



A.C. COMMITTEE, 1957.

*Back row:* C. D. Milner, T. A. H. Peacocke, M. H. Westmacott, H. McArthur, E. A. L. Gueterbock, E. Viney, F. H. Keenlyside.

*Middle row:* J. H. Emlyn Jones, C. G. Wickham, A. K. Rawlinson, B. R. Goodfellow, F. R. Crepin, H. N. Fairfield, E. B. Beauman, T. S. Blakeney.

*Seated:* Lord Chorley, Count Aldo Bonacossa, Sir John Hunt, Alfred Zürcher, Charles S. Houston.

## ALPINE NOTES

(Compiled by D. F. O. Dangar)

	Year of Election
THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY:	
Bailey, Cyril . . . . .	1903
Hollingsworth, J. H. . . . .	1905
Young, S. . . . .	1912
West, Wm. C. . . . .	1915
Cutforth, Sir Arthur E. . . . .	1916
Sedgwick, H. J. . . . .	1922
Carr, J. D. . . . .	1928
Culverwell, E. R. . . . .	1929
Bryant, L. V. . . . .	1934
de la Motte, E. S. G. . . . .	1934
Gibson, E. R. . . . .	1950
Murray, A. G. . . . .	1951
Fox, C. I. W. . . . .	1952

HONOURS.—We congratulate Mr. Claude Elliott, Professor J. R. M. Butler and Captain S. L. Courtauld on receiving the honour of knighthood in the New Year's Honours List.

Many members will also have been pleased to see that Mr. L. P. Kirwan, Director and Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, received the C.M.G. in the same Honours List. Mr. Kirwan has devoted so much time to the work of the old Himalayan Committee and, later, to the Mount Everest Foundation that the Alpine Club shares with the R.G.S. in the satisfaction given by this public recognition of his services to exploration.

GIFTS.—Members who attended the Zermatt Meet last August will remember two paintings presented to the Club after the dinner at the Monte Rosa Hotel. In addition, Dr. Henri Faes presented, on behalf of himself and two other Swiss Honorary Members of the A.C. (General Guisan and Monsieur Marcel Kurz), a painting of the Dent d'Hérens; Mr. F. P. Farquhar an etching by Roi Partridge of Mt. Shuksan in the Cascade Mountains; and the American Alpine Club a fine photograph (by George Bell) of Rondoy, an unclimbed peak in the Cordillera de Huayhuash, Peru. In addition to these additions to our collection of pictures, the Italian Alpine Club has sent us a small model of K2, and the Japanese Alpine Club presented us, through Mr. Matsukata, with a stone from the summit of Manaslu. The copy of *Le Roi Albert*

*Alpiniste*, by René Mallieux, reviewed in these pages, is a gift from the Belgian Alpine Club.

To all our donors we express our very grateful thanks for these most welcome gifts.

TENZING.—We notice that Tenzing was received in special audience by the Pope last October.

ALBIGNA HUT.—The opening of the new Albigna Hut took place on June 10 last year and proved to be a very festive occasion. Mr. E. Gordon Spencer represented the Alpine Club at the banquet at the Hotel Bregaglia and conveyed our good wishes for the occasion.

CHARLES HUDSON.—Mumm's biographical data in *The A. C. Register*, vol. 1, are not very full and the following may be added: Charles Hudson was born on October 4, 1828, the son of Joshua Hudson and Jane Abbott, who were married in December 1819. His own marriage was in 1862 to Emily Mylne on June 26, and there were two children, Arthur, who died in 1938, and Caroline, who died in 1952.

ROYAL MOUNTAINEERS.—A message from our Honorary Member, King Leopold III, to the Alpine Club's Centenary Dinner, is printed on another page. In addition, His Majesty relates that about sixty years ago his father, the late King Albert I, found in the library of King Leopold II a large collection of ALPINE JOURNALS, and it was this that confirmed him in his desire to become a mountaineer. This intimation of King Leopold II's interest in mountaineering, albeit only in its literature, has not, we think, been noticed before in these pages, and it is gratifying to know that his liking for the *A. J.* was to prove a means of stimulating his son into becoming a notable climber in his own right, as Mr. Irving's review of M. Mallieux's book elsewhere in this issue will show.

MATTERHORN, FIRST ASCENT.—It will be remembered that Whymper records that a Mr. J. Phillpotts volunteered to go with the party on July 16, 1865, to locate the bodies that had fallen onto the Matterhorn glacier. We have heard from his daughter, Mrs. Dowson, and can now fill in further particulars about Mr. Phillpotts, who has not hitherto been clearly identified.

James Surtees Phillpotts was born in July 1839 and died in October 1930.<sup>1</sup> He was educated at Winchester (Scholar) and New College,

<sup>1</sup> His grandfather, Henry Phillpotts, was the formidable Bishop of Exeter about whom Sydney Smith penned his famous utterance, that he had to believe in the Apostolic Succession, as there was no other way of accounting for the descent of the Bishop of Exeter from Judas Iscariot.

Oxford (Fellow, 1858–69), and won the University mile in 1860, on the same day being third in the University steeplechase. He was Assistant Master and later House Master at Rugby from 1862–74, and from 1874–1903 was Headmaster of Bedford Grammar School.<sup>2</sup> He married Marian Cordery in 1868.

On July 23, 1863, Phillpotts, with James Robertson and H. J. Chaytor, climbed the Jungfrau (the entry shown in *A.ŷ.* 32. 227 was wrongly transcribed by Montagnier, who says ‘T. H. Philpott’ for J. S. Phillpotts). The entry in Peter Baumann’s *Führerbuch* (facsimile in A.C. archives) says that the trio crossed the Strahlegg Pass and the Oberaarjoch, and then climbed the Jungfrau from the Eggishorn. Apart from Whymper’s mention of him in 1865, the only other note I can find of his climbing is in Peter Knubel’s *Führerbuch*, under the date September 7, 1872, an engagement of four days, during which time they climbed Monte Rosa, the Ober Rothornjoch between the shoulder of the Zinal Rothorn and the Trifthorn (this is carefully distinguished from the Triftjoch), and the Col de Zinal (see also *A.ŷ.* 32. 101, 391).

HADOW’S BOOTS.—Through the kindness of M. Egmond d’Arcis, the Alpine Club was loaned a number of articles from the Zermatt Museum for exhibition during our Centenary Celebrations. Amongst these were boots of Lord Francis Douglas and of D. R. Hadow. In *A.ŷ.* 61. 496, note 14 (iv), it was observed that the nailing of Hadow’s boots may have contributed to the fatal accident, and reference was made to F. Montandon’s article (*Die Alpen*, 1950), in which a photograph is shown (p. 288) of a boot illustrating the point urged, that the iron plate round the heel of Hadow’s boot may have caused the slip.

It is to be noted, however, that the boot in the photograph is certainly that which is shown in the Zermatt Museum as *Douglas’s* boot. The names have been written on the soles of the boots; Hadow’s has a rather sketchy lot of hob nails round the heel, but no iron plate, and the photograph in *Die Alpen* is therefore misleading. It is true, no authority is provided for writing the names on the boots, nor indeed do those names show in the photograph in question. Exactly who identified the boots in the first place is not known. The Taugwalders might have been able to recognise their employer’s (Douglas’s) boot, but it is not so likely that Whymper would be able to distinguish the boots of the victims.

On the face of it, therefore, Montandon’s inference, that the iron plate on the heel of Hadow’s boot may have led to the accident, cannot be definitely upheld, since there appears to be at least as much reason to believe such a boot to have been Douglas’s.

T. S. BLAKENEY.

<sup>2</sup> Foster’s *Alumni Oxonienses*, 1715–1886.

J. A. DELUC AND OTHER NOTES.—One of the unusual features of the Alpine Club Centenary was the large number of members who came long distances by air. However, when one flies the Atlantic and has only six days in London, the hospitality heaped upon one almost precludes the possibility of delving into the inconsidered bits of alpine history that still exist in the city; yet the following may be worth recording.

In the print room of the British Museum it is now possible, without prior appointment, to examine the water-colours and sketches of J. M. W. Turner (1775–1851), formerly at the Tate Gallery. There is an excellent two-volume catalogue, well indexed by location. The early water-colours of the Alps, particularly of the Chamonix valley (done before the artist was thirty), are perhaps the most interesting, but there is additional material from the Oberland. We also saw two spirited water-colours representing Hannibal's crossing of the Alps. Turner made eighteen visits to the Alps in the period 1802–43.<sup>3</sup>

We noticed in St. James's Church, Piccadilly, the tablet of Benjamin Stillingfleet, the bluestocking who was tutor-companion to William Windham on the 1741 excursion to Chamonix. The small marble plaque is top and centre of a group on the wall of the staircase leading to the gallery, a bas-relief of a sarcophagus being surmounted by the inscription.

The house at 21 Duke Street, St. James's, where Dr. Hamel died in 1862,<sup>4</sup> still stands; it is now a 'pub' and the walls are painted yellow. Dr. Hamel was Russian by birth, and it would be interesting to know whether he was buried in London.

On the day of the Centenary dinner we spent the morning at Windsor and walked along the river, under the viaduct, to Clewer village. Jean André Deluc (1727–1817) is buried in the parish churchyard, the stone being at the east end of the south aisle, lying in the churchyard under the south wall of the chancel. The stone is in good condition, flat on the ground, and could be photographed from above. The inscription reads:

In memory of Mrs. Mary De-Luc, wife of J. A. De-Luc, Esq., late of New Windsor, who departed this life the 22 of May 1805, aged 64 years.

Also the remains of J. A. De-Luc, Esq., died 7 November 1817, aged 90.

Here likewise are deposited the remains of Marie Antoinette De-Luc, daughter of the above J. A. De-Luc, Esq., who died at Windsor June 17 1824, aged 69 years.

<sup>3</sup> *A. J.* 23. 617; *A. A. J.* v. 307.

<sup>4</sup> *A. J.* 58. 175.

Jean André Deluc (1727–1817),<sup>5</sup> Swiss geologist and meteorologist, was born at Geneva on February 8, 1727, descendant of a family that emigrated from Lucca in the fifteenth century. He engaged in commerce during the first forty-six years of his life, making occasional excursions in the Alps, including the first ascent of Le Buet (with his brother, G. A. Deluc (1727–1812)) in 1770. Business reverses caused him to settle at Windsor in 1772. He was at once made an F.R.S., and received an appointment as reader to Queen Charlotte, a position in which he continued for forty-four years, affording him leisure and income. According to Cuvier, he ranked among the first geologists of his age. His principal geological work, *Lettres physiques et morales sur les montagnes et sur l'histoire de la terre et de l'homme* (1778), was dedicated to Queen Charlotte. His *Recherches sur les modifications de l'atmosphère* (1772) contains accurate and ingenious experiments. The dry pile, or electric column, is his chief discovery.

J. MONROE THORINGTON.

FRANZ LOCHMATTER.—In September last a tablet in memory of Franz Lochmatter was unveiled on the Weisshorn at a height of about 12,000 ft., near the spot where, in August 1933, he and his tourist, Hermann Hotz, fell to their deaths.<sup>6</sup>

GABRIEL LOCHMATTER.—The death has occurred of Gabriel Lochmatter of St. Niklaus at the age of seventy-seven, the youngest but one, and the last but one, of the famous guiding brotherhood. The eldest, Alexander, was killed with his father on the Dent Blanche; Rudolf, a superb mountaineer, lost his hand in a mine explosion and died early; Josef, all-round athlete, died of an accident when called up in the First World War; the incomparable Franz was killed on the Weisshorn; Rafael, burly, blunt, and loyal-hearted, alone survives.

Gabriel, the only fair-haired brother and of almost angelic good looks, became an accomplished guide. A powerful and graceful climber, he was taken as second by his famous elder brothers; and with them, often put on to lead, made a remarkable number of first ascents, notably in Captain Ryan's long seasons.

Modest, with a cool head, a cautious judgment and excellent manners, he was a favourite with responsible British mountaineers, and but for ill health and the outbreak of war in his career, he might have been even better known.

I remember best a brilliant lead of his up the final precipice on a new ascent on the South-west face of the Dom when, with a sustained quiet chuckle, he pulled himself two or three times up the last little overhang in order to make quite certain we should arrive exactly on the summit.

<sup>5</sup> *A. J.* 9. 7.

<sup>6</sup> See *A. J.* 45. 413.

On another occasion, on reaching the Italian hut on the Matterhorn in a blizzard, report came down of parties in difficulties in the snowstorm above us. Gabriel set off cheerfully, and unroped, up the peak again, piloting them down before night. One pair had fallen off the rope ladder and escaped miraculously through the second man falling through the spokes and jamming, with his companion in suspension below him; a difficult problem of extrication in a blizzard.

In later years he supported a long family and was much incapacitated by illness; years endured with a characteristic patience and humour.

G. WINTHROP YOUNG.

A WISE ASS.—Four members of a film party working on the Jungfrauoch owe their lives to the sagacity of a donkey. While the main party was being escorted back to the hotel a heavy snowstorm set in, reducing visibility to a few yards. The four decided to try to reach the hotel alone and set off with the donkey that had remained behind with them.

After stumbling through the storm for a few minutes the donkey came to a halt and refused to move. For three hours the party remained huddled together in the blizzard until the guides reached them. It was then found that the sapient ass had halted on the edge of a deep crevasse.

One of the party is reported as saying: 'The donkey most certainly saved our lives. In the blinding snow we never had an inkling that the crevasse was there, but the donkey sensed it and would not move.'

Some of the tourists who now roam about the Alps do not seem to be endowed with the wisdom of this donkey.

ALPINE HISTORY.—We give a translation of a note in *Les Alpes* quoting *Le Figaro* of July 19, 1895: 'The ascent of the terrible Mont Cervin, for long held to be impossible, was made on Tuesday by an American, M. Packett. This is the second time that this aiguille, the most abrupt of alpine summits, which overlooks Zermatt, has been attained. It must not be forgotten that the ascent of the Cervin was accomplished with complete success some ten years ago by our compatriot M. Edouard Bonnet of the Lyons section of the French Alpine Club.'

ALEXANDER CARTER GRAHAM (1881-1957).—Canon H. E. Newton writes: 'Alec, as everyone called him, began to climb in 1904 and soon showed that he had the makings of a first-class guide, and was also most efficient in picking a camp and making it comfortable. Nothing seemed to put him out. There are thirteen peaks above 10,000 ft. in New Zealand; six had already been climbed and he made the first ascent of

six others, from the West Coast. He also made the first ascent of Mount Aspiring, a new route up Mount Cook, and many more.

' He and a brother, in 1909, bought a small accommodation house of seven beds, which grew into a hotel for 110 guests and which soon became noted for its comfort and for the attention he paid the guests in suggesting climbs or expeditions.

' Alec was in the First World War and served for about two years on the French front. He won the Military Medal at Messines, and was severely wounded at Passchendaele in 1917, and again in 1918. Whilst in England in 1918 (during which time he visited Skye and North Wales) he married the niece of a New Zealand friend and it proved a most happy marriage. His wife died about four years ago after a long illness and he felt it deeply. He had not been well lately, and went to Grey-mouth, where he had a married daughter, and into hospital, where he died in his sleep on July 12, 1957. All who knew him at all have lost a good friend.'

Mr. H. E. L. Porter adds the following tribute: ' When I first appeared on the New Zealand scene in 1923, Alex Graham had for many years been the successful proprietor of the delightful hotel at Waiho, which with the help of his brothers he had built up out of what had been a modest hostelry. But the exploits achieved by him and his brother, Peter, in their heyday were still fresh in the memory of all climbers in the Southern Alps and deserve to be recounted in some detail.

' His companions in those early days were our own members, Dr. E. Teichelmann, Rev. H. E. Newton, and R. S. Low. With one or more of them he made many first ascents among the " ten thousanders ", starting in 1906 with David's Dome and La Perouse, both from the West Coast side. In 1907 he added Lendenfeld, Haast, Torres, Douglas, and Glacier Peak to his conquests. In 1909, with his brother Peter and L. M. Earle, he made the fine new route up Mount Cook, ever since known as Earle's route. In 1910, with Capt. Head, he achieved the summit of Aspiring from the Matukituki valley, having previously failed in a heroic attempt with Dr. Teichelmann via the Waiototo gorge. In 1912, with Earle and Head, he made the first ascent of Mount Sefton from the west, and with his brother and Miss du Faur the second ascent of the great Mount Tasman by the Silberhorn ridge.

' He and his brother may be said to have founded the tradition of superb icemanship, which has been and still is the hallmark of the New Zealand mountaineer, both amateur and professional. All who had the good fortune to climb with Alex were devoted to him. In reading of his climbs, as narrated by Canon Newton and Miss du Faur, one is struck by his never-failing competence and resourcefulness and the keen

enjoyment he and his companions won from their pioneer struggles with these great virgin peaks.'

**THE HERMITAGE.**—The destruction of the Hermitage by fire in September last, coming so soon after the similar fate which befell the Glacier Hotel at Waiho some four years ago, can only be described as a major disaster.

It was built by the New Zealand Government in 1914 on a commanding site at a height of 2,500 ft., with a glorious view up the Hooker valley to Mount Cook, safe from any recurrence of the glacial flood which had swept away the old Hermitage. It had played host for over forty years to thousands of visitors from all over the world. In 1922, the Government, unable to make it pay, leased it for a small rental to the Mount Cook Motor Co., who advertised the resort extensively with the slogan 'Thousands of feet above worry level'. Despite its monopoly it provided good service to a host of tourists and did what it could to satisfy the needs of the less profitable mountaineer. It stocked the huts and employed the guides, of whom there were never enough at the peak of the season. To ease the situation it introduced the valuable system of student porters, whereby very many young New Zealanders acquired and spread a love for mountaineering. It fostered also the beginnings of winter sport, and was largely responsible for the vast popularity it now enjoys. Some years ago the Government resumed control and added considerably to the original building.

The loss of the Hermitage, as organising centre and supplier of the huts, with the summer season due to begin in December, must be a crippling blow to the plans of many climbing parties, especially after the frustrations of last year. It is greatly to be hoped that the Government will appreciate the urgency of rebuilding at the earliest possible moment.<sup>7</sup>

H. E. L. PORTER.

**CENTENARY DINNER.**—Members who have retained their menu may care to correct two minor errors to which our attention has been drawn by Professor N. E. Odell. The first ascent of Mount Vancouver was made in 1949. Spitsbergen should not have been spelt with a 'z'; being a Dutch name, this form is incorrect.

**SCHWARZSEE HOTEL.**—During the night of October 15/16 last the Schwarzsee Hotel above Zermatt was completely destroyed by fire. A spark from welding equipment used by workers carrying out alterations to the building is suspected of having caused the conflagration.

<sup>7</sup> We understand the New Zealand Government is putting up another hotel on approximately the same site, which it intends to erect quickly, with the intention of building something larger at some indefinite future date.

ACCIDENTS.—The annual summary in *Les Alpes* records that during 1956 forty-four fatal accidents took place in the Swiss Alps and the Jura, as a result of which fifty-eight people lost their lives. The figures for the High Alps alone were twenty-one accidents and thirty-three deaths.

THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN.—The news that a yeti has been seen in the Pamirs is of considerable interest and encourages the hope that the creature may be found in other ranges. Mr. A. G. Pronin, a Russian scientist, met a Snowman on the Fedchenko glacier and was lucky enough to get sufficiently close to it to observe that 'it was thick-set with unusually long forearms. It walked on its legs,<sup>8</sup> slightly bent forward. It wore no clothing, and its body was covered with thick reddish-grey hair.'

Mr. Pronin is quite certain that the creature was neither a member of some mountain tribe nor a monkey. His observations give support to the theory that the yeti is an 'ape-man', a modern *Pithecanthropus erectus*.

MINYA KONKA.—In the October 1957 number of *The People's China*, published in Peking, an article appears entitled 'The Conquest of Minya Konka'. I quote *verbatim* from a paragraph headed 'The Past Recalled':

'During the latter part of the last century, and in the 1920s, travellers and explorers from Switzerland, Britain, and other countries, tried to climb it but all failed. In 1932, Terence Moore, R. L. Burshall, and A. E. Emmans,<sup>9</sup> three Americans, organised a Minya Konka expedition. They later declared they had reached the mountain top but this is very doubtful. When we were on the top of Minya Konka we looked for traces of their markers but could not find any. Some old Tibetans living at the foot of the mountain told us they had once sent some half-frozen Americans back to Yaan on horseback.'

I have not got Moore's account with me, and it is doubtful whether the Chinese expedition read it. But the assumption that there would be 'markers', or indeed any traces of an ascent twenty-five years earlier, remaining on a peak of over 24,000 ft. is implausible to a mountaineer. In addition, the photograph published in the article of the party on top of Minya Konka shows a snow summit with no trace of rock. No other reason is given in the article why Moore's party should not have reached

<sup>8</sup> Quite a normal procedure.

<sup>9</sup> Names as in the original account.

the top. While nowhere actually claiming the Chinese climb to be a first ascent, the impression given to a casual reader is that it was one.<sup>10</sup>

C. G. CRAWFORD.

CAUCASUS.—The Russian authorities having granted permission, a party of British mountaineers, under the leadership of Sir John Hunt, will visit the Caucasus this summer. It is hoped to climb Ushba and make ascents of some of the peaks enclosing the Bezingi glacier.<sup>11</sup>

THE HIGHEST MOUNTAINS.—Of the fourteen highest mountains in the world (those over 8,000 m., 26,247 ft.), only three remain unclimbed: Dhaulagiri, 26,811 ft.; Gasherbrum I (Hidden Peak), 26,470 ft.; and Shisha Pangma (Gosainthan), 26,291 ft.

SAHARA.—Members of the Cambridge University Tibesti Expedition succeeded in making the first ascent of Emi Koussi, 11,204 ft. This peak, the highest in the Sahara, is situated in the Tibesti range of the Chad Territory of French Equatorial Africa. The extinct volcanic crater of the Tour au Natron in the same range was also explored, ten members of the party making the 2,500-ft. descent to the bottom of the crater.

HIMALAYAS.—A summary of some of the 1957 expeditions which could not be mentioned in our last issue through lack of space is given below.

The Austrians, in addition to ascending Broad Peak (without oxygen and without high-altitude porters), also made the first ascent of an unnamed 24,147-ft. (?) peak to the north-west of the Savoia glacier.

The Yorkshire Ramblers Club expedition to the Jugal Himal lost its leader, Capt. Crosby Fox, who, with two Sherpas, was killed in an avalanche on April 30. An attempt on Masherbrum by the Manchester Himalayan expedition also met with ill-fortune. One of its members, Mr. Robert Downes, died of pneumonia at a camp within 1,000 ft. of the summit. He and his companion were not equipped with oxygen. In a further attempt, two members of the party reached a height of over 25,000 ft.

<sup>10</sup> This is quite a normal Communist technique. It will be remembered that the first ascent of Mount Kaufmann (Pik Lenin) made by Herren Allwein, Schneider and Wien in 1928 was likewise disputed (see *Berge der Welt* 1952, p. 292). For other examples, see *A. J.* 60. 311 and 320.

The first ascent of Minya Konka was made on October 28, 1932, by R. L. Burdsall and Terris Moore (see *A. J.* 45. 290). No previous attempt had been made on the mountain.

<sup>11</sup> For map, see *A. J.* 48. 113.

The attempt on Disteghil Sar, 25,868 ft., led by Mr. Alfred Gregory, was defeated by bad weather, while the attempt on Haramosh, 24,270 ft., ended in the death of two members of the party, Mr. B. A. Jillott and Mr. R. C. Culbert being killed by an avalanche.

Among the expeditions planned for this year may be mentioned a Swiss attempt on Dhaulagiri under the leadership of Werner Stäubli.

After a preliminary reconnaissance last year the French are making an assault on Jannu, 25,300 ft., 'a very much grander but less picturesque object than Mont Cervin', according to Sir Joseph Hooker.<sup>12</sup>

Reports of other expeditions have appeared in the newspapers, but confirmation of them had not been received at the time of going to press.

REGINALD CHARLES FRANCIS SCHOMBERG (1880-1958).—The late Colonel Schomberg was a member of the Alpine Club from 1928 to 1946 and a distinguished traveller in the mountains of Central Asia. He joined the Seaforth Highlanders in 1901, and later commanded both the 1st and 2nd Battalions. His war services included the Indian frontier, 1908; the First World War, in India and Egypt, being twice severely wounded and winning the D.S.O. and Bar; during the Second World War, he (having retired from the Army in 1928) held Consular and Customs appointments in French and Portuguese India (1938-41) and Persia (1942-4) and was a colonel in Force 136 in China from 1944-5.

He was elected to the Club on a purely Himalayan qualification. In 1903, '05 and '06 he explored Kulu, Spiti and Lahul, and is said to have reached a height of 22,000 ft. on one occasion; in 1907 he had some rock-climbing in South Baluchistan and in Kashmir. But it was not till 1923 that his greater journeys began. That year he visited Ladakh, and in 1926 the Pamirs and in 1927 Chinese Turkestan. In the latter province he was to spend the best part of five years' (1927-31) activity, recording his journeyings in his book, *Peaks and Plains of Central Asia* (1933). Later books by him were *Between the Oxus and the Indus* (1935); *Unknown Karakoram* (1936); and *Kafirs and Glaciers* (1938).

He wrote an account of his visit to the source of the Aghias river, in the Central Tien Shan, in *A. J.* 45. 79 *et sqq.*; and his explorations between the years 1932 and 1935 in the Hunza, Gilgit and Chitral districts were described in *A. J.*, vols. 46, 47 and 48. In 1943 and 1945 he visited the region of the Hispar Glacier (*A. J.* 56. 61 *et sqq.*), notable achievements for a man of his age. At all times he was very hardy and self-reliant.

He was a pronounced individualist, and possibly hindered his military

<sup>12</sup> For illustrations, see *A. J.* 34. 44 and 20. 173, 177; also D. W. Freshfield's *Round Kangchenjunga*, p. 198.

career thereby, for he never hesitated to criticise the War Office or senior officers, and was much disappointed at not getting a brigade. By inclination a 'solitary' traveller, he was usually accompanied only by a small party of Hunza hillmen (he had a great regard for Hunza men and defended them against adverse criticisms by the German Nanga Parbat expedition of 1932—see *A. J.* 46. 347); his travels in Sinkiang had led to a deep distrust of Russian influence in Asia, and though he would have liked to have been appointed Consul-General at Kashgar, he was hardly suited to the delicacies of that diplomatic post.

A zealous Roman Catholic, he entered the priesthood at the late age of sixty-seven, being ordained in Rome, after four years' study in a seminary, in 1951. To some of his friends it seemed incongruous that this natural recluse should have found himself appointed to be chaplain to St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Oxford, when a Trappist environment might have seemed more after his heart! But he could be a very agreeable companion when he chose, though in many ways he was an escapist, who journeyed not only from a sense of adventure, but in order to get away from civilised life.

SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA.—Signor Piero Ghiglione visited the range early this year with two companions. Reaching the eastern part of the chain by way of the Donachui valley a base camp was established at 4,600 m. in the basin between Pico Ojeda (5,490 m.) and La Reina (5,538 m.) and a new route made on the North face of an unnamed 5,000-m. peak to the south of La Reina.

From a camp at the head of the Guatapuri valley new routes were made on the two middle peaks of La Reina (by the North-east face) and also on Ojeda N.I, which was climbed by its rocky South ridge.

First ascents were then made of the five Nevaditos Peaks (5,200–5,400 m.) and of Ojeda N.II (5,380 m.) Other high camps were pitched at 4,600–4,700 m. on the plateau at the foot of the Tairona Peaks. Signor Ghiglione considers that, by virtue of their situation, a better name for these would be 'Picos Orientales'. All the peaks, ranging between 5,100 and 5,400 m. in height, were climbed. On the summit of one of them a cairn was found, probably erected by the Cunningham party in 1957. Nearly all are difficult, and some very difficult owing to their steep ice faces, especially severe on the north and west sides, and pitons had to be employed on one ascent.

Finally, Signor Ghiglione made the first crossing of the range from north-east to south-west, passing through the Chundua (Mountains of the Dead) to the huts of Mamancanaca and thence to San Sebastian de Rebágo. He reports that the expedition had 'forty days of continuously wonderful weather' during which twenty-one virgin summits were climbed and more than thirty new routes were made.

MRS. MITCHELL.—Many of our older members will be sorry to learn of the death, on March 16 last, of Mrs. E. M. Mitchell, wife of the Club's former caretaker, G. A. Mitchell. Since 1951 they had been living in Hastings ; she was aged 79 and her health had not been good for some while. In 1955 the Mitchells celebrated their golden wedding and we take this opportunity of expressing to Mitchell our sympathy in his bereavement.

CORRIGENDA.—As members may be keeping the Catalogue of the Centenary Exhibition, we give below corrections of a few mistakes that have been noticed.

Page 5, item A.18: should be spelt ' Fiescherhörner '.

Page 14, item C.25: in penultimate line, *for* ' C.15 ' *read* ' C.16 '.

Page 32, item H.34: *for* ' Exhibition ' *read* ' Expedition '.

Also:

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Page 11, line 22: *for* ' Clewes ' *read* ' Clewer '.

Page 20, line 3: delete \* before Dent Parrachée.

Page 147, line 5: *for* ' showcraft ' *read* ' snowcraft '.

(One of our members writes that he considers this to be the best misprint he has read since Sir Winston Churchill was made to write in ' World Crisis ' that ever since the Battle of Jutland all the best brains in the Admiralty had been ' shifting ' the evidence!)

Page 166, line 16: *for* ' 25,447 ' *read* ' 25,443 '.

Page 184, twelfth line from the bottom: delete comma after ' puisse '.

Page 189, thirteenth line from the bottom: *for* ' ou ' *read* ' où '.

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Page 465, para 4, line 4: *for* ' Duncarn ' *read* ' Duncan '.

Page 466, para 2, line 2: *for* ' Albatross ' *read* ' Albatros '.

Page 467, para 2, line 5: *for* ' Cream ' *read* ' Crean '.