250 *seq.*), we gave nearly all the views that are necessary to the argument.

I am much indebted to Mr. Henry Speyer, whose many great expeditions in the nineties, mostly with the late Christian Jossi, are fresh in the memories of climbers of those days, for the photographs now reproduced.

The Summit ridge from the Zumsteinspitze is the reverse of the view from the Nordend (xxxii. *opp.* 250).

Point 1 is the Dufourspitze—the long ridge leading right to its summit is the so-called route 'by the rocks' or 'Cresta Rey.'

Point 2 is the Ostspitze.

Point 3 is point × or Grenzgipfel of Mr. Coolidge's 'Alpine Studies' (pp. 224–9). The ascent of this point from the Grenzsattel is easily made in about an hour.

The ridge leading to the Nordend is seen on the extreme right.

The view of the Dufourspitze from the Ostspitze makes it rather difficult to understand why the Schlagintweits and the Smyths, in 1854, did not continue to what they knew to be the higher summit, which was only attained the following year from the reverse direction. A man is seen seated on the summit rocks of the Dufour.

J. P. FARRAR.

The life of De Saussure, on which Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Montagnier have been engaged during the last four years, is now in the press.

CORRIGENDUM.—'A.J.' xxix. p. 352, line 19 from top, *for* 1906 *read* 1909 (Capt. Ryan's climbs).

THE LATE MR. WALLROTH.—As we go to press, we learn with great regret the death of this eminent member of over 50 years' standing in the Club. A full notice will appear later.

REVIEWS.

The Canadian Alpine Journal, vol. ix. 1918, vol. x. 1919.

As was perhaps to be expected, these two volumes contain very little actual mountaineering: in fact, apart from two articles by Mr. Fynn, which appear almost in the same form in our own JOURNAL, the only serious climbing paper is one in vol. ix. by Mr. Hickson, in which he records the conquest of Mount Moloch—a strange-looking and evidently difficult rock peak, at the head of the N. branch of Illecillewaet river (Northern Selkirks). It has repulsed an unusually large number of attacks by the writer of the paper and

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others, and only yielded after a severe struggle. Miss Edwards describes in charming prose and passable verse the process of being converted from a 'graduating' into an 'active' member of the A.C.C., and Mr. Harker treats the same subject in a frankly burlesque vein.

Among the papers which may be roughly classed together under the heading of 'Mountain Travel,' the letter from Lieut.-Colonel Mitchell, C.M.G., D.S.O., one of the Vice-Presidents of the Club, written from 'somewhere in the Asiago region' in April–May, 1918, is of outstanding interest; we shall hope to see transferred to the pages of the 'Bollettino' of the C.A.I.: if not the whole letter, at least the glowing tribute it contains from an expert mountaineer to the splendid work of the 'Alpini.'

The next place must certainly be given to the indefatigable Miss Jobe, who describes her third visit to Mount Sir Alexander (*alias* Kitchi), in the autumn in 1917—an expedition which, if not exactly mountaineering, was certainly serious enough in the way of incident, difficulty, and hardship to satisfy the most exigent mountaineer. She was again conducted by Curly Phillips,[1] who has established a sort of monopoly in that region. The outward journey, made nearly by the route followed on previous occasions, occupied from October 10 to 28, the return being made through the foothills, and the whole trip after the first few days was accomplished under severe winter conditions, which taxed Phillips's power to the utmost. Miss Jobe leaves the reader rather breathless when she observes at the conclusion of her narrative: 'At no time on the trip did I suffer from cold.'

From Mr. Bell Smith we get some delightful 'Artist's Reminiscences' of sixteen summers—beginning in 1887—spent in the Rockies and the Selkirks, and from Dr. Coleman a short but vivid summary of a journey through the Andes from the Uspallata Pass to Arequipa; one is surprised at the large extent of them that can be seen by railway and steamer.

To this group of articles must be added a remarkable account, in the 'Alpine Club Notes,' of Atlin Lake as a 'New Centre of Mountain Attractions,' by Mr. L. C. Read, 'guide and photographer, of Atlin.' Atlin Lake is reached *viâ* Skagway, and is situated far away in the extreme N. of British Columbia, not far S. of the 60th parallel of latitude; it is 90 miles long and surrounded by mountains running up to 7000 feet or more, which give rise to several large glaciers; the dimensions of one of them are estimated at 75 miles by 40. Mr. Read's avowed object is to attract visitors; but he writes in a way which inspires confidence both in his descriptions, which are illustrated by some excellent photographs, and in his qualifications as host and guide. In his prospectus for 1918, he offers to supply everything for parties of from two to four persons, besides conducting

[1] He subsequently served with the 78th Battery.

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expeditions in the neighbourhood—in part by motor-boat—for six dollars per head a day. 'I shall expect each one,' he writes, 'to help me slightly at camp duties and cooking, as I can't do everything alone, though willing to do all I can.' It is an engaging invitation, and makes one wish that one had gone, or was likely to go, to one of Mr. Read's camps.[2]

The scientific section contains, besides the record of Mr. Wheeler's latest observations on the Yoho glacier, notes on the flora, birds, and mammals of Jasper Park, by members of the Geological Survey. There is also a paper of a more popular character on birds and animals in vol. x.

Three more items remain to be mentioned in this readable and varied volume: an eloquent justification of 'National Parks,' by Mr. J. B. Harkin, their present Administrator; a paper of great historical interest on a recently discovered journal of David Douglas, fuller and earlier than the one previously known,[3] which undoubtedly throws much 'New Light on Mounts Brown and Hooker,' and on the way in which the well-known estimate of their heights first came into being; and lastly, a 'Bibliography of the Canadian Mountain Region,' in chronological order, beginning with Alexander Mackenzie's 'Voyages,' published in 1801. Valuable already, it will doubtless be rendered more complete as time goes on.

Volume x. (1919) may be more briefly disposed of. Mr. Bulyea's story of his camps in the Grand Forks Valley, and Mrs. Warren's paper on 'Byways of Banff,' are pleasantly written, but call for no special comment. Decidedly the most important contribution is Mr. Bridgland's article on Jasper Park, which contains much new topographical and orographical information.[4] Among the illustrations is a striking view of the true Mount Geikie, the peak referred to in 'A.J.' xxviii. 365, and Canadian 'A.J.' vi. 85. It may be worth while to add that Mr. Howard Palmer recently wrote to me: You will be interested to know that we reached the base of this mountain [in August 1919], and that it well justifies all you say of it. I am not aware of a more striking rock peak of this class in Canada. Its north-easterly face rises in an apparently smooth wall, 4330 feet sheer above the meadows, and gives a most forbidding impression to the would-be climber. Fortunately, we were not on conquest bent, having only made a short détour to have a close look at it, but the effort was well rewarded.'

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[2] Captain T. G. Longstaff also speaks very highly of the Atlin Lake District.

[3] See *A.J.* xix. 450, 465.

[4] From a review (p. 105 of vol. x.) of a 'Description of and Guide to Jasper Park,' issued by the Department of the Interior, it appears that the Guide is the outcome of a photographic survey of the central part of the Park, executed by Mr. Bridgland in 1915, and that the topographical portion of it was written by him. For information as to his maps see vol. ix. 165.

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In the scientific section, Mr. Sanson's article on 'Snow,' and 'Animal Life on the Snow,' contains some curious and interesting facts; Mr. Fynn's fine photograph of 'Snow Accumulations' recalls some of the snow-studies of Mr. C. T. Dent, who took a special interest in this branch of Alpine photography. Mr. R. Douglas, Secretary of the Geographic Board of Canada, gives an account of the origin, constitution, and functions of that body, with notes and illustrations of their principles and practice with regard to mountain nomenclature. It is well known that in that sphere the Board has a quite specially difficult and delicate task to perform. 'Slightly over 1000 names [query names of mountains only?] have been approved by the Board since its formation [in 1897]. Of these, 63 per cent. are personal or proper names, 28 per cent. are descriptive names, and 9 per cent. are of Indian origin. The latter are in the main descriptive.' One of the most recent exercises of the power of the Board has been to change the name of Mount Habel in the Yoho region, to Mont des Poilus, in appreciation of the magnificent services of our French allies in the Great War.

A. L. M.

The Playground of the Far East. By Walter Weston. John Murray. 18*s.*

If Englishmen may almost claim to have taught the Swiss the value of their Homeland as a playground for Europe, Mr. Weston has certainly done the same for the Japanese. But when he writes a book on the subject, who is there competent to review it, much less to criticise it?

Mr. Weston deals first with Fuji, the great snow-capped cinder-cone, which possesses scant mountaineering interest, notwithstanding the magnificent picture it makes; but he goes on, in three brilliant chapters, to deal in detail with the exploration of the Southern Alps of Japan, notably with the great peaks of Koshu. Then follow chapters on the Northern Alps. Good maps of both regions make the narrative quite clear, notwithstanding the difficulty of retaining the strange names. There are chapters also on non-mountaineering subjects (such as the parallelism between Modern Japan and Ancient Greece) which are strikingly original.

The book is very well illustrated, and is altogether a somewhat tantalising account of what one would fain were not quite such a far country.

On Alpine Heights and British Crags. By George D. Abraham. (Methuen. 10*s.* 6*d.*)

Mr. Abraham is well known as the great authority on mountaineering in this country. The present book takes the reader to the Dolomites and to the Oberland. The article on the Fünffingerspitze is very readable. There are chapters on 'The Work of the Alpine Guide' and 'How to Climb safely,' but it consists principally of vivid descriptions of work in Cumberland and Wales. The

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chapter on guides appears to be mainly concerned with accidents, which is what these valiant men are mainly concerned in preventing! and do prevent much more than is generally known.[5]

Are a guide's feet 'uniquely pliable,' or does he not rather seek a flat place, however small, to put his foot on?

Mr. Abraham's experiences on the Col de la Brenva with Melchior Anderegg (who, I think, made his last ascent of Mont Blanc in 1893) bear a close resemblance to a similar episode described in ALPINE JOURNAL, xxv. 56.

On p. 108 Mr. Abraham surely maligns Mont Blanc when he says 'a goodly number [of victims] are never seen again.' The incident in the Gabbett accident in 1882 is fantastic (p. 111). The Knubels can hardly be said to have 'wandered on to . . . the cornice' of Lyskamm in 1877, or to have become 'confused' (p. 112). What they did was to underestimate the overhang of the cornice, as may happen, and has happened, to men as good as even Niklaus and P. J. Knubel were.

There have been splendid guides in other centres than those mentioned, such as the Maquignaz in Val Tournanche, the Reys and Croux in Courmayeur. Rangetiner, Kederbacher, from farther afield, were unsurpassed in their day, and Angelo Dibona in later days has shown his powers singlehanded on the hardest expeditions in Dauphiné.

Mr. Abraham lays due stress on the training advantages offered by Cumberland, Wales, and Scotland.

I certainly do not admit that the 'gloomy side [of mountaineering] is ever persistently present.'

The 'stone couloir' on the Matterhorn has not been used for many years. Accidents in the Wetterhorn couloir have been mainly due to slips or possibly avalanches, not to stone-fall.

I certainly would not say that the dangers of falling into hidden crevasses 'have become exaggerated.' A glacier covered with new snow in brilliant sunshine is as dangerous a place as I know, and getting a man out of a crevasse is always a serious undertaking.

The chapter 'How to Climb safely' merits close attention.

The rest of the book is taken up with British climbing, and Mr. Abraham is there on ground where he has no master and few equals.

The book is well got up. Some of the many plates are very fine. That of the Mönch (opposite p. 158) is absurd.

Altogether a good book, breathing the air of the mountains.

J. P. F.

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[5] The details are not quite accurate. There were *two* survivors of the Burgener accident (p. 98).

Six guides and porters were lost without trace on Mont Blanc in 1870 (p. 103).

Three guides were killed with O. G. Jones (p. 125).

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