

party to a small saddle on the subsidiary ridge, which was crossed at this point into the head of an easy, grassy gully. Ascending this they shortly reached the long summit ridge. Turning now to the left, a short rocky wall of some difficulty led the party to easy, grassy slopes which led up the summit in about $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from camp. A cairn was built, as no traces of a previous ascent could be found. The height of the peak is estimated at approximately 9900 ft., and that of the main 'berg' in its vicinity would appear to vary between 9000 and 11,000 ft. Owing to the position of the peak between Mont aux Sources—including the Towers and the Sentinel on the one hand, and the peaks to the S.E. on the other—it possesses a unique view in both directions, including Cathkin, Champagne Castle, the Saddle, as well as the Cathedral, the 'Mweni Needles and Rokeries, whilst beyond the main Drakensberg ridge, which falls away from the Sentinel, the higher peaks of the Maluti range are also visible. The party was confident that there was no other route of ascent. After a joyous half-hour spent on the summit the descent of the actual peak was accomplished by the route of ascent. From this point a more direct route than that taken during the ascent was followed to camp, the latter being reached at nightfall, in about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the time of leaving the summit.

O. K. W.

VARIOUS EXPEDITIONS.

Mont Blanc Group.

DÔME DE MIAGE, 3688 m. = 12,188 ft.—AIGUILLES DE TRÉLATÊTE, 3911 m. = 12,832 ft. *B.I.K.* Traverse. August 27, 1930. Mr. C. F. Meade, with Pierre Blanc. Party left Refuge Durier on Col de Miage at 03.30; after traversing the 3 peaks of Dôme de Miage, the plateau at the head of the Trélatête Glacier was attained at 06.05 and the N. peak, 3875 m., of Aiguilles de Trélatête at 08.15. From this peak the ridge was followed over the Aiguille Centrale, 3899 m., with its iced but easy rocks to the S. peak, 3911 m., the highest, 09.20 hrs.

At 09.30 the descent was begun direct from 3911 m. down the very steep snow-slopes of the E. face: these would be dangerous probably later in the day. The party then continued across the same slope under the central peak (3899 m.) till its N. base was attained. Here the route followed during the ascent was resumed over the N. peak and down to the Trélatête Glacier, arriving at the Pavillon de Trélatête at 14.30.

This variation, omitting the central peak either in the ascent or descent, enables one to make the traverse of the 3 peaks complete.

C. F. M.

Pennines.

DENT BLANCHE, 4364 m. = 14,318 ft. By the E. arête, attained from the S. July 10, 1930. Mr. T. Graham Brown, with Alexander Graven. The party left the Schönbühl hut at 02.00; reached the Col de Zinal at 04.50; and the summit of Dent Blanche at 12.00—with halts amounting to 1 hr. on the way. The summit was left at 12.20; a descent by the ordinary way led to the Schönbühl hut again at 17.35, with 25 mins. halts on the way. We left the Schönbühl hut at 18.15, and reached Zermatt at 20.25.

The snow conditions on the E. arête so comparatively early in a snowy season made it one of the hardest and most interesting climbs in the district. Snow corniches were met immediately above the first gendarme above the Col de Zinal, and continued throughout the arête. Many of the double corniches encountered seem to have their origin in the snow breaking away from close under the ridge, and at one place in its higher part the ridge presented an extraordinary appearance—like a row of séracs in line.

DENT D'HÉRENS, 4180 m. = 13,715 ft. By the W.N.W. face.¹ July 30, 1930. Mr. T. Graham Brown, with Alexander Graven. The party left the Schönbühl hut at 01.55 with the intention of ascending the Dent d'Hérens by the usual route—that up the séracs of the W.N.W. face. The foot of the face was reached at 05.20 under the Tiefenmattenjoch, and left again at 05.35. The ascent was stopped near the top of the séracs by a crevasse and ice wall extending completely across the face, the upper lip of which was at least 50 ft. higher than the lower.

A steep ice couloir, perhaps 570–660 ft. in height, lies between the S. ends of the sérac walls and the W. or Tiefenmatten arête of the Dent d'Hérens. The séracs were descended again nearly to the foot, and then a traverse to the right, S., took the party into the foot of this couloir. A small schrund was crossed, and then the couloir was ascended for about three-fifths of its height. A traverse to rocks on the right was followed by their ascent for perhaps 130–160 ft. The couloir was then re-entered and ascended until an exit was found on the left and above the top of the séracs at about 07.15. The summit was reached at 08.45, 6 hrs. 50 mins. from the Schönbühl hut—some time having been spent in helping a following party.

This route is considerably harder than the ordinary route by the séracs. It has, however, the advantage that it can probably be taken in any year and that it is good and safe when conditions

¹ The now usual route is approximately that taken by Captain V. J. Ryan's party, in the *descent*, in 1906. *Alpes Valaisannes*, ii, 1930, pp. 264–265, particularly recommends it, when snowy, as the best access to the summit from Schönbühl.—*Editor*.

prevent ascent by the ordinary route. The couloir is clearly shown in the photograph in 'A.J.' 26, 410—taken in 1911. In 1930 the second crevasse from the top of the broken part of the face (this broken part occupies the lower half of that illustration) stretched completely across the face. The couloir is steepest in its middle portion, just below the place where the rocks were gained. Its angle there is at least 55°-60°.

T. G. B.

ZINAL-ROTHORN, 4223 m. = 13,855 ft. By the N. arête reached from the E. August 28, 1930. M. E. R. Blanchet, with Kaspar Mooser. This magnificent climb, much more successfully accomplished by the only previous party (August 21, 1907, Messrs. G. W. Young and C. D. Robertson, with Heinrich Pollinger and Josef Knubel, 'A.J.' 23, 649-50), should be attempted under favourable conditions only. We encountered the reverse—fresh snow melting under a blazing sun, continuous stonefall, water streaming over slabs. Towards the end of the wall, instead of pulling out to the left, S., like our predecessors, we were obliged through increased stonefall and despite the late hour to incline a little to the right, N. The N. arête was attained about half-way between the Mountet Shoulder and the summit, the latter being reached at 18.00 hrs.

The impossibility of approaching the great couloir, even for a moment, as well as having to shelter continuously from falling stones, wasted much precious time.

E. R. B.

[We presume that M. Blanchet intends to strike a note of warning!—*Editor.*]

BREITHORN. Point 4148 m. = 13,539 ft. By the N. arête ('Klein Triftje' or *Younggrat*). August 30, 1930. Messrs. Alfred Zürcher and T. Graham Brown, with Joseph Knubel and Alexander Graven.

[The second *complete* ascent of this arête is said to have been made in 1929 by Dr. von Kehl. An attempt in 1928 ended fatally, 'A.J.' 40, 423-24.]

The present party left the Gandegg hut at 03.00, and crossed the *Triftjegrat* a little S. of point 3253 m. The Breithorn Glacier was reached by the descent of an easy couloir and its much crevassed surface traversed to the *Klein Triftjegrat*, which was reached at 05.55 a little S. of point 3355 m. A steep, lower snow arête runs up from this point to the first of a group of gendarmes. The arête was ascended until, at about 07.05, a small patch of bad snow was encountered. This provided the greatest difficulty met on the climb, and a short horizontal traverse of only twelve steps to a rock on the right, W., slope of the arête occupied 30 mins. of step-cutting in ice from which the snow had to be cleared. Good snow led straight up to the arête again, and the base of the first gendarme was reached at 08.00. The party halted there until 08.20. Excellent

rocks led thence over two smaller gendarmes to the Great Gendarme, the summit of which was reached at 09.20. Above the Great Gendarme, traverses were made first on the right and then on the left below the crest of the arête. An ascent of a rock face on the left of the ridge took the party to the crest again at the foot of the upper and very steep ice and snow arête, some 600–650 ft. in height. This was ascended until its termination against the final rock face of the peak, 10.50. The very steep couloir furrowing the rock face a few yards to the right, W., of the top of the arête was filled with black ice. This was traversed to the right, W., to rocks, and the short remaining ascent was made by rocks and snow, the summit being reached at 11.35—8½ hrs. from the hut, including 70 mins. halts. The summit was left again at 12.20, and the descent was made by the Verra Glacier and the Schwarzthor through very deep and soft snow, Roten Boden being reached at 15.30 after several short halts.

The snow on both the lower and upper arêtes was rather soft, and the greatest difficulty in the climb was the more or less accidental one provided by the patch of bad snow below the gendarmes. The upper half of the upper snow arête consisted of ice under a very thin covering of loose snow. The party climbed on two separate ropes with mutual aid during the traverse of the final couloir. The chief difficulty presented by the climb under normal circumstances is apparently the traverse of the final couloir. If this is taken *at the level* of the lowest rock on its right, E., bank, the leader can reach the rocks on the other side within a rope's length of 100 ft. He there gains secure anchorage, and can be safeguarded to a certain extent during the traverse itself by passing the rope over the nearer rocks. This traverse was ably led by Graven. The victims of 1928 apparently attempted to traverse about 100 ft. *below* these rocks, where it is not possible for the leader to reach the opposite bank within one rope's length. The patch of bad snow on the lower snow arête presented very great difficulty but no danger; and the route is a perfectly safe and legitimate one.

MONTE ROSA, ETC. Nordend to Breuiljoch. August 1 and 2, 1930. Mr. T. Graham Brown, with Alexander Graven.

[Our original intention was to climb the Nordend and reach the Margherita hut, and on the following day to traverse the Lyskamm, Castor, and Pollux; and then to descend to Zermatt, after perhaps ascending the Breithorn.]

The party left the Bétemps hut at 04.10 on August 1, and reached the summit of the Nordend at 09.20 by the ordinary way from the Silbersattel. A return to the Silbersattel was followed by an ascent of the Dufourspitze at 11.15, over the terminal end of the summit ridge, the Grenzgipfel and the Ostspitze. The Signalkuppe was reached at 13.45, over the Zumsteinspitze, in 9 hrs. 35 mins. from the hut, including 2 hrs. 10 mins. halts.

The night was spent at the Margherita hut, left next morning at 04.35. The Parrotspitze and Ludwigshöhe were traversed to the Lysjoch, reached at 05.55. The E. summit of Lyskamm was reached at 07.10, and the W. summit at 07.55, the party arriving at the Felikjoch at 08.45, with 30 mins. halts during the traverse of Lyskamm. The small Felikhorn was traversed to Castor, the summit of which was reached at 09.35. Pollux was reached at 10.55, and the summit of Breithorn at 13.50 from the Breithornpass. The Klein Matterhorn was ascended on the way to the Theodulpass, reached at 15.40. The extremely good snow conditions having permitted good progress, it was decided to continue along the frontier ridge as far as the Breuiljoch. The Theodulpass was left at 16.20, and the farther W. point (3362 m.) on the Furgggrat was reached at 18.25 over the Theodul and Furgghörner. The descent was made on to the Furgg Glacier; the Schwarzsee Hôtel was reached at 20.00, left again at 20.15, and Zermatt was reached at 21.25—16 hrs. 50 mins. (including 2 hrs. 5 mins. halts) from the Margherita hut.

The ascent of Pollux was made by the S. face up a rib of rock about midway between the E. and S.W. arêtes, the summit ridge being reached, by a short snow couloir and slope, about half-way between the summit and the uppermost rocks of the S.W. arête. This proved to be a good and quick line of ascent, but of no particular interest.

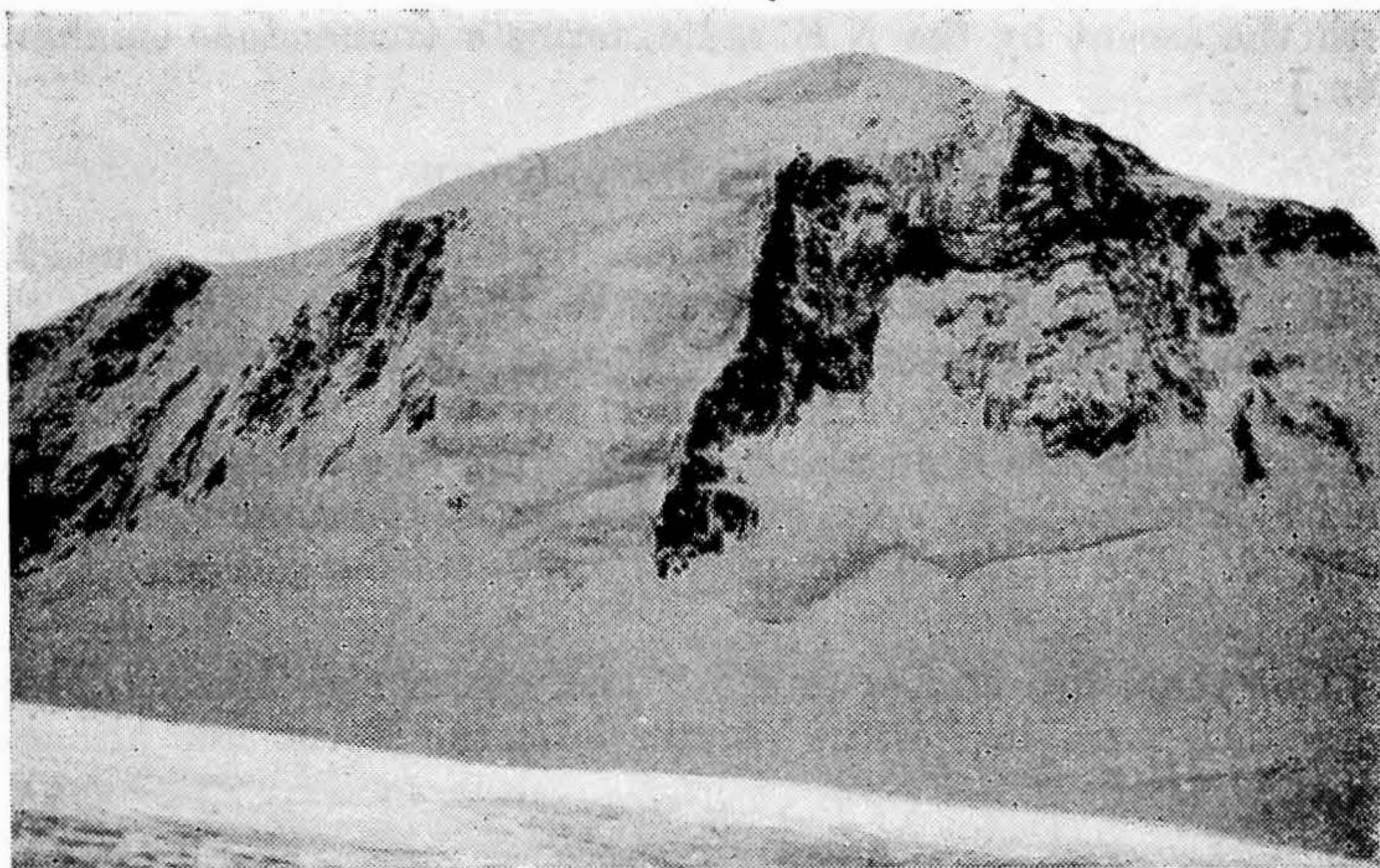
T. G. B.

ALPHUBEL, 4207 m. = 13,803 ft. By the W. face reached from N. branch of Weingarten Glacier. August 2, 1930. M. E. R. Blanchet, with Kaspar Mooser.

[The N. branch of the Weingarten Glacier is bounded on the E. by the Mischabeljoch. On the *S. map*, rather inaccurate in detail as regards the Alphubel, the sérac-composed wall, towering above and to the S. of this branch, is barely noticeable. Draw two straight lines, one perpendicularly from the 8 of the figures 3856 and the other to prolong horizontally the word *Weingarten*; at the point of intersection of these lines is situated the sérac wall. Bounded to the E. by the N. arête of the Alphubel coming from the Mischabeljoch, this face or wall is about 1000 ft. in height. From the base of the slope to the bergschrund the angle is not excessive, but just above the schrund an ice wall, some 120 ft. in height and *quite* vertical, constitutes the key to the position. After the wall the slope measures some 45°; the point of junction of the slope with the great summit plateau forms another vertical ice wall some 80 ft. high.]

From the Täschalp follow the route of the Mischabeljoch, bearing subsequently rather to the right, S.E. Wearing crampons, we reached and crossed the easy bergschrund and attained the foot of the lower ice wall. To climb this wall, rising at a right angle with our course, took no less than 3 hrs. 20 mins. of step-cutting. Progress had to be made in a spiral, thus increasing the vertical distance to

be cut. Mooser cut enormous steps a yard apart, as well as deep handholds; moreover, he had to slice off great slabs to make room for our left shoulders. After 1 hr.'s labour Mooser's axe broke, and I had to hand over my veteran ('Andenmatten') weapon, which nevertheless did the needful. Above the wall we encountered excellent snow, which led almost uninterruptedly upwards between



Photo, E. R. Blanchet.]

ALPHUBEL, W. FACE.

1930 route lies between the two tracings.

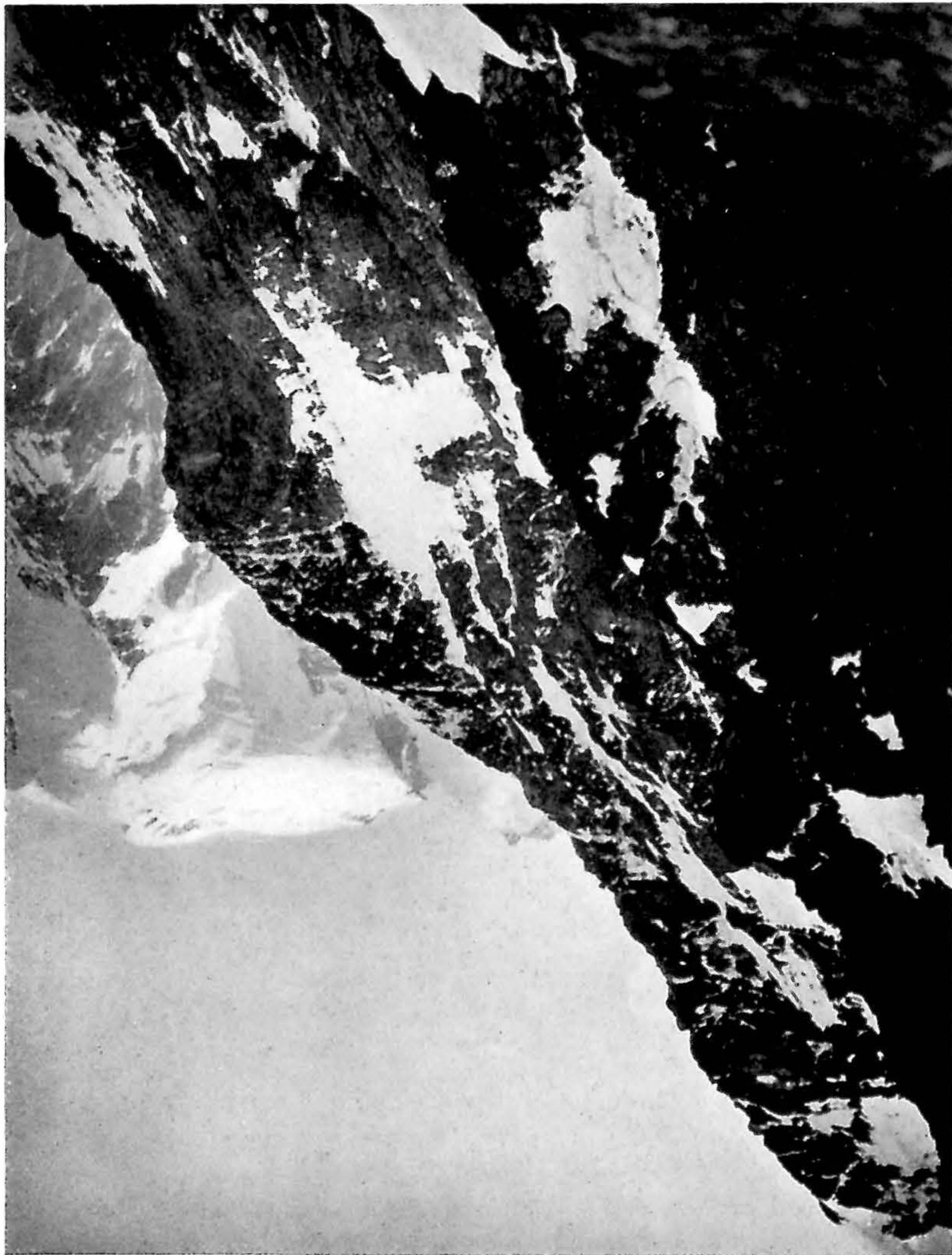
two lines of séracs. We mounted very quickly, crossing two easy crevasses. The upper and quite vertical ice-wall was turned to the left by a diagonal ledge. Having attained the great summit plateau, we got lost in thick fog, but a short clearance enabled us to find the S.W. ridge leading to the Alphubeljoch, which was descended in thick fog and rain to the Wand Glacier and Täschalp and thence to Zermatt.

E. R. B.

Bernese Oberland.

JUNGFRAU, 4166 m. = 13,669 ft. By the N.E. arête and W. flank, *Rotbrettgrat*. September 4-5, 1930. Herr Ernst Gertsch, with Hans Schlunegger. Party left Jungfrauoch early on September 4, reaching the summit of Jungfrau about 13.00 hrs. The difficulties of the N.E. arête were great and there was much snow and ice; its ascent took 8 hrs. Leaving the summit at 14.00, they descended to the Silberlücke, whence they traversed the so-called Goldenhorn, descending thence by the *Rotbrettgrat*. Somewhere about where the said ridge—behind the Schwarzmönch—falls vertically, the party bivouacked at about 18.00 hrs. on a rock ledge at about 3200 m.

Photo, W. H. Amstutz.
ROTBRETTGRAT from 'Hornby and Philpott' Route.



On the following morning they descended to the Rotbrettlücke behind the Schwarzmönch, encountering serious danger from stone-fall in the main couloir, which compelled them to shelter for 1 hr., after which the remainder of the descent was accomplished with difficulty. No times given, but the entire day was required.—
From *Sport*.

[This is, we believe, the first descent of the *Rotbrettgrat*, and, with the ascent by the N.E. arête, forms a tremendous combination.]

Bernina (W. Wing) Group.

CIMA DI ROSSO, 3368 m. = 11,048 ft. By the N.W. face. June 22, 1930. Count A. Bonacossa and Dr. W. H. Amstutz. We left the Forno hut at 01.45, attaining the base of the N.W. face at 03.45. We then cut up a kind of gully in the icy slopes of that face, then the very steep face itself about half-way up, or a little higher, and then took to the rocky ridge (08.40) leading to the summit, attained at 12.15. The ascent of the gully is somewhat dangerous.

W. H. A.

[This route lies farther to the E., *i.e.* nearer the Vazzeda-Rosso watershed, than the 'direct' routes from the Forno hut hitherto taken.]

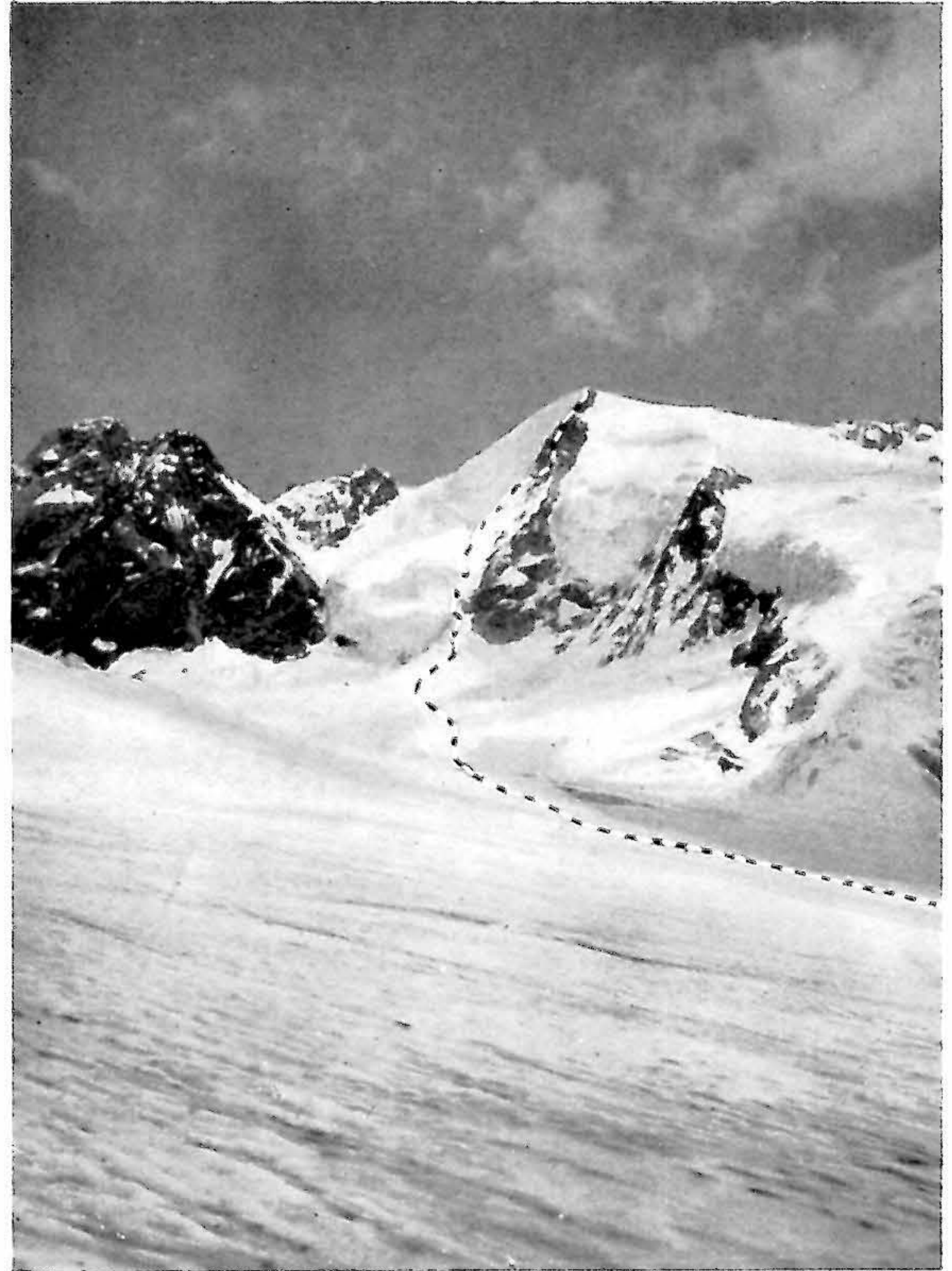
Central Group.

PIZ SCERSCEN, 3967 m. = 13,016 ft. By the N. face.² August 19, 1930. Messrs. A. Zürcher and T. Graham Brown, with Joseph Knubel and Alexander Graven. The party left the Tschierva hut at 05.10, ascended the Tschierva Glacier to the N.E. of Piz Umor, and reached the edge of the snow crest connecting the latter small peak and the projecting base of the N. face of Piz Scerscen, at 07.35. The very prominent bulge was then followed over good rocks to the base of the 'ice-nose,' attained at 08.30. A short slope of snow led up from the top of the rocks until it merged in a steeper slope of ice, above which again was a very steep and almost unbroken ice cliff. The top of this was about 215 ft. above the foot of the ice-slope, and its steepest upper part was probably more than 165 ft. in height. There was an ice chimney in the face of the cliff a little to the right. Graven, who led with great ability, cut at first direct up and then to the right to the foot of the ice chimney. This traverse was over ice the angle of which we estimated at nearly 80°, and steps 3 ft. deep had to be cut. The ice chimney proved to be impossible of ascent, and

² During the last few years this route, the original line of ascent from the Swiss side, has come again into its own. The variations, formerly taken to the W. and E. of it (*Climbers' Guide*, ii, pp. 74-5), are now probably *both* impossible owing to the gaping bergschrund and dangerous séracs, respectively.—*Editor*.



Photo, W. H. Amstutz.
PIZ QUALIVO (Ferro Orientale),
N. Face, showing 1914 Route.



N. Face of CIMA di ROSSO
with 1930 Route.

an even steeper upward traverse to the left was necessitated to a shallow groove in the face where the angle eased somewhat. Graven reached the top of the ice-nose after $1\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. continuous step-cutting, while the remainder of the party arrived at 11.00, the summit being attained at 12.50, after 40 mins. halt. The summit was left again at 13.05, and the descent made to the Upper Scerscen Glacier, whence an attempt to gain the Marinelli hut was frustrated by a friendly warning of frontier difficulties. The party reascended accordingly to the Marco and Rosa hut by the Sella Crast' Agüzza, where the night was spent.

The condition of the ice-nose varies much from year to year. We found it an unbroken but secure ice-face. The ascent of the nose itself is very exposed and sensational. For the leader, it presents the only serious difficulty on the climb.

PIZ ROSEG, 3942 m. = 12,934 ft. By the N.E. face. August 23, 1930. Messrs. A. Zürcher and T. Graham Brown, with Joseph Knubel and Alexander Graven.

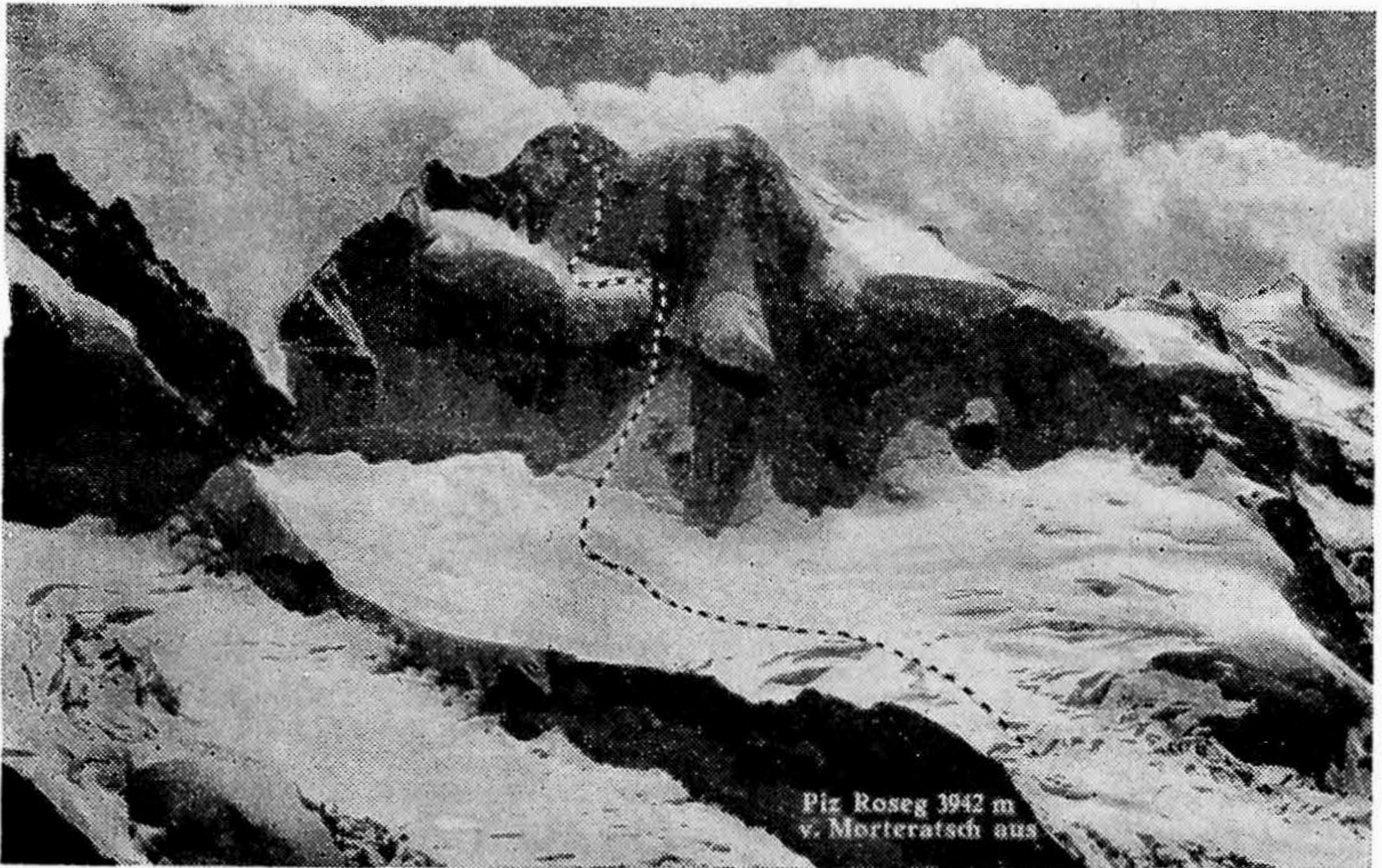
[Piz Roseg was first climbed by its N.E. face by Mr. L. Norman Neruda, with Christian Klucker, on July 16, 1890 ('A.J.' 15, 314, 461), when they ascended the face to the gap between the two main peaks of Piz Roseg, and thence reached the summit by the N.W. arête in a little less than another hour. The face was again climbed by Herren von Tscharnner and S. Schönenberger in 1924 (*Die Alpen*, 1925, pp. 181-82).]

One member of the present party with the two guides ascended Piz Roseg on the preceding day by the ordinary route in order to test the condition of the upper part of the N.E. face and examine the ice-cliff immediately under the N.W. peak or *Schneekuppe*. The mountain was then descended by the N. arête and a circuit of the upper Tschierva Glacier was made under the N.E. face to examine the lower part of that face. The glacier is much broken near the base of Piz Umor, but the track thus made enabled the party on the following day to reach the foot of the face by lantern-light and probably saved at least 1 hr.

The party left the Tschierva hut at 02.10 on August 23, reaching a point close under the N.E. face of Piz Roseg at 05.10, where a halt was made for 10 mins. The height of the face appears to be about 2000-2100 ft.—almost the same as that of the W. face of Piz Bernina. Its lower two-thirds are occupied by a steep rock-mingled ice-slope and two high ice-cliffs stretching across the whole face with the exception of a gap between them. This gap appears to be in a direct line beneath the N.W. peak. The party, climbing on two separate ropes, crossed the bergschrund and ascended the very steep snow and ice slopes in the gap. An endeavour was made to keep as much in the centre of the gap as possible, but the conditions and the lie of some exposed rocks forced the party towards the left-hand, S.E., ice-cliff, between which and the line of ascent

lay a very steep ice-couloir. When the level of the sloping shelf above the left-hand ice-cliff was reached at about 1000–1150 ft. above the bergschrund, a difficult traverse was made to the left across very steep ice and on to this shelf. Mr. Norman Neruda's line of ascent ran from the near, N.W., end of this ice-shelf directly up to the gap between the two peaks (see marked illustration, 'A.J.' 15, 471). The present party traversed the ice-shelf farther to the left, S.E., to a point nearly in a direct line underneath the summit. There is a crevasse immediately above the shelf, and the face rises above this for about 900–1000 ft. in one steep, smooth slope to the summit. The crevasse was crossed at 07.10 and the

Ice-nose of P. SCERSCEN



PIZ ROSEG, N.E. FACE, WITH 1930 ROUTE.

direct upward line of ascent took the party up past the N.W. ends of two upper ice-cliffs on the left. The condition of the snow was at first good, but ice was met about 165–200 ft. below the level of the upper of those ice-cliffs, and the remainder of the ascent was made up a hard and bare surface. A small crevasse, the N.W. continuation of the upper ice-cliff, was crossed; and then the line of ascent was slightly to the right towards a small rocky outcrop just under the summit ridge. This was reached and a few feet of good snow led to the N.W. end of the level summit ridge, whence a short horizontal walk brought the party to the summit at 09.00, or 6 hrs. 50 mins. from the Tschierva hut, including 35 mins. halts. The summit was left again at 10.00, and a descent was made by the N. arête, the Tschierva hut being reached at 12.45, a total expedition of 10 hrs. 35 mins., including 2 hrs. halts.

The climb is one of very great interest, and the whole of the

upper part of the face above the ice-shelf, perhaps some 1000 ft. high, is exceptionally exposed, while its angle is severe. The steepest part of our ascent was in the lower part and the face immediately below the ice-shelf. There was, however, little variation in the general angle. The condition of the snow, where encountered, was excellent.

PIZ BERNINA, 4055 m. = 13,304 ft. By the W. face *direct* from the Tschierva Glacier. August 18, 1930. Messrs. Alfred Zürcher and T. Graham Brown, with Joseph Knubel and Alexander Graven.

[The two parties of August 26, 1880 (Mr. Benjamin Wainewright ; Prof. Minnigerode and Dr. and Frau Tauscher-Geduly—'A.J.' 10, 100), ascended on the N. edge of this face and partly by the rocks of the W. rib of Pizzo Bianco to the gendarme S. of the gap between that peak and Piz Bernina (*i.e.* just S. of the *Berninascharte*); and thence attained the summit of Piz Bernina by its N. arête.³ Dr. Güssfeldt approximately repeated this climb on September 18, 1884, as far as the *Berninascharte*, whence he descended over Pizzo Bianco. On August 12, 1885, Mr. W. Williams ascended this face, apparently on its S. edge or by the couloir to its S., to the gap between Piz Scerscen and Piz Bernina (Fuorcla Scerscen-Bernina), and thence reached the latter peak in 1¼ hr. more by the 'Shoulder' and its S.W. arête ('A.J.' 12, 127). The routes followed by these parties avoid the steep rock face above the ice-slopes by gaining the long summit ridge near the gaps on the N. and S. respectively ; and the very steep upper part of the ice-slope is probably also avoided partially or wholly. The face itself consists in a very steep slope of ice broken by ice-cliffs and traversed in its upper part by two crevasses, one some distance below the other. The ice terminates above at the foot of the wide rock rampart forming the summit ridge of Piz Bernina from the *Scharte* on the N. nearly to the Fuorcla Scerscen-Bernina on the S. A very steep rock rib plunges direct from the summit of Piz Bernina into the ice-slope.]

The present party, having made a careful examination of the face from close beneath it on August 14, left the Tschierva hut on August 18, at 03.00. The foot of the face, which appears to be about 2000–2100 ft. in height, was reached at 06.25. A high and sheer ice-cliff prevents (in 1930 : great variations occur in the ice formations) direct upward access to the face in its southern three-quarters, but leaves a passage up in the northern quarter of the face. The party, climbing on two separate ropes, crossed the bergschrund at two different places under the N. quarter of the ice-face and almost immediately under the *Berninascharte*. Good snow was encountered, but the angle increasing rapidly the face was ascended

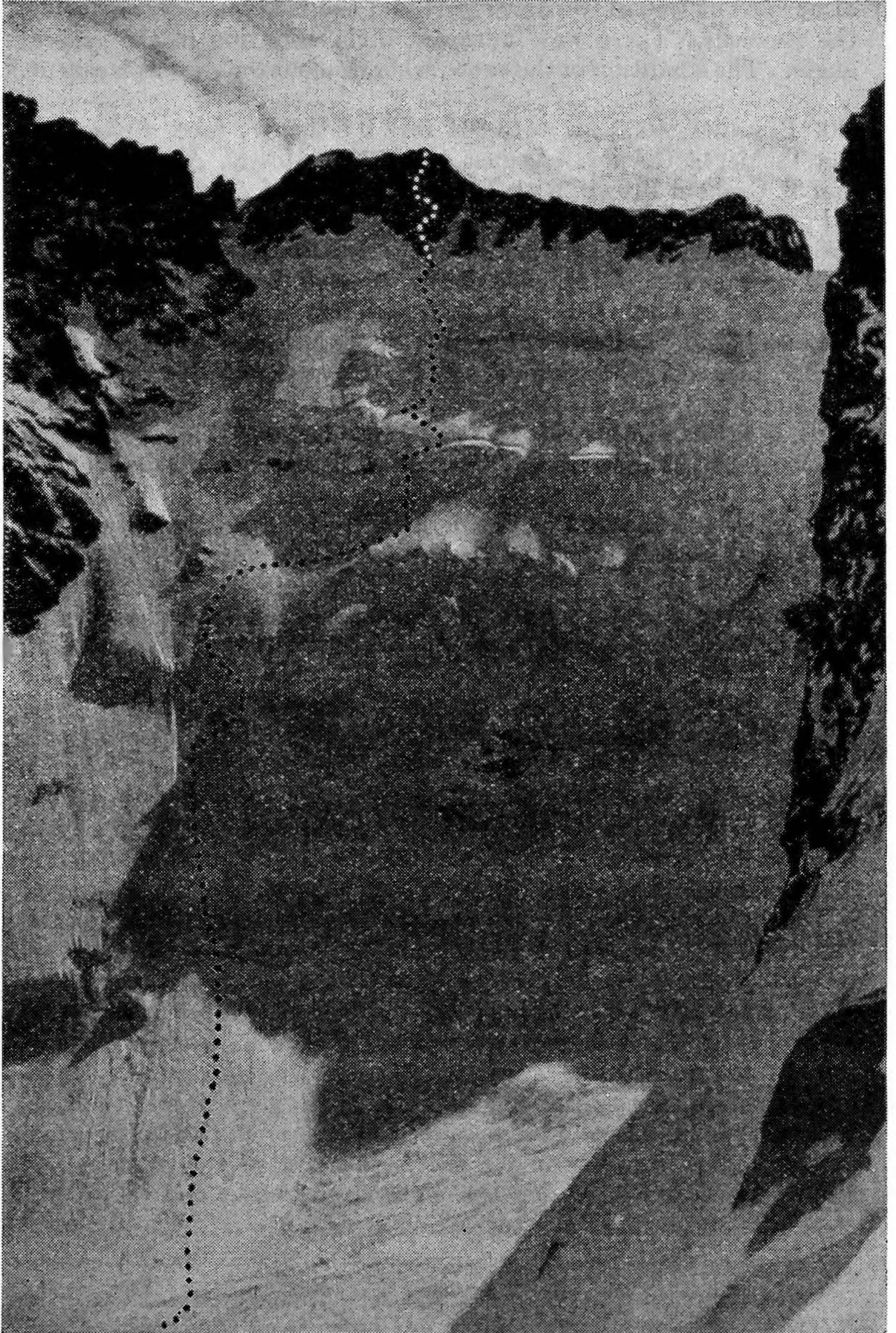
³ The Hungarian party struck the very uppermost portion of the N. arête. The route was pointed out to us from the surface of the Tschierva Glacier, by Aloïs Pinggera, one of the guides of the 1880 party.—*Editor*.

BERNINASCARTE

:

FUORCLA
SCERSCEN-BERNINA

:

*Photo, T. Graham Brown.]*

W, FACE OF PIZ BERNINA, SHOWING 1930 ROUTE,

in a straight line just N. of the end of the ice-cliff. An upward traverse was made to the right, S., at the level of the top of this cliff, and the sloping shelf above the cliff was gained and traversed until the party had come to a point almost in a direct line below the summit. Here a direct upward ascent was made to the lower of two crevasses which extend far across the face. This crevasse was crossed, and an ascent was made slightly to the left to the base of a small ice-cliff under which the party rested. This place was left at 07.50, and a way was forced direct up the ice-face to the next crevasse, and thereafter to the lowest rocks of the rib descending from the summit. The face becomes progressively steeper during the ascent, and the highest ice-slope—between the upper crevasse and the rocks—is the steepest. Its angle certainly exceeds 55° , and appears steeper than the steepest part of the N.E. face of Piz Roseg. The rocks were reached at 08.10 and crampons taken off. The height of the rocks cannot be much more than 330–400 ft., but they are very steep, and actually overhang below the summit. There are, however, many holds. An upward traverse to the right was followed by one to the left, by which a steep and ill-defined rib was gained. This led up to the foot of an ice-filled chimney. After a few feet of ascent, in which the ice of the chimney was straddled on bad rock, the wall on the left, S., was climbed on to a steep rock rib upon the upper end of which was the summit signal. This was reached at 09.00, in 6 hrs. from the Tschierva hut (including 50 mins. halts). The summit was left again at 10.15, and the Tschierva hut was reached at 16.00 over Pizzo Bianco and the *Biancogrät*—the whole expedition having occupied 13 hrs., including 3 hrs. halts.

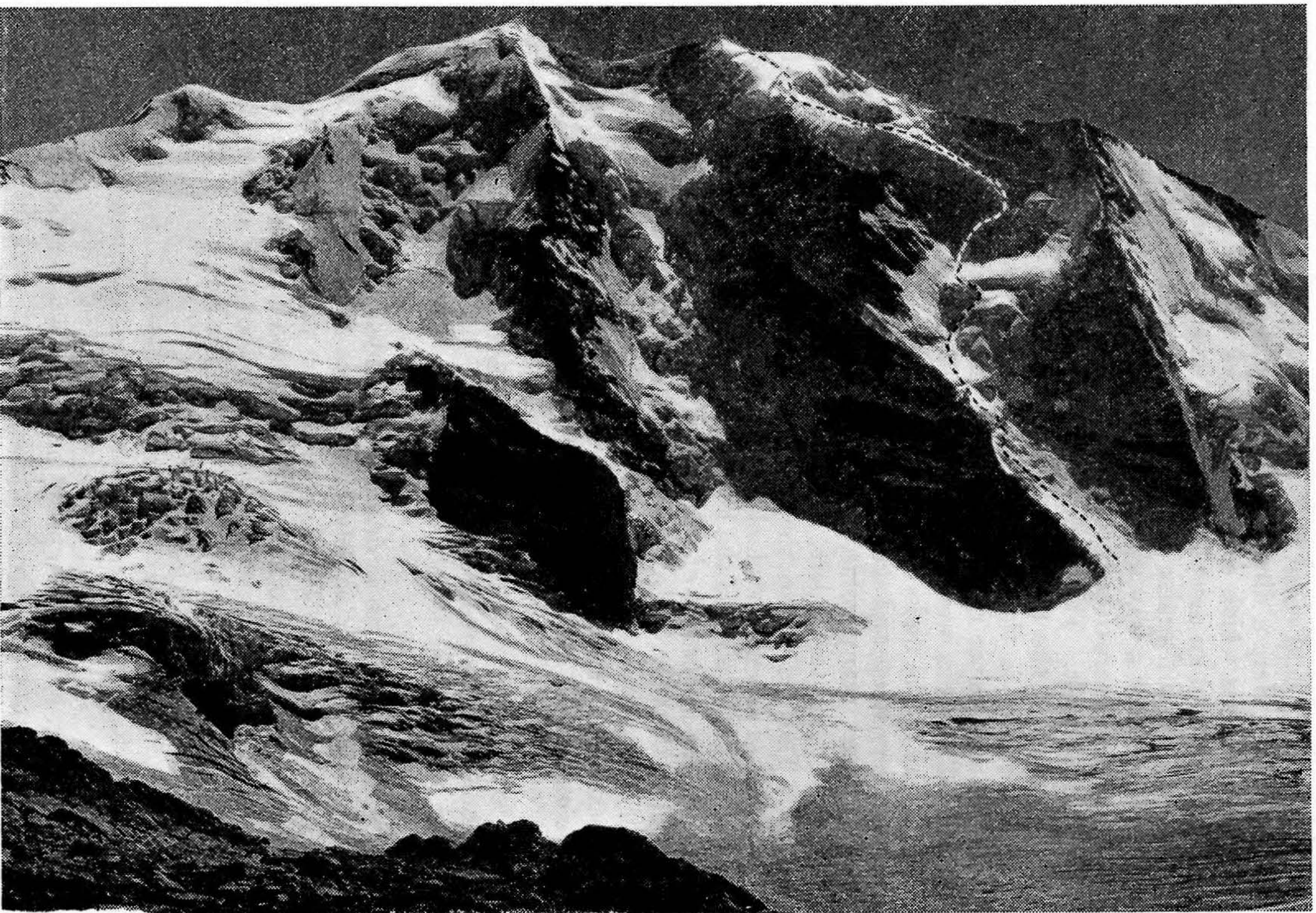
The conditions for the ascent were almost as good as they could have been. The snow was generally in excellent condition, but lay thinly on the uppermost part of the slope, in the ice of which steps had to be cut. The lower part of the slope below the traverse also involved step-cutting. The rocks are steep, but afford many holds; the finish of the climb is dramatic and ideal. Under similar conditions, this route is strictly comparable to the N.E. face of Piz Roseg, and might be found even harder under equally bad conditions—*e.g.* much bare ice. The Siegfried map gives the average angle of the whole face at about 55° , or about 10° steeper than the corresponding angle for the N.E. face of Piz Roseg. T. G. B.

PIZ PALÜ, Central Peak, 3912 m. = 12,834 ft. By the N. face. September 2, 1930. Herr F. Devantay, with Simon Rähmi⁴ and J. Götte.

[From each of the three peaks of Piz Palü a very steep rocky rib plunges northwards to the Pers Glacier; each peak has occasionally

⁴ This excellent guide, breaking happily away from Pontresina traditions, has accomplished much good work as leader *throughout* the Alps.—*Editor.*

been ascended by its own particular rib or arête. Finding conditions perfect, the party of September 2 mounted the very steep icefall



Photo, Pedrutt.]

PIZ PALÜ, N. FACE, SHOWING 1930 ROUTE.

and broken séracs of the face to the W. of the central rib, the so-called *Bumillergrat*. The climb was accomplished entirely in shade and no falls of ice whatever occurred.]

The first party, leaving the Diavolezza inn at 03.00, attained the bergschrund at 05.00. Thence they forced their way up and through the formidable icefall, overcoming three precipitous steps in the sérac wall, till they debouched on the upper glacier shelf, whence very steep ice leads to the summit, 10.20.

The party describe their route as one of great beauty and interest, but also as one that can seldom be reasonably attempted.

E. Wing Group.

CORNO DI CAMPO, 3234 m. = 10,610 ft., *S. map.* By the S.E. arête and face. September 5, 1930. Count Aldo Bonacossa and Colonel E. L. Strutt. From Campo Alto, 2069 m. (dep. 06.00), in Valle di Campo (Val Viola), bear N. to commencement of long S.E. arête. Over steep grass, débris, and lastly S. slope of rocky crest attain a great gap. Steep and lofty gendarme here confronted party which turned its lower slabs—these could be climbed—by a *descent* and traverse to the N. Main S.E. arête regained at another and much higher gap. Then either by serrated ridge, or its S. slope, over shattered rocks to junction of N.E. and S.E. arêtes, whence the top is soon attained, 11.55. Descent at 13.00 due N. (and *immediately* below summit) over awkward rocks to the very icy Paradisino Glacier; thence down that glacier, bearing W., finally its very steep moraine, to the Passo Val Mera (Livigno) track and down Val Mera to Campo Alto, arriving at 15.55 hrs.

Very interesting expedition, but much rotten rock.

Drakensberg (South Africa).

INTABA ENDANYAZANA.—The second ascent was made, July 4, 1930, from the Natal Mountain Club camp, by the Misses Hiscock, Hislop, M. Frazer, P. Frazer, B. M. Evans, Frank, Theobald, and J. Simkin, and Messrs. H. A. Liddle, H. Williams, W. E. Marriott, L. B. Ripley, and O. K. Williamson. The same route was followed as that taken on the first ascent, and great credit is due to the first party for working it out. A direct route was followed to the peak. The chimney up the rocky wall was about 70 ft. in height, and great care was needed owing to loose rocks. Above this the steep grassy slopes of the gully exhibited patches of snow, necessitating great care. A furious and very cold intermittent wind precluded more than a few minutes' enjoyment of the fascinating summit view. The actual time of the expedition, exclusive of halts, was approximately 8 hrs., of which about 1½ hrs. were consumed in the ascent and descent of the actual peak. The height of the peak above the foot of the rocky wall, at which point the actual climbing begins, is estimated at about 400 ft. The weather, apart from the wind, was perfect.

MONT AUX SOURCES PLATEAU—Direct ascent from head of Sinyati Valley, July 7, 1930. The Misses Hiscock, Hislop, M. Frazer,

P. Frazer, Frank, J. Simkin, Douglas, and Crosby-Spratt, and Messrs. H. A. Liddle, W. E. Marriott, L. B. Ripley, J. L. Simkin, and O. K. Williamson. The first ascent to the gap between the Inner Tower and the main Drakensberg had been made by a party led by Mr. Topp a few days previously. The route from this point to the plateau had been followed in a previous year on the descent by Mr. H. A. Liddle in the course of an ascent of the Inner Tower. Thus our route, although it had not previously been used as a means of ascent of Mont aux Sources, was not new in its component parts. Having left the camp about 8 A.M. the party followed the bed of the main stream. Some 2 hrs. up the valley the direction which had previously been more or less W. bends to a more northerly course, the rock scenery being magnificent. After a time the walls of the valley closed in to form a gully, enclosed by precipitous rocky walls. The gully steepened and some ice was met with. The last 200 ft. or so consisted of grass interspersed with a few rocks, and the party thus reached the narrow gap between the Inner Tower and the edge of the plateau at about 1.30 P.M. A steep chimney on the true right of the gully starting a few feet below the gap was now climbed. It was about 60 ft. high, not difficult, but contained some loose rocks. A slightly ascending traverse to the left with an awkward ledge on it brought the party to a series of steep and easy gullies, containing, however, many discreditably loose rocks and rising about 200 ft. : these led up to the Mont aux Sources plateau at a point (about 2.30 P.M.) where this rises in a S.W. direction about 400 ft. to the top of Mount Amery.⁵ Turning to the left the easy slopes of this were ascended to the summit of Mount Amery, reached just before 3 P.M., where a bonfire was made. After a night spent in the excellent new hut on the Mont aux Sources plateau, the descent to camp from the plateau was made on July 8 by the route of ascent. Perfect weather was experienced on both days, a little snow being met with in the gully.

O. K. W.

ALPINE NOTES.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY :	Date of Election
Browne, The Rt. Rev. Bishop G. F.	1864
Hoare, H. Seymour	1873
Jose, T. P. H.	1877
Layton, E. J.	1877
Carr, Ellis	1888
Dixon, H. B.	1894
Hope, R. P.	1899
Wollaston, A. F. R.	1903

⁵ *A.J.* 40, 110.