Intervisibility The article on this subject in *AJ* 77 172 has led to correspondence with Norris McWhirter of the *Guinness Book of Records*, who asks what is the extreme example of intervisibility between peaks anywhere in the world. Among our readers there must be some who can report views at extreme distance from mountain tops, such as Mount Kenya from Kilimanjaro over 200 miles apart. Will they please write about it to the Hon Editor.

Editor's acknowledgements This number owes a great deal to D. F. O. Dangar (Assistant Editor), Tom Connor (Editorial Assistant), Paul Sharp (Designer), Peter Rowe (of the printers) and Bob Pettigrew (Business Manager). It is with considerable regret that I have to report that D. F. O. Dangar feels he can no longer carry on with the volume of work which he has undertaken on behalf of the *AJ* during the last 20 years; our debt to him is considerable and I shall miss his wise counsel at every turn.

The regional and general correspondents in this country have once again proved their worth. I am very grateful for the efforts of Richard Brooke, Derek Ellis, Charles Kemp, Bob Lawford, Peter Stubbs and Colin Taylor; their contribution is substantial. The efforts of a number of foreign correspondents are also gratefully acknowledged, while the following also gave help in various specialised fields—Mrs A. Babbage, E. N. Bowman, Mrs S. Parkinson, H. Pursey and Mrs A. Salkeld. The *Journal* owes a great deal also to my wife and daughter.

I acknowledge with deep gratitude the dwindling numbers of contributors, whose efforts are reproduced herewith and the very considerable efforts they have made towards this production.

Finally I acknowledge with quite different feelings all those who refused for not very obvious reasons to contribute, those who hurriedly put forward an utterly useless alternative to themselves and those who engaged to contribute and then disappeared beyond the range of all enquiry and entreaty; they make the Editor's task considerably more arduous than it needs to be. **Edward Pyatt**

Other Books Reviewed

Charles Kemp and others

Hazards in Mountaineering Helmut Dumler (Trans. by E. Noel Bowman, FRGS, pp 160. Profusely illustrated by photos and 2-colour line drawings). (Kaye and Ward Ltd, 1973. £2·90). This is the first version in English of a work which started with Emil Zsigmondy's book of about 1885. This was succeeded by a new work by Wilhelm Paulcke of Leipzig of some 500 pages which became a classic and ran to 6 editions the last of which appeared in 1933. The present version is up to date, condensed and covers pretty well every risk including those arising from equipment. It excludes rescue techniques and other highly specialised topics.

La Montagne des Autres Bernard Amy. Pp 230, 26 photos, 4 maps. In French (Arthaud, 1972). Bernard Amy describes a 14-man expedition to SE Turkey which accomplished several first ascents in the Cilo Dag Massif. It was a 'light' expedition. Much useful information is given on how the expedition was organised, how each member travelled out, the journey to the massif and the various climbs undertaken. The last third of the book relates the history and describes the way of life of the Kurds. The area is remote and a real sense of adventure was experienced. Amy's writing is vivid, evocative and has both sympathy and humour in due proportion. A very worthwhile book for those planning to visit the area and a very interesting one for those who are not.

Ski Court Gilbert Gauthier and Michel Vachez. In French, pp 112. (Arthaud, 1972). A very clear instructional book with 39 photos and 61 line drawings promoting the merits of short skis for beginners to acquire (and long absentees to regain) confidence.

A la Découverte du Ski de Fond Claude Terraz. In French pp 155 (Arthaud, 1972). Another very good instructional book profusely illustrated by photos and line drawings, for experienced skiers as well as beginners.

Badakhshan Historical and Political Gazetteer of Afghanistan, Vol 1, Edited by Ludwig W. Adamec, PH D (Akademische Druck-u. Verlagsanstalt, Austria). This edition is in English and 500 copies were printed. This is the first of 6 volumes resulting from a contract with the US Office of Education and with the permission of HMSO. It is based on the highly secret work of the General Staff of British India from 1871 to 1914 and brings the record up to 1970 covering Badakhshan and NE Afghanistan. It outlines the history, politics, economics and geography of the area and contains some 180 pages and 1000 entries in the historical and political gazetteer with transliterations into Perso-Arabic. There is a 21-page glossary and a 26-page index and a beautiful map of the Austrian Scientific Expedition of 1970 in the Wakhan as an insert. This is a monumental work for students and those who propose to travel or research in the area.

Tierra del Fuego—The Fatal Lodestone Eric Shipton. Pp 175, 2 maps, 16 photos. (Charles Knight & Co. Ltd, 1973, £4·00). Most of this book consists of an absorbing account of the discoveries of the explorers of this little-known land from Magellan and Drake down to the missionaries and the developments by the Bridges family. The first chapter describes Mr Shipton's own and his companions' adventures of 1962 when they explored the then quite unknown Cordillera Darwin range and traversed the main island and the last chapter describes his journey to Mount Burney, an enigmatic mountain the origin of which was at that time also quite unknown.

Makalu Pilier Ouest Robert Paragot and Yannick Seigneur. Pp 262, 35 photos, many in colour, 8 maps and diagrams. In French (Arthaud, 1972). The French expedition to Makalu West Ridge was covered in *AJ 78* 44. This is the book of the expedition. The authors have produced a fascinating account dealing with all aspects of the expedition from the human reactions to the technical details. The illustrations are excellent.

The Survival Handbook Bill Merrill (Prior, 1972, £2·95). The dust jacket adjures us to carry this in our kit, but the weight of nearly one pound would only be justified if it were edible. The subject matter ranges from desert to cold weather survival and from ship-wreck to mountain so that only a small amount of it would be relevant in a particular situation. Nevertheless it is an interesting book for the home bookshelf—a wealth of diverse observation, mostly from a distinctly American viewpoint, by a real outdoors expert.

Call Out Hamish MacInnes (Hodder and Stoughton, 1973, £2·75). Everyone should know something of the principles of mountain rescue, while a dedicated few, of which the author is one, take the trouble to instruct themselves very thoroughly. But it is hardly the subject for narrative literature. The book describes several rescue episodes in recent Scottish climbing, in which the author has played a praiseworthy part, but it neither entertains, nor substantially instructs.

International Mountain Rescue Handbook Hamish MacInnes (Constable, 1972, £3·50). 218 pages of close-packed factual material copiously illustrated with line drawings and photographs, this may well be the basic text-book on this subject for many years to come. Important reading for all climbers, whether rescuers or not.

Tackle Ski-ing D. Codlington (Stanley Paul, 1973, £1·95) is a simple, straightforward book of ski-ing instruction, illustrated by numerous line diagrams. A paperback edition is also available.

Guida de Naturalista nelle Alpi by various authors (Zanichelli, Bologna, 1973, L6800) is the Italian version of the *Guide du Naturaliste dans les Alpes* (Neuchâtel, 1972) and deals with geology, climate, flowers, insects, birds, animals, reptiles and with human settlement of the Alps. It is copiously illustrated by line drawings and black and white and colour photographs. Can we look forward perhaps to an English edition in due course?

Annapurna South Face (*Parete Sud*) Christian Bonington (Italian translation by Luciano Serra) (dall'Oglio, 1973).

Prusiking Robert Thrun (National Speleological Society of America, 1973, $4·50). A useful monograph which surveys the knots, techniques, equipment and theory of prusiking, but with little or no attempt to assess their relative merits.

Hindu Kush—The Regional Division Jerzy Wala (Klub Wysokogórski, Cracow, 1973). This gives a very thorough topographical treatment of the whole area and is essential reading for all potential mountaineers and historians in this complex terrain.