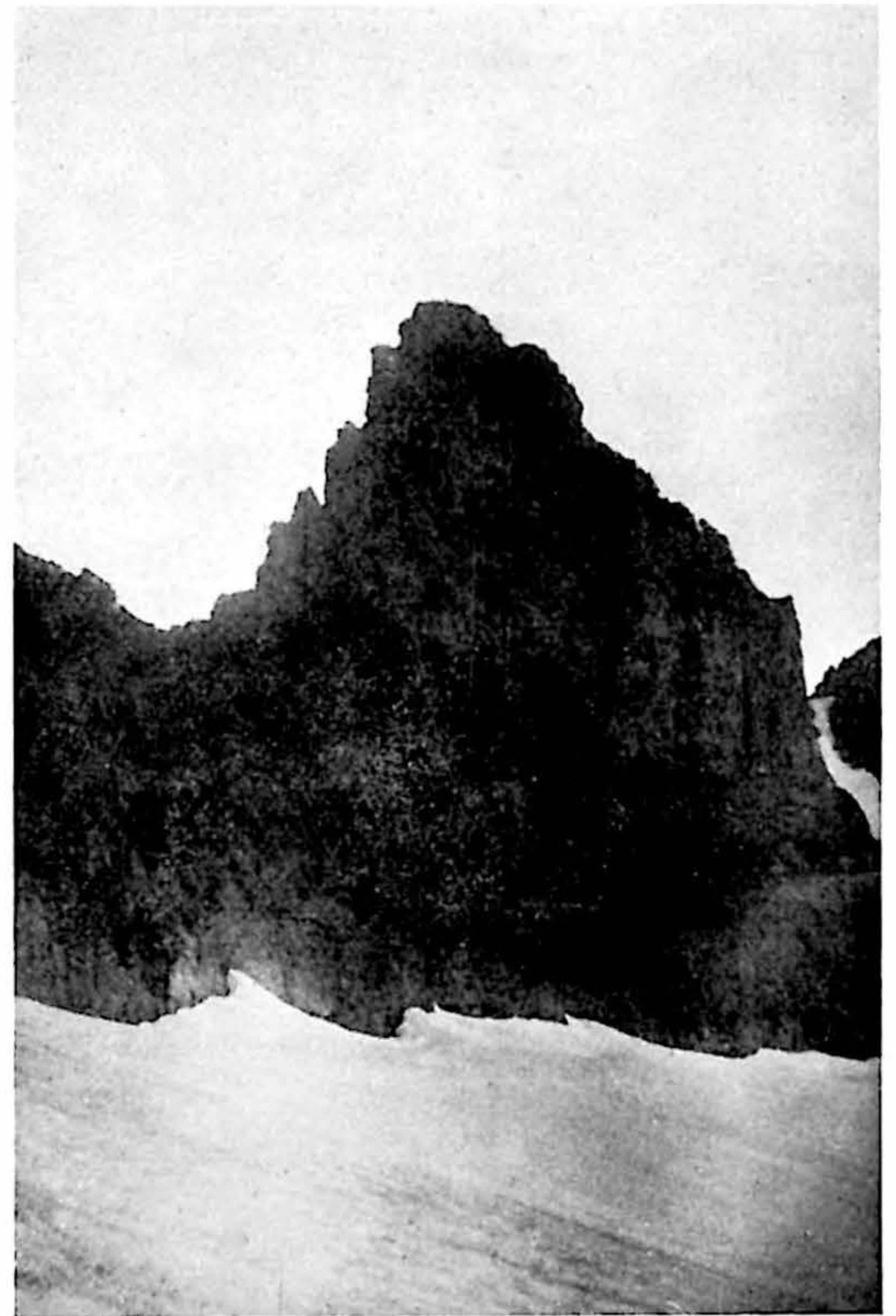
PINNACLES ON THE TROLLTIND CREST. SEEN FROM N.E.

[To face p. 282.]



Photo, A. R. Heen.]

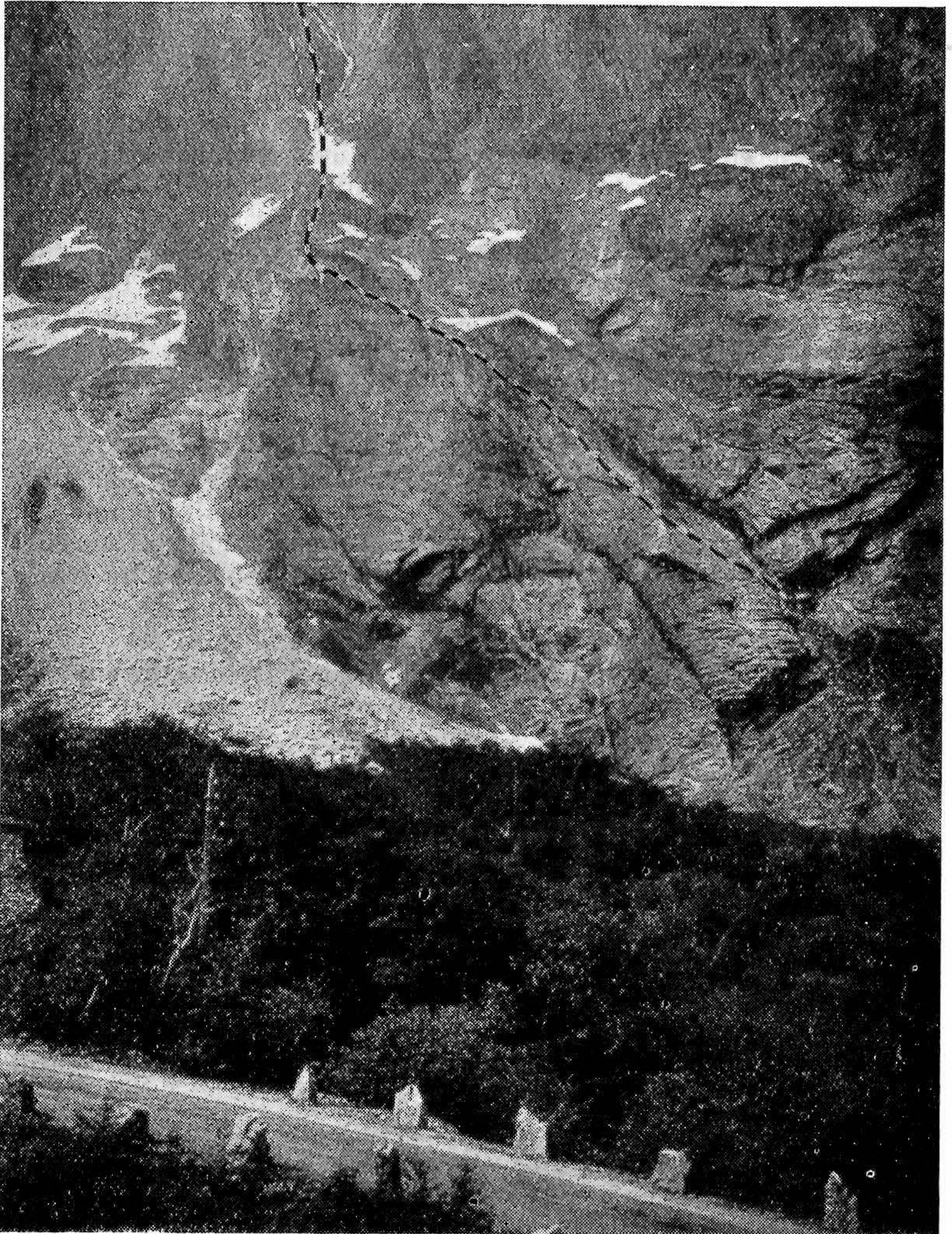
THE UPPER PART OF THE ROUTE.
Romsdalthorn is seen through the mist.



Photo, A. R. Heen.]

GR. TROLLTIND SEEN FROM THE GLACIER ON N.E.
The Lavskar to the W.

fast, hiding the view. Now we had an awkward time, struggling hard until we could reach a hole near the crest, through which we



Photo, Lysholm.]

THE SLABS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ROUTE.

crept, coming out on the W. side. From here we hurried to the top, and gained the cairn at 6 P.M.

The rest we could take was short, and fearing the darkness, we took the usual way down to the Lavskar which leads to the great

glacier on the N. side. This snow gully was first climbed by W. C. Slingsby, and may at times prove easy, but now, filled with ice,



TROLLTINDER, E. FACE FROM TOP OF ROMSDALHORN.

Photo, Birkeland.]

required too much step-cutting. We therefore made our way down to the Storgrovbotten on the W. side. This route is said to be the easiest, and never having made previous use of it, we now wanted to try.

We kept near a torrent which falls into Isterdalen, and had almost

reached the valley when we were suddenly stopped by a precipice. Owing to the twilight, we did not dare let ourselves down there, and were compelled to return and make an attempt in another place. But darkness coming on, at 11 P.M. we were forced to camp out on a mossy shelf surrounded by dwarf birch trees. We tied ourselves by the rope to a root and, tired as we were, at once fell asleep. After a while we woke up shivering with cold, and tried a bout of wrestling to keep ourselves warm.

At 4 A.M. day dawned; we unroped and found a tedious path through the morass, which finally led us down into the valley.

ARNE RANDERS-HEEN.

[We are much indebted to the writer, and understand that this ascent is possibly the most difficult yet effected in Norway.—*Editor 'A.J.'*]

IN MEMORIAM.

JOHN SHORTT.

(1839–1932.)

JUDGE SHORTT, the doyen of County Court Judges, died at his residence, 36 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1, on Sunday, May 8, after a protracted illness of over two months, during which he underwent two severe operations.

He was an LL.B. of Dublin University, and was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1866.

Jointly with Henry Godefroi he was the author of *The Law of Railway Companies* (comprising the Companies Lands and Railway Clauses Consolidation Acts) published in 1869. Author of *The Law relating to Works of Literature and Art* (comprising the Law of Copyright and Libel) published in 1884. Author of *The Information (Criminal and Quo Warranto), Mandamus and Prohibition*, published in 1887.

He was a Judge on the Cambridgeshire County Court Circuit from 1901 to 1905 and on the East Kent Circuit from 1905 to 1922.

An all-round sportsman, Judge Shortt took a keen interest in cricket, golf, mountaineering and angling. He was known as the angling Judge, and even as recently as last year and at the advanced age of 92, spent a fishing holiday alone in Scotland.

He was a member of both the Middlesex and Surrey County Cricket Clubs and was a familiar figure at Lord's and the Oval.

He was the last surviving original member of the Devonshire Club and was also a member of the Garrick, the Baldwin and the Alpine Clubs.

He became a member of the Alpine Club in 1877 and as a younger man spent most of his vacations in mountaineering.

C. W. S.