

IN MEMORIAM

CYRIL BAILEY

1871-1957

CYRIL BAILEY died on December 5, 1957; he was in his eighty-seventh year. Few scholars equalling him in distinction, modesty and humanity have been among our members. As a Fellow and Classics tutor of Balliol, he was to several generations of undergraduates the outstanding influence of their Oxford days. One, now a prominent scholastic figure, has written: 'For undergraduates at Balliol, the Oxford of our time was focused in him; its liberalism, its earnest sympathy, its inspiration.' To a wider public in Britain and abroad he was known as one of the great classicists of his generation and one of Oxford's most distinguished Public Orators. But to him men were more important than scholarship; throughout his long retirement he was rewarded by the continuing devotion of those he had known as undergraduates or of friends more recently gained.

Dons, particularly classical dons, are often regarded as narrow in their outlook and disinterested in the world's practical affairs. This description was never less applicable to any man. Often in his last years he deplored the misfortune that his education had not fitted him to talk intelligently with scientists. He had in fact little need for this regret; his interest in all human activities gave him a quite unusual capacity to make contact with his companions on any subject, causing them in retrospect to be surprised at the extent to which they had discussed their own subjects in interested and discerning company.

A love of mountains came to him from his father, one of the early members of the Alpine Club, and to the end the recollection of mountains, reading and talking of them, remained a source of intense pleasure. The triumph of John Hunt's Everest expedition delighted him—both because of their achievement and the spirit of the team. Although he had not climbed, and then but modestly, since many of the day's most prominent climbers were born, he had a 'modern' outlook. Crampons had been suspect, pitons anathema to many of his contemporaries, but though he had met only a few of the new generation he had read their articles or their books, and this led him increasingly to admire and approve their methods.

Details of Cyril Bailey's alpine record are, of intention, excluded from this memoir. At the summer meeting of 1938 he addressed the Club, choosing 'The Treasures of the Humble' as the title of his paper.

His reminiscences of his climbing, which started in 1891, were so filled with humour, and with the recollection of intense enjoyment, gained mainly on the lesser peaks of the Valais, that any attempt to retell them would be unwise, to use no stronger term. As in his scholarship, enjoyment came through the appreciation of beauty, through the realisation that enjoyment is a product of one's own exertions, above all through friendships. . . . 'There are two things that knit man to man more than any others ; one is to have been on the same rope on a good climb, the other to have sung the choruses of the B minor Mass side by side.' For music was another great enthusiasm. He had resources denied to a later generation for passing ill weather in the mountains ; with Frank Fletcher, later headmaster of Charterhouse, he rendered the Badminton *Mountaineering* into Latin prose.

It is only regretted that Bailey was so little known to the Club in the last years of his life ; though he could claim that his alpine achievements were negligible, he represented a part of the tradition we commemorated at the Centenary which the future will find most difficult to replace.

Cyril Bailey is survived by his widow, who for over half his life shared greatly in his interests, and by three daughters and a son. To them the Club extends its sympathy.

R. SCOTT RUSSELL.

EDWARD RONALD CULVERWELL

1893-1957

THE death of 'Mickie' Culverwell in May 1957 caused a sad loss to his many friends in the Army and among mountaineers and skiers.

He was born in Belfast in 1893. After education at King Edward VI Grammar School and Clifton College, he went to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, where he was Under-Officer and then Senior Under-Officer, and was awarded the Sword of Honour. In December 1913 he was commissioned in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He went to France in November 1914 as A.D.C., 8th Divisional Artillery. Fifteen months later he joined Z Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, and fought on the Somme, at Vimy, Messines, Passchendaele and Cambrai, gaining the Military Cross. As a field battery commander, he took part in the 1918 retreat and final advance until he was severely wounded in August.

After the war, he was a company commander at the 'Shop' for four years. His recreational interests were wide, and included rugger, hunting and, in later years, yachting, big-game shooting and polo. But

he lost his heart to the mountains when the late W. M. Roberts, then a civilian instructor at the 'Shop', introduced him to climbing. He spent his first season in 1922 with E. E. and W. M. Roberts in the Dauphiné, and in 1923, with W. M. Roberts, N. S. Finzi, J. H. Hollingsworth and others, he climbed several of the larger peaks near Zermatt and Saas Fee, always guideless and sometimes leading. That autumn he was selected by the Everest Committee as second reserve climber, but the opportunity of visiting this mountain in 1924 never materialised.

In 1924, Culverwell went to India and joined the 6th Pack Battery at Rawalpindi. Later that year he was appointed to raise the R.A. Survey Section (India) at Kakul. During long leave in 1928 he travelled widely in Africa and India, and also climbed guideless in the Chamonix district, again with W. M. Roberts and others.

In 1929 he had the opportunity of making an attempt on an unclimbed peak near Tirich Mir, and reached about 20,000 ft., then the highest point attained in that massif. He made some interesting observations on the effects of altitude and wrote a wise little monograph on mountain sickness, a malady from which he had himself suffered in his first alpine season.

He had learned to ski from Ken Hadow near Gulmarg in 1926 and decided to seek some winter mountaineering during his annual leave in 1930-31. After a rather miserable beginning at Langdale, where he sprained an ankle chasing his hat which had blown off on a steep grass slope, he went, not to the Alps, which would have involved currency difficulties at that time, but to Canada, travelling steerage.

The Second World War gave little opportunity to a technical gunner of his age. He took the 63rd Medium Regiment to France in April 1940 and after Dunkirk continued in command for three years, but to his great disappointment was transferred at the age of fifty and not allowed to take it into action again. During the latter part of the war, he served on War Office Selection Boards. After the war he was Director of Labour, Eastern Command, and on his retirement in 1949 joined the Civil Defence Corps, in which he became a Chief Warden.

After the war he took an active part in the Association of British Members of the S.A.C. meets in 1947, at Langdale at Easter and at Arolla in the summer. His last real climbing season was a meet of the Association in Arran in March 1948. It ended in a serious accident on Cir Mhor, when he was leading a climb. Although he escaped with his life, he never recovered fully.

Culverwell was a delightful companion and an enthusiastic supporter of mountaineering clubs in which beginners can learn their craft from fellow members. He was an original member (1927) of the Mountain Club of India, which later amalgamated with the Himalayan Club. He joined the Association of British members of the Swiss Alpine Club

in 1930, becoming in due course Vice-President (1948-50) and President (1952-3). He was elected to the Alpine Club in 1929 and the Alpine Ski Club in 1934, and was a member of a large number of other clubs.

Thus to the end, his enthusiasm in helping beginners, and especially young beginners, never flagged. The ideal which he tried to impart was the ability to move surely in the high mountains and to enjoy them.

E. GUETERBOCK.

CROSBY IAN WALLACE FOX

1923-1957

It was an abominable stroke of luck that the first expedition to the Himalayas wholly sponsored by a Club (see *A. J.* 61. 550) should have ended so tragically. Crosby Fox, the leader, and G. B. Spenceley were returning from a survey-reconnaissance of the Phurbi Chyachumbu glacier in the Jugal Himal, when they were overwhelmed by an avalanche—the first to fall for at least a month—from an ice-cliff overhanging the key passage of the glacier. The leader was killed, together with two of the Sherpas, whilst Spenceley was fortunate to escape.

Commencing in 1949, Fox attended the second Alpine Club Training Meet at Meiringen, and afterwards with W. Kelsey at Arolla climbed the Aiguilles Rouges from north to south, L'Evêque, and traversed the south Mitre de l'Evêque, apparently only the third party on the summit in that season. In 1950, again with Kelsey and also David Oxtoby, Fox climbed the Jungfrau from the north-west, a 19½-hour expedition from the Guggi hut, then the Kamm by the Westgrat, the Grünhorn, the Trugberg, the Weissnollen, and the traverse of the Finsteraarhorn. From Chamonix they did the Charmoz-Grépon traverse, and then the Blaitière.

In 1951 he made the following climbs, as always, unguided: Adlerhorn, Strahlhorn, Rimpfischhorn, Zinal Rothorn, Wellenkuppe, Ober Gabelhorn, Dent Blanche, Matterhorn by Zmutt ridge, Tour Noir, traverse of the Chardonnet and Argentière, also Aiguille de Béranger and the Dôme de Miage to the Durier hut. In 1952, the year of his election to the Club, he accomplished the Requin by the Mayer-Dibona route, and the Dent du Géant by the North face, Mont Maudit by the Frontier ridge, Les Droites (traversed), Aiguille Verte by the Moine ridge, Col du Plan (North side), Weisshorn by the North ridge, and other climbs.

With Kelsey again, in 1953, they made the first traverse of the season in bad conditions of the Portjengrat, from the Britannia hut crossed the

Rimpfischhorn to descend by the North ridge to Zermatt. Attempts on a traverse of Mont Blanc were defeated by bad weather (the party had to descend into Italy from the Col de Bionnassay), and a new route on the East ridge of the Caïman had to be abandoned when nearly completed on account of *verglas*, and for the same reason they had to abandon the Mer de Glace face of the Grépon, though Crosby Fox was successful a few days later, having in the meantime climbed the Ryan-Lochmatter route on the Plan.

In 1954, this time with Oxtoby, after a week's training in the Dauphiné, they climbed the Forbes arête of the Chardonnet, and the North face of Les Courtes, and crowned their success with the Brenva route of Mont Blanc. Any ambitions in the following season were snowed off, and on one occasion a descent from the Triolet down one of the cliffs to the Pré de Bar glacier was a desperate affair in which Fox's calmness and solid reliability helped the party to safety.

A man of only thirty-four, with such unusually wide Alpine experience of guideless climbing, combined with a natural ability for advanced planning and organisation, and a likeable companionable nature, Crosby Fox was marked clearly as a future leader of expeditions.

By profession, Crosby was a Master Mariner, being the fourth generation of his family to hold a Merchant Service Master's Certificate. After leaving Glasgow Academy, his early training was at sea, where he served from 1940 onwards as an apprentice until the end of the war. At the time of his death, he was a partner in a firm of Marine Surveyors of Hull.

To Rosalie, his wife of less than a year, and to his parents, we tender condolences at the loss of a fine man with a sincere love of the mountains and the things which go with them.

C. E. ARNISON.

EVELYN REGINALD GIBSON

1892-1957

A STEEP, snow-covered ice gully on Mt. Howson in the northern Coast Range of British Columbia was the scene of an accident on August 18, 1957, which resulted in fatal injuries to 'Rex' Gibson, President of the Alpine Club of Canada. His two companions, though severely injured, were miraculously spared. Rex had joined the Alpine Club in 1950, and was also a member of the American Alpine Club.

He was born and had his schooling in England. From the age of sixteen he had worked in banks, except for the First World War, in which he served with distinction in France. In 1926 he went to Canada and engaged in wheat-farming, twenty miles west of Edmonton, until

the Second World War. The lighter periods of the farmer's year enabled him both to ski in winter and have several weeks for climbing between seeding and harvesting in the summer. In 1930 he joined the Alpine Club of Canada, and in a few years became recognised as probably the leading climber in his adopted country.

His record in the mountains was an impressive one, including something over two hundred ascents, of which at least forty were firsts, and also numerous winter ascents both on and without skis. Even more important was his introduction of many boys and young men to appreciation and love of life in the mountains and sound climbing techniques. As a Scout leader in Edmonton, and at the annual Camps of the A.C.C. in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks, he took great pleasure in helping people to get a proper orientation in the mountains. Before or after the camps he would go off with friends on back-packing expeditions to the more remote spots.

In 1942 he was the Canadian Army representative on the United States Army's Mt. McKinley equipment testing expedition, in 1943 an instructor at the Little Yoho Military Camp, and in the winter of 1943-4 he was chief instructor at the Lovat Scouts' winter training programme in the Columbia Icefields area. From one peak on a clear winter day they could see the six highest peaks in the Canadian Rockies, five of which he had climbed. Among his more ambitious seasons were 1936, when he back-packed into the Mt. Clemenceau area, the Twins and Columbia; 1939, in the Coast Range of British Columbia, where firsts of Mts. Tiedemann (12,900 ft.), Geddes, Hickson, and Whitesaddle were made; and 1947, when, with a party including Smythe and Odell, the remote Lloyd George Mountains in the extreme northern Canadian Rockies were climbed for the first time.

Besides mountaineering, Rex sailed, fished, was good at carpentry, and an expert axeman. He could identify many of the heavenly bodies in the sky at night. He was a man of deep religious feeling, as all who had been present when he conducted the Sunday services at the A.C.C. Camps and had heard his sermons were well aware.

In 1948, in Victoria, he married Ethne Gale, who loved the mountains as he did, and they attended several subsequent A.C.C. skiing and summer climbing camps together. His wife and a young daughter survive him.

The mountains were the ruling passion in Rex Gibson's life. His place in Canadian mountaineering will not soon be filled.

H. S. HALL, JR.

RICHARD BROCKBANK GRAHAM

1893-1957

R. B. GRAHAM, who died on February 12, 1957, after an operation, came of an old Cumberland family and was the son of John William Graham, a leading member of the Society of Friends. He was educated at Friends' schools, at Manchester Grammar School, and at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he read 'Greats'; indeed, he was always a 'Greats man'. He graduated in 1915, and as his father belonged to the more uncompromisingly pacifist section of the Quakers, he spent the war years, during which he was of course a conscientious objector, teaching at Bishop's Stortford College. This had its importance in connection with the Everest expedition of 1924.

But Graham had already decided to devote his life to teaching, a profession in which he reached positions of eminence, becoming, after being a housemaster at Leighton Park Friends' School, successively headmaster of two important northern schools, King Edward VII School, Sheffield, and Bradford Grammar School. He had the sympathetic insight which marks the born teacher and he took a wide view of the responsibilities of a headmaster, organising during the war years agricultural and forestry work among his pupils. Indeed, in his broader understanding of international problems he departed a good deal from the position which he had held in 1914-18.

He was prominent in the movement for promoting National Parks and for the preservation of rural England. He was a member of the Hobhouse Committee whose report led to the National Parks Act, 1948. He was also for a time Chairman of the Friends of the Lake District. Many boys from his schools became imbued with his enthusiasm, and when he took parties of them to the Lake District or to the Scottish Highlands he was always at pains to get the boys interested in the social and economic life of the people, having little patience with the rock-climbing gymnast who treats the local people as mere ministrants to his creature comforts.

Although he gave so much of his life to the activities which I have mentioned, the mountains, and particularly his native Cumbrian hills, meant an enormous amount to Graham. From boyhood he had been in the habit of spending his holidays in the English Lake District and had been a keen hill-walker before he left school. From this he graduated into rock-climbing, particularly in the Lakes, but also in North Wales. But his ambition was fixed upon the High Alps when in 1921 he had his first season with an experienced guideless party in the Pennines during which he climbed, among other peaks, the Nadelhorn, Grand Cornier, and Diablons. In 1922 he invited M. H. Wilson and myself to make up a party with him, and although the weather was very

broken that year we had an enjoyable and successful holiday based on Arolla.

With Joseph Georges le Skieur, among other expeditions we traversed the Dent d'Hérens from the Rifugio d'Aosta to Breuil by the Mont Tabel glacier, an interesting but dangerous route not to be recommended; traversed the Matterhorn on crampons after a day of snow, and traversed the Dent Blanche by the East ridge, a route which at that time had been little used. Among our guideless climbs were the Aiguilles Rouges d'Arolla, Aiguille de la Tsa, Petite Dent de Veisivi, and Mont Blanc de Seilon (with R. L. G. Irving).

In 1923 we planned a similar holiday which was to culminate in an attempt on the North ridge of the Dent Blanche with Joseph Georges. At that time this fine route was the guide's great ambition in life and he was bitterly disappointed when a bad break in the weather forced the party to go home. Before that we had kept ourselves exercised on the Zinal Rothorn (which Graham had already climbed earlier that year) and the Besso. Before meeting Georges we did a number of standard expeditions guideless, such as the Bietschhorn by the North ridge, the Mönch (traversed from south to east), the Jungfrau, Finsteraarhorn, and Dom. We had also failed on the Lauterbrunnen Breithorn from Ried, finding the descent from the Klein Breithorn too difficult in the limited time available; this route defeated many parties. More rewarding was our traverse of the Fiescherhorn-Grünhorn-Grüneckhorn ridge from north to south. This expedition, which was planned and led by Graham, we considered to be the first complete traverse of this fine ridge; the section up the North ridge of the Gross Grünhorn had not previously been done direct. It was certainly one of his finest expeditions and he described it graphically in the *Fell and Rock Club Journal*.

In 1924, which was a particularly bad season, Graham came out late to join me at Chamonix and all we could do was to walk round Mont Blanc; enjoyable enough but a poor termination to our alpine association.

In 1926, guideless with M. H. Wilson and B. R. Goodfellow, he made amends by pulling off an old ambition in the High Level Route from Saas to Argentière, traversing en route, among less notable peaks, the Portjengrat, Lenzspitze, Matterhorn (by the Zmutt ridge), Mont Collon and Pigne d'Arolla (in the same expedition), Grand Combin, and the Aiguille d'Argentière. In 1930, a poor season for weather, he did a number of minor climbs in the Oberland and from Binn with Peter Bicknell; also the Weissmies and Fletschhorn, and in April 1931 he broke new ground with a series of ski-mountaineering expeditions in the Tyrolese Alps during which the Wildspitze, the Hochvernagtspitze, and the Hinter Brunnenkogel were climbed.

The year 1935 found him in Norway, where despite bad weather he

was able to get up several peaks in the Jotunheim and finished by crossing the Jostedalsbrae ice-cap. About this time he did more ski-mountaineering in the Engadine and particularly enjoyed an ascent of Piz Palü under winter conditions. He took up skiing too late in life to develop style but was able to do good expeditions, his great knowledge of snow mountaineering and his strength compensating for his lack of technique.

After the Second World War increasing disability to a knee seriously curtailed his activities, but he had a walking and climbing holiday in the Alps in 1947 and in 1954 and continued to enjoy fell-walking in the Lake District, the Scottish Highlands, and the foothills of the Alps until the time of his death, and occasionally did a short rock climb.

Graham's earlier alpine seasons had shown that he was a mountaineer of exceptional ability with great stamina, and it was natural that he should be invited to join the team selected for the attempt on Everest in 1924. This gave him great pleasure, and it was a bitter disappointment to him when some of the other members indicated that they would prefer not to climb with one who had been a conscientious objector during the war. Although this attitude did not commend itself to others of those selected, Graham felt that harmony was essential to success in such an enterprise and he resigned. The matter gave rise to some controversy in the Press at the time, which he very much deplored.

Graham was undoubtedly a distinguished mountaineer. He had an eye for a route, planned and reconnoitred his expeditions with great care, and carried through his assaults with skill and resolution. He had considerable gifts of leadership, both as a strategist and as a tactician, and was particularly strong on snow and ice. On rock he did not reach quite the same standard, despite his early apprenticeship on British crags. Difficulties always brought out the best in him, and on glazed rocks or coming down unfamiliar ridges in failing light he moved with a poise and assurance which evoked the confidence and admiration of his companions.

Although he appreciated the work of a fine guide like Joseph Georges, and was very ready to learn from him, Graham was essentially a guideless climber and it was to this end that he had developed his quite unusual capacity as a route-finder. There went to build up his success in this *métier* the careful study of earlier expeditions, skilled map-reading, a talent for observation which he had trained over many years, and a sensitive appreciation of the existing conditions during an expedition.

Graham was the best of companions in the mountains, always cheerful, always helpful—how many times has he loaded further his already overloaded sack in order to relieve a flagging comrade?—always under-

standing and ready to make allowances for the irritabilities which are inevitable during difficult guideless expeditions. His mind was alert and searching, so that a walk with him always produced good conversation, or perhaps a pause to consider the habits of some bird, for he was an enthusiastic ornithologist. Indeed, his personality was of a kind which one finds only among mountaineers, and there too rarely.

CHORLEY.

JOHN HERBERT HOLLINGSWORTH

1875-1957

THE LATE J. H. HOLLINGSWORTH was born on May 20, 1875, the son of John McKee Hollingsworth, physician and surgeon, of Felsted, in Essex. He was educated at Felsted School and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he graduated as 21st Wrangler in 1897. He was Assistant Master at Rossall School from 1899 to 1904, when he moved to Harrow, as Assistant Master and later House Master, until his retirement in 1932. At Harrow he did much for the reform of mathematical teaching, at one time heavily opposed by some of the senior members of the staff. During the First World War he served in the Royal Marine Artillery (Captain), winning the D.S.C. and the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

He was elected to the Alpine Club in December, 1905, on the proposal of L. R. Furneaux, seconded by H. L. R. Dent, and he was one of the latter's companions in guideless climbing for many years. Guideless climbing by the British had already come to stay, thanks to the initiative of the Pilkingtons, Mummery, Claude Wilson, Raeburn, Irving and other notable mountaineers; but there was room for climbers of only average abilities to make the practice generally acceptable. H. L. R. Dent's parties, which might include novices, helped to achieve this, though viewed with much disgust by Sir Edward Davidson. They did not aim at novelties or records, and Dent himself used to claim cheerfully that they probably took longer on their climbs than anyone else. Hollingsworth was one of the most regular members of these groups and nearly all his climbing, before and after his election to the Club, was done guideless. Many familiar names occur in his company—S. B. Donkin, W. L. Clarke, Unna, W. G. Adams and W. M. Roberts. Quite late in life, he took up skiing and kept that going till 1953.

An appreciation of Hollingsworth's gifts as a teacher appeared in *The Times* for August 31, 1957.

T. S. B.

EDWARD SEPTIMUS GEORGE DE LA MOTTE

1901-1958

THE loss of Edward de la Motte in a helicopter accident in French Equatorial Africa on January 27, 1958, will be greatly felt by all who knew him : the helicopter appears to have been struck by lightning and to have burst into flames. The large attendance at the memorial service held at St. Margaret's Westminster, on February 26 was impressive testimony to the high regard in which he was widely held. In the Alpine Club, he was, owing to having lived so much abroad, not generally known. He was educated at St. Bees School, Cumberland, and St. John's College, Cambridge, and was by profession a civil engineer. Many of his early years were spent in South America, in the planning and construction of railways in Argentina, Chile, and in Bolivia, where he became Chief Engineer to the Antofagasta-La Paz Railway—a British company. Sailing and mountaineering were his favourite recreations, and it is typical of the man that soon after the outbreak of the Second World War he climbed Illimani (21,000 ft.) in Bolivia, in order to remove from the summit a Nazi flag that flew above a smaller Bolivian flag (*A. J.* 52. 250) ; soon he returned to England and joined the R.N.V.R. Later he transferred to the Royal Marines, where he rose to the rank of captain, and was seconded for special duties. In 1947 and 1948 he took charge of the 1,000-mile pipe-line survey from Abadan to the Mediterranean, an arduous task which he managed with great skill and abounding energy. During the past eight years in West Africa, he completed over 500 miles of railway surveying in very difficult and almost impenetrable forest country, and carried out the building of the Achiasi-Kotoku line, the most important railway link in Ghana. It was in the early stage of a survey, begun in January 1958, for a line in the northern part of the country that he lost his life with four others.

He was elected to the Alpine Club in October 1934, his qualification form including the ascent of Aconcagua in 1928, the first ascent of Lanin in 1933, four attempts on Tronador, as well as two full seasons (1929 and 1934) in the Alps. He described some of his climbs in the Andes in the *ALPINE JOURNAL* (45. 328, and 46. 370), which included, besides that of Illimani, the third ascent of Sajama, 21,400 ft. (*A. J.* 56. 80). It gave him a lot of pleasure to have been able to be at home during the Club's centenary celebrations : he arrived too late for the Dinner, but in good time to see over the exhibition of pictures and to be present at the Reception in Lincoln's Inn.

I met him in 1934 at Zermatt when he was completing a month's tour with his guide Xavier Lochmatter. I learned with great interest of his achievements and soon realised that he was a mountaineer of outstanding strength and fortitude : a deep love for uncommon terrain and

unexplored height inspired his unusual adventures. With Richard Moggridge, then an Oxford undergraduate, we four set out in fair weather over the Breuiljoch, intending to reach the Luigi di Savoia hut that evening and traverse the Matterhorn the next day. Snow began to fall as we set foot on the ascent towards the Tête du Lion. Our climb to the hut was not without incident (two in fact), which revealed Edward de la Motte as a cheerful and undaunted companion, whether in retrieving our right way to the Col du Lion, downwards over steep rocks, after being misled in the fog and thickening snowfall by the footprints of an erring party who had preceded us ; or later—and after nightfall—in rescuing the party, of three young Italians, when we found them crag-fast in the *Cheminée*, unable to move up or down, thus preventing us from using the fixed rope, now iced, for the crucial upper part of the pitch. The whole operation took two hours, involving a brilliant lead by Lochmatter to the right of the fixed rope by the light of a solitary torch. We stumbled up a short snow slope, thankfully groping our way into the hut at 10.40 p.m. That night a blizzard of tragic violence raged (*A. J.* 47. 339). It is typical of Edward that on noticing signs of frostbite on my fingers he instantly went out, returning with a handful of snow, and energetically administered first aid. In my experience few climbers have equalled—and none surpassed—him in these qualities of skill and care for others. He was a man endowed with immense charm and quiet modesty, an active mind and great integrity—so writes another of his friends. The affection and admiration he evoked will always remain with those who knew him, and our sympathy goes out to his wife and young son.

H. W. TURNBULL.

COUNT ALDO BONACOSSA writes :

I met him for the first time in February 1934. The railway from Buenos Aires to S. Carlos de Bariloche at that time ended abruptly in the middle of the Patagonian steppe ; just a mile further on there was a lonely railway carriage. It was the dwelling of the managing director, Edward de la Motte, a gipsy's *roulotte* rather than a house, which moved along as the railway proceeded. We were in search of my companion Matteoda. He had disappeared with another Italian on Tronador, which dominated wonderfully the background of the immense Nahuel Huapì lake (with me there were the not-yet famous Gervasutti and the painter Binaghi, with whom the year before I had climbed, for the first time in the history of mountaineering, the great icy Northern Wall of the Grande Casse in Tarentaise). Our kind host gave us some information about the routes of approach to the mountain, on which he himself had made an attack, which was unsuccessful owing to the impossibility of his leaving the railway for a long time. He gave us tea, and in those

few hours we became friends, as often happens among people who have the same ideals.

As we resumed our journey on a shattered sort of gondola, I saw him standing for a long while on the platform of his carriage waving to us : he was the living symbol of those tenacious, intelligent pioneers who with their work laid the foundations of British influence. At the unforgettable Centenary Reception I was hailed by a man who was there with a lady ; he was de la Motte who claimed he had recognised me by my 'Roman profile'—after twenty-three years ! It was a merry encounter, which ended with a tentative promise on my part to pay him a visit in the Congo where he was going to live, still as a pioneer. And as a pioneer he died.

HENRY JOHN SEDGWICK

1873-1957

HARRY SEDGWICK was born on January 5, 1873, and died on October 14, 1957, in his eighty-fifth year. He was educated at Whitgift School and in 1895 joined the Union Bank of London, which, in 1902, became the Union of London & Smith's Bank, which bank amalgamated in 1918 with the National Provincial Bank. He became Registrar of the National Provincial Bank and subsequently Manager of the Stock Department, and retired in 1938.

Having known Sedgwick for over thirty years and paid many visits with him to Switzerland and climbed with him in pre-war days with his faithful and devoted guide, Joseph Krönig, I should like to record how impressed I have always been with his outstanding love of Switzerland, the Swiss people and the Swiss mountains. Whenever he got over into that country he was a new man and his enthusiasm was boundless. When he was seventy-three years of age, he said to me : ' I want to do another climb : what shall it be ? ' We decided on the Wellenkuppe, and with the guide Theodor Zürniwen we got to the top with its 100-metre snow cap—a good viewpoint for the Ober Gabelhorn traverse and others of his many conquests. That was before the days of the Rothorn hut !

It used to amuse Sedgwick when people asked him if he had ever climbed the Matterhorn. His reply would be, ' Yes, six times—two of which were traverses, one by the Zmutt and one by the Italian ridge. Moreover, two of my daughters, Molly and Kitty, and my late son Phil have also climbed it. Also I have climbed every peak in the ring round Zermatt as seen from Gornergrat, except the Bietschhorn !! ' His daughter Kitty has a record that when her father and she, with Joseph Krönig, climbed the Matterhorn on August 12, 1933, they made the



H. J. SEDGWICK.

ascent from Belvedere in four-and-a-half hours, arriving on the top at about 6.15 a.m., and down to the Belvedere again in three-and-three-quarter hours, lunched at Schwarzsee at 12.30 p.m., and then down to Zermatt.

Sedgwick had done a good deal of climbing in other parts of Switzerland, but Zermatt was a first favourite with him. His wife and members of his family frequently accompanied him on his visits.

He was a popular and well-known character in Switzerland, and I understand he had visited that country no less than fifty-one times—many times in winter, but practically always in summer, excepting of course during the war period. His faithful guide, Joseph, died a few months before our first post-war visit, which was a great disappointment to him. Sedgwick's generous nature was well known and he was very good to Joseph Krönig's widow, invariably going to see her when in Zermatt and always keeping in touch with the two sons, David and Theodor. It was a joy to him that he was able to be present in Zermatt at the Alpine Club Centenary Celebrations in August, to which he had been looking forward very much indeed, and to meet and be welcomed by many old friends again; it is sad, however, that he was not spared to participate in the English part of the celebrations.

Sedgwick had a good sense of humour, and it was always entertaining to hear him recording episodes, humorous and otherwise, of his numerous expeditions, his memory for which never deserted him. There will be many who will remember, too, how he regaled them in the huts or over 'café cognac' with his singing of popular songs with an artistic touch which was just Sedgwick!

An ardent devotee of the Alpine Club, of which he had been a member for thirty-five years, whenever a cause was needing support he was never lacking. He was also a 'gold badge' Veteran of the Swiss Alpine Club and a member of the Ski Club of Great Britain.

Sedgwick had a great affection for the little English church at Zermatt. Amongst other things he arranged, at his own expense, for a rail to be fixed at the sloping path between the Mont Cervin Hotel Tea Gardens and the steps up to the church. This path became slippery after rain and in snowy weather and difficult for elderly people.

The loss of his wife in 1947 was a severe blow to him. His four married daughters, however, have been a great comfort to him in his old age. In later years, deafness, in spite of hearing-aids, was a big handicap to him, but his spirit remained good, and at eighty-four it was stronger than his frame and he was tempted to overdo it. His illness, mercifully, was not a long one.

Harry Sedgwick's death is the passing of a kind-hearted, generous old gentleman whose familiar figure will be much missed by many friends at home and in Switzerland.

It was a special wish of his that his ashes be scattered on the Matterhorn and arrangements for this to be done were made.

E. V. TOWNSEND.

DR. G. N. CARRELL writes:

The years that separated us prevented my sharing a summit with Harry Sedgwick, although for a quarter of a century we did everything with mountains but climb them together; and when we last strolled through the foothills, he in his eighth decade set a pace that I was not anxious to quicken. He was a climber of the older school, who tackled mountains as he tackled his gardening, with energy, competence, infectious zest and well-found professional aid; and the results attained testified to the means. It is a privilege to have enjoyed his friendship and shared his enthusiasms.

WILLIAM CROUCHER WEST

1877-1957

THE passing of W. C. West on September 27, 1957, removes one of the best-known mountaineers of South Africa. He will be greatly missed by a large number of friends.

West became a member of the Mountain Club of South Africa in 1906, and in 1910 he took over the Secretaryship. In 1914 he was awarded the Gold Badge of the Club, and at a later date he was elected a Vice-President.

His election to the Alpine Club took place in 1915, being proposed by Lord Justice Pickford and seconded by C. H. R. Wollaston. Though he had no alpine qualification, his application was considered mainly on his ascent of Kilimanjaro and the various mountain ascents he had made in South Africa. He was also a prime mover in the Wild Flower Protection Society, of which he was a member up to the last.

He was born in England on June 25, 1877. West was one of those who thought a lot of his fellow-men, and always did his best to help them.

G. F. TRAVERS-JACKSON.



WM. C. WEST.