

*Revista del Centro de Investigaciones Arqueológicas de Alta Montaña*. Antonio Beorchia (Editor), Centro de Investigaciones Arqueológicas de Alta Montaña, República del Líbano 2621, Correo de Capitán Lazo, (5423) San Juan. Frequency: 3 years. Latest issue: 1978 (number 3). This magazine is unique. Describes archaeological finds—mummies, corals, pottery, ruins—discovered on the slopes and summits of mountains in the desert regions of Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, and Peru.

VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, and BOLIVIA. All mountain journals in these countries have ceased publication.

## Book Reviews 1980

Compiled by Geoffrey Templeman

**High Mountains and Cold Seas** J. R. L. Anderson.

(Victor Gollancz, 1980, pp366, photos and maps, £9.95). J. R. L. Anderson's biography of H. W. Tilman helps to fill out the story of Tilman's life for those who knew him only from his books. It also does much to dispel the legend of a silent misogynist who enjoyed hardship and underfeeding for their own sake; the truth is simply that he did not seek hardship, but could stand up to it when necessary better than most men, and complained less about it than the rest of us do. Mr Anderson presents the story of his friend's life in a plain and straightforward way and is careful to tell what his sources are.

*High Mountains and Cold Seas* is about as equally and as clearly divided as was Tilman's own life into the years of active soldiering in two World Wars, of exploratory mountaineering, and of ocean sailing in inhospitable waters. In addition there is a good deal about his background in childhood and youth, and in later life when his sister Adeline (Mrs Reid Moir) made a home for him near Barmouth. Some space is given to his coffee-growing in Kenya and to his brief appointment as HM Consul at Maymyo in Burma.

Nearly a third of the text is, rightly, about Tilman's service in two wars, an important part of his life about which we would otherwise know almost nothing except that he was much decorated. He took his duty in war, and as a reserve officer, more seriously than anything else, as witness some of the passages in *When Men and Mountains meet*.

Mr Anderson makes liberal use of extracts from the letters Tilman wrote home throughout his life, to parents and friends, but chiefly to his sister Adeline, or 'Addis', his 'sheet anchor' as he called her after her death. The book is worth having for these letters alone. They illuminate his character as his own books do not; they show him as a boy of 18 growing up in Flanders, usually conventionally reticent or cheerful, but in one revealing letter wonderfully exhilarated by action and danger.

There are a few errors, probably of proof-reading, in the part of the book which is about mountaineering, and here Mr Anderson seems less at home than when writing of war and of the sea. It would be ungenerous to dwell on such faults in a book which for the public portrays clearly one of the remarkable Englishmen of his generation and shows up Bill Tilman for the tough, capable, straight, slightly romantic and, behind the gruff reticence, lovable man that he was.

The last chapter but one includes an admirable appreciation by Peter Lloyd of Tilman as mountaineer, and by Colin Putt of Tilman as seaman and leader. The photographs are relevant to the text and include several excellent portraits of Tilman himself.

Charles Evans

**The Guinness Book of Mountains and Mountaineering Facts and Feats** Edward Pyatt (Guinness Superlatives, 1980, pp256, many illustrations, some colour, sketch maps and figures, £8.95). Four previous Editors of the *AJ* have faced the dilemma of producing during their period in office a book calling for review in the Journal. H. B. George (*AJ* 2 416) gave his to A. C. Ramsay, W. A. B. Coolidge (*AJ* 13 277) invited Frederick Gardiner, while H. E. G. Tyndale (*AJ* 56 409) called on G. A. Dummett; none of these had reason to fault the result. Douglas Freshfield (*AJ* 7 459) was less courageous and perhaps more wise. He submitted that travel books should indeed receive technical as well as literary criticism, but added:

'Such criticism...the *Alpine Journal* is well fitted to afford, and I should have been glad to submit myself to it. But it is difficult thoroughly to criticize a host at his own table, or an Editor in his own magazine.

'Instead of asking one of my contributors to undertake a possibly painful task, I shall venture to occupy the space, which might have been given to a review, for the purpose of repairing such of my own blunders as I have yet discovered, adding a few items of newly acquired information and of correcting some misapprehensions.'

He then devoted no less than 6½ pages of the *Journal* to the task.

Other book writers among past editors—Leslie Stephen, Martin Conway, George Yeld, Graham Brown, Francis Keenlyside and Alan Blackshaw—were not in the editorial seat when their books appeared and were thus not able to influence the course of events.

Now to the present Editor's dilemma. I agree with Freshfield's strictures on handing out the task—one's friends would feel compelled to be kind; one's critics might well produce something which one could not reasonably print. The dividing line between these is a knife-edge.

Freshfield was writing over a century ago in what were considerably less critical times. He was an acknowledged expert, probably *the* expert, undoubtedly overawing the few critics he might have had. Nowadays there are experts on every hand and times are a good deal tougher in consequence. There will undoubtedly be criticisms, due consideration of which will enable me to carry out the Freshfield exercise at some future date. I trust that the then Editor will accord me space for this.

In the meantime, why not join in the fun? The book is intended as a repository of mountain facts, many of them, I am sure, disputable. I shall be happy to join in the arguments.

Edward Pyatt

### **Michael Roberts: Selected Poems and Prose.**

Edited by Frederick Grubb. (Carcenet Press, 1980, pp205. £7.95). I have a vivid mental snapshot of Michael and Janet Roberts talking in the anteroom at a Ladies' Alpine Club dinner soon after the war. Both seemed brimming with vitality undrained by the war years, ready for the new Britain in which Michael, scientist by training, teacher by profession, social critic, poet and penetrating reviewer of poetry, mountaineer, would have found his place as a leader. But in 1948 aged only 46 he died of leukaemia.

This book is a selection from his writings and shows above all the strength and range of his mental grasp; no dilettante wandering into other people's professional fields but exploration of a difficult territory he had won for himself normally dominated by clashes between scientists, humanists, Marxists, Christians *et alia* 'where ignorant armies'—ignorant of one another's concerns—'clash by night.' Here, Roberts tried to impose order by uncovering or establishing underlying inter-relations. He was never afraid of finding truth in some unfashionable attitude and since he believed passionately in values he was not afraid of making value judgments. And he was a seer. He looked ahead and saw where current social and philosophic trends could lead. In his book *The Recovery of the West* (1941), of which a chapter is reprinted here, he discusses the nature of values and the need for a living recognition of values in a healthy society; it is not that his ideas were exactly new but many were unfashionable; a challenging glove was thrown down. Re-used to-day, the cumulative effect is disconcertingly prophetic.

The same is true of his last book *The Estate of Man* unfinished at his death and prepared for publication by Janet Roberts. In the introduction he says: 'The common theme is good husbandry, firstly in material resources, then in man-power and lastly in our own inner powers'. The first section, then mostly new, is now part of formulated ecological and environmental studies, but the chapters in which he draws social and psychological conclusions break open problems unanswered which threaten the bases of society. Can we, he asks, enlarge the reservoir of human intelligence so as to power efficiently the ever more complicated social structures we are evolving? And in the chapter reprinted, 'How much will our nerves stand?' he traces the insidious social sources of strain which undermine the stability of individuals and hence eventually of a whole society. We have, he believes, some remedy. His therapy is communication with nature at a level which engages the whole personality.

It is disappointing to find here that apart from a passing reference to the National Trust he pays no tribute to the work of the amenity societies in their struggle to save the areas of wild nature left to us in our overpopulated country. The activities, for example, of the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England in the inter-war years can hardly be overvalued. And it would have been nice to find a mention of the Hobhouse Committee appointed in 1945 to report on suitable areas for National

Parks. Without the constant pressure from these and similar bodies there would now be little country left in England where Roberts's therapy could be applied.

Roberts was a committed mountaineer. He analyses the conditions needed for his remedy and considers they are best found in mountain climbing, though he does admit sailing. This is narrowing. The needs of some characters will be better fulfilled by bird-watching or fishing for example. Yet he has a strong case. He points out that the cult of mountaineering developed alongside the Industrial Revolution. Its adherents were escaping from the strains and irks of the new cities where they earned their living. But his own poetry is his most persuasive advocate. In his lecture in 1939 to the Alpine Club, 'The Poetry and Humour of Mountaineering', he remarks that 'The deep satisfaction that we get from climbing is something that many of us would like to express in poetry rather than in prose.....' This he has done. Forty-three of his poems are collected here and thirteen of these are devoted to mountaineering, most of them to the Alps where clearly he found supreme fulfilment.

He is a quiet poet. One need not look for a build up to some spectacular image, indeed he hardly uses imagery at all. When he does it is memorable:

Dark as a falling breaker, fringed with foam,  
Silent, snow-corniced Sassière.

And sometimes one finds that a whole poem has become an image of his thought and feeling. His experience may be immediate but he allows it to mature before its catharsis comes in a poem; there is nothing left raw or ephemeral. His metres are often irregular and the shape of the poems depends upon subtlety of rhythm, the accents formed by a pattern of quantity, stress and caesura. And yet one is often reminded of the sound as from far away of the iambic beat of the sea. His mountain poems are descriptive, but the description is a counterpoint of moods and emotions, vision of the scene around him from the flowers at his feet to the grandeur of the peaks, the elation of total physical and mental commitment to a climb. In this counterpoint the objects of his description seem interchangeable, standing for one another. Hence one gets a complete evocation of the mountaineer's experience and a rare sense of exhilaration:

The eyes are bright with vision,  
Clutching the fiery rock the fingers burn,  
Intense the burning limbs, knowing the world of ice.  
The mountain and the dark cloud under.

Thin windflower, soldanelle, wizened aconite,  
These are our limbs, our hands, our eyes,  
Here is our finite sorrow, vision withers:  
Winter forbids return, with bulging ice.

If I were asked to sum up Roberts' work in a single phrase I would say—He nothing common wrote or mean.

*Katherine Chorley.*

**The Springs of Enchantment** John Earle (Hodder & Stoughton, 1981, pp192, photos and maps, £7.95) The title for this book on climbing and exploration in Patagonia is taken from the last paragraph of Eric Shipton's autobiography *That Untravelled World*, and the author's association with Shipton forms a thread that runs throughout the book.

In 1963, John Earle joined Shipton in an expedition which went first to the remote Mount Burney, 120 miles NW of Punta Arenas, and then made the first ascents of Mounts Bové and Francés in the Darwin Range. It was at the end of this expedition that the author was introduced by Shipton to the Bridges family, legendary British settlers on the Argentinian coast of Tierra del Fuego, and then went on to stay for a short while among the Alacaluf Indians. These travels form the first, and largest, section of the book and, after a short linking passage about Eric Shipton, lead into Part Two, which describes a return to Tierra del Fuego in 1979 to make a TV film about the Bridges family and carry out further exploration in the Darwin Range.

*The Springs of Enchantment* is a fascinating tale of exploration in a wild and remote land, told in a way which brings both the land and the characters that are either living in it or passing through it sharply into focus. It is worthy to take its place on the shelf alongside Shipton's own classic accounts of his travels that the author so admires.

*Geof Templeman.*

**The Big Walks** compiled by Ken Wilson and Richard Gilbert (Diadem Books, 1980, pp256, 280 × 220mm, lavishly illustrated (many colour), sketch maps, £16.95) This is a magnificent

production; it is also an expensive one. This reviewer still finds it difficult to accustom himself to continually rising prices; this one works out at over 6p/page.

It is the third volume in a series following *Hard Rock* and *Classic Rock*; now we have here the 'challenging mountain walks and scrambles'—55 of them. The series has a parallel in France where the Denoël volumes (see *Calanques-Sainte Baume-Sainte Victoire* reviewed herewith) are produced on very similar lines.

Just as in the earlier volumes we find combined here under one cover the work of a number of contributors and this variety of approach adds vitality to the overall production. There is a fine collection of colour and black and white pictures reasonably well produced.

Of the 55 sections, 31 deal with Scotland, 11 with England, 8 with Wales and 5 with Ireland; the last, though well in keeping with the general standard of the work, are too few and too widespread to be of interest to the traveller from afar. Too much space is devoted to Scotland.

We often hear that the centre of gravity of British climbing lies in the N of the country, but for us here in London Mont Blanc and Arkle (See Section 1) are approximately the same distance (800km), as are the Puy de Sancy in the Massif Central and Ladhar Bheinn (See Section 11) (700km). From Dover, Arkle and the Dolomites are equidistant. One might have hoped to have found a little more on the south country—for instance the South Downs ('that chain of majestic mountains' Gilbert White) from end to end, Exmoor and the N Devon cliffs and even possibly some trips on the SGRs of France.

It is not of course a book for the field (1.3kg), but it will serve excellently as a planner—all the essential details of location, approaches, accommodation, transport, escape routes, distances and times, grading are there to be absorbed by the would-be 'big walker'. Now there is another feat available for the diligent—all 55 expeditions within the shortest span of time.

Anyone who can afford this sort of money should go out and buy it straightaway; it will make an exceptional heirloom.

*Edward Pyatt*

**Vignettes of Nepal** Harka Gurung (Sajha Prakashan, Kathmandu, 1980, pp.xvi + 436, maps and photographs, some in colour, paperback, npq.) The blurb on the cover of this book describes it as 'a travel account by a native rambler who has made numerous treks across the country....an authentic attempt at portraying the personality of various places and peoples of Nepal.' Harka Gurung was born in Lamjung in Central Nepal and, after graduating from Patna University, took his Dip. Geography and Doctorate at Edinburgh. After holding teaching posts in London he returned to Kathmandu and, in 1975, became Minister of State for Education, Industry and Commerce, Tourism, Transport and Public Works.

This book is an account of the travels he has made throughout Nepal, both as a private individual and in his government capacity, arranged geographically from west to east. The index alone runs to nearly 50 pages and this is indicative of the wealth of detail, as well as personal reminiscence, to be found in the many chapters. A chapter is included on the author's experiences with the 1971 International Expedition to the South-West face of Everest and, whilst most of the chapter headings contain quotations from Nepalese sayings or songs, it is good to see an extract from one of Wilfrid Noyce's poems and a typical Tilman quote. The photographs are reasonably produced considering the rather poor quality paper and illustrate the text well. To quote the publisher again, 'For trekkers....it is like accompanying a walking encyclopaedia.' One cannot but agree.

*Geof Templeman*

**Welzenbach's Climbs** Eric Roberts (West Col, 1980, pp.272, photos, £12.00) Sub-titled 'A biographical study and the collected writings of Willo Welzenbach.' Welzenbach was only 33 when he died on Nanga Parbat in 1934, but he was already a legend on the continent for his high-standard rock-climbing in the Eastern Alps and the series of north face ice climbs he carried out, including the Nesthorn, Lauterbrunnen Breithorn, Gspaltenhorn, Dent d'Hérens, Grands Charmoz and many others. The biographical story is interspersed with accounts by Welzenbach and some of his comrades of their climbs. These accounts have seldom been available in English before, the climbs being generally considered at the time, on this side of the Channel, as unjustifiable examples of nationalistic competition, and relegated to acid notes in journals. The author makes a plea for Welzenbach to be considered as a true lover of mountains, not a glory-seeking National Socialist, and this will be generally accepted today. He also throws new light on the Nanga Parbat tragedy, coming down firmly on placing responsibility on Willy Merkl for his inadequate leadership. It is tragic that Eric Roberts, too, was only 33 when he died in the Himalayas.

It is, therefore, an important book for putting German climbing between the wars into perspective, and only a pity that its price will surely put it out of reach of the ordinary climber's pocket. Printing costs are, of course, high, particularly for a specialist book of this nature, but £12 does seem excessive for a 'typescript' production.

*Geof Templeman*

**Le Ande** Mario Fantin (Club Alpino Italiano, Milano, 1979, 142 pp., 71 ill. in black & white, 10 line drawings, 53 sketch maps) Although a sister book to *Himalaya e Karakorum*, this one about the longest range in the world is somewhat less ambitious, but it represents again a work of basic reference. The Andes are neatly covered in 7 chapters reviewing geography, natural history and mountaineering. The last part is in turn divided into 3 chapters covering pre-Columbian Indian mountain ascents and modern climbing history. There is also an anthology with the reports of four famous first ascents (Aconcagua, Fitz Roy, Torre and Sarmiento). A total of 872 first ascents are reviewed (405 pertaining to Peru). Illustrations are excellent; few of them have hitherto appeared in books or journals. Especially pleasing are those by the author himself, who pays great attention to mountain peoples, and by Manuel Bazán (Santiago), foremost photographer from the Andean Countries. The maps are extremely useful and some, wholly new, like those of the Apolobamba and Viuda ranges in Peru. In the information found in this work there are errors, but readers will find this a book that is both pleasant and useful.

*Evelio Echevarría*

**Sulle montagne degli Incas** Cosimo Zappelli (Musumeci Editore, Aosta, 168 pp., 29 colour and 53 black & white ill., 11 sketch-maps and linedrawings, paper).

**Cordigliera tra cielo e ghiaccio** Giuseppe Agnolotti and Giorgio Pettigiani (Libreria Alpina, Bologna, 126 pp., 65 colour and 36 black & white ill., paper) Italian mountaineering books seem to be different to those produced in other countries in that they emphasize the human side of the mountain world. These two books display a sequence of pictures in which portraits of some incredible Andean peaks alternate with human portraits. The text in both works is light and pleasant, but omits technical details, even in the description of actual technical climbs. More than with words, the authors seem to have preferred to let illustrations speak for themselves. Colour plates are sharp and brilliant, qualities both very necessary to portray the shining peaks of the old Incadom. The Zappelli book describes climbs on Condoriri and Huallomén and a new route on Illimani, all in the Cordillera Real of Bolivia. The second book takes us along the Andean chain, from the Santa Marta region in the north to Sarmiento in Tierra del Fuego. Both books will create in readers a yearn for adventures abroad.

*Evelio Echevarría*

**The Darkness Beckons** Martyn Farr (Diadem Books, 1980, pp.207, illustrations, some colour, and diagrams, format approx 200mm square, £9.50) This tells of the history and development of cave diving, a sport which demands extreme toughness and dedication, and which is said to be 'one of the most dangerous known to man'. The earliest beginnings were described in these pages by Graham Balcombe in a biographical article 'Great Gable to Wookey Hole' (*AJ* 83 168). At first equipment was crude and safety tactics had to be developed by harrowing experience. Soon however the advances triggered by underwater activities in warfare enabled the range to be extended in both depth and distance, while rigorous training methods and safety precautions were introduced.

Caves in limestone are natural water systems with dry waterworn passages at upper levels and active stream-ways lower down. Exploration which may start in the dry is shut off sooner or later by passages full of water, the so-called sumps, which can only be passed by diving methods. The margins of error are small and there have been fatalities. However cave exploration has been pushed ahead determinedly and many miles of dry passages, entered beyond the sumps, provide 'one of the last uncharted realms to be found on earth'.

The most sought-after caving trip is one which penetrates from a sink, where the water first enters the ground high on a hillside or plateau top, to the resurgence, where the water emerges once again into daylight at the foot of the hill. Such a one, successfully opened up in 1978 and traversed from end to end in 1979, was that linking Kingsdale Master Cave with Keld Head in Yorkshire. Similar efforts to penetrate from the caves on Mendip top (Swildons, Eastwater and St Cuthbert's) to Wookey Hole and from the huge halls of Gaping Ghyll to Ingleborough Cave in Yorkshire still remain to be accomplished.

This fascinating book brings out the adventure, logistic needs and exploration possibilities of a sport which shares much common ground with mountaineering, and which certainly appears to have a limitless future.

*Edward Pyatt*

**Offerings on Television** In April the *World About Us* series on BBC II showed an American climbing film 'On the Rock Face'—an ascent of the face of El Capitan at Yosemite. Lita Tejada-Flores was one of the party of 3 and the narrator. It was excellent, including helicopter shots, shots from the climb itself and from adjacent routes. The pendulum movements were particularly effective.

During May a series of 3 rock climbing films by Sid Perou, showing Fawcett, Livesey and others in action, and a live telecast from Glencoe featuring Joe Brown appeared among the programmes. All provided first-class entertainment and conveyed much of the atmosphere, though not all of the extreme difficulty, of the climbs in question. There is no doubt that great strides are being made in the accurate display of rock climbing on the cinema and television screen.

**Solo Faces** James Salter (Collins, 1980, pp.220, price unknown) 'British climbing had changed since the war. Once the province of university men, it had been invaded by the working class who cut their teeth on the rock of Scotland and Wales and then travelled everywhere, suspicious and unfriendly. They came from the blacker cities of England—Manchester, Leeds. To the mountains they brought the same qualities—toughness and courage—that let them survive in the slums'.

Once again this arrant nonsense about the working class boys who transformed British mountaineering after 1945. We have said before and say again that there were working class climbers of considerable ability before the war and there have been University climbers of considerable ability since the war. The above passage is a gross distortion and the American author loses all our confidence by repeating it.

The work itself is inconsequential, open-ended and utterly purposeless.

*Edward Pyatt*

**55-60 years of Mountaineering in South Africa** A. B. Beresford (Privately, 1980, pp.114, 245 × 185mm, R5-50) Reminiscences of the author's climbing in South Africa since 1918, which has included 300 peaks and 120 first ascents.

**L'Opera de Pics** Samivel (Didier-Richard, Grenoble, 1980, 50 drawings, 210 × 275mm, npq) This great classic has now been reprinted after a lapse of 30 years.

**Everest—the West Ridge** T. F. Hornbein (The Mountaineers, Seattle/George Allen & Unwin, 1980, £8.95) A reprint of a classic, reviewed in *AJ* 72 338.

**Scott and Amundsen** Roland Huntford (Hodder & Stoughton, 1979, pp.665, illustrations and sketch maps, £13.95) It is not surprising that the publication of this work angered the Scott family. Scott is presented as a complete bungler for whom no redeeming word can be found; Amundsen on the other hand is a paragon who can do no wrong. Human life in such a field of endeavour just does not throw up such contrasting black and white; rather it is all shades of grey.

There seems no doubt that Scott was to some extent incompetent and that building him up into one of the greatest heroes of all time was the result of mass hysteria in a nation no longer sure of its greatness. Till now he has held his place; in contrast Amundsen is just the man who did the job.

But this book is a singularly unsuitable way of bringing these facts to light. Amundsen, I am convinced, had chinks in his armour also. To contrast the two of them, as occurs on almost every page, each point to the praise of one and the detriment of the other, produces a text so biased that it fails to convince.

Anyone contemplating a hatchet job on someone they really dislike might study the book for points. As a contribution to the history of Polar exploration it may well trigger further studies of what really went on behind the scenes.

*Peter Hillman*

**Rock Climbing** Peter Livesey (EP Publishing, Wakefield, W. Yorks, 1978, pp.116, 200mm sq, illustrations and diagrams, £3.95) An instruction manual competently written by one of the country's leading experts.

**Rock Climbing** A. B. Clarke, illustrations by I. A. R. Price (Barrie & Jenkins, 1979, pp.123, 225 × 168mm, illustrations, £4.50) Another modern climbing text, the 250 illustrations (all line drawings) are excellent. A volume in the publisher's 'Starting Series'.

**Disasters—The Anatomy of Environmental Hazards** John Whittow (Allen Lane, 1980, pp.411, illustrations and diagrams, £8.95) A comprehensive historical account of environmental disasters—of earth, air and water. How man may anticipate them, possibly control them and perhaps mitigate their worst effects.

**Earthshock** Basil Booth & Frank Fitch (Dent, 1979, pp.256, illustrations and diagrams, £6.95) Disaster books rain on us thick and fast. While the remote possibility that civilisation may be completely wrecked by upheavals from within or bombardment from without is always with us, the odds are very much in favour of the individual in his lifetime. The whole gamut of dangers is set out here by two expert earth scientists and recommendable flesh-creeping reading it makes (but don't forget the long odds!)

**Traverse of the Gods** Bob Langley (Michael Joseph, 1980, pp.251, £5.95) A fiction work with an authentic mountaineering background—mostly the North Wall of the Eiger, described by Chris Bonington (it is claimed) as 'a great adventure story—really captures the feel of mountaineering'. This reviewer concurs.

**Everest, Goddess of the Wind** Ronald Faux (Chambers, Edinburgh, 1978, pp.113, illustrations, £5.95) A history of climbing on Everest with additional chapters on the Yeti, Nature and Nepal. Competently done and reasonably well illustrated, but is there room for a constant stream of books on Everest? Mountaineers will know it all, already many times told. Do constant repetitions of the same tale to the general public still continue to be good publishing propositions? We have to conclude that they do.

**Alpe Veglia** L Rainoldi (CAI Vigevano Sect, 1977, pp.207-Italian, illustrations and drawings, npq) Alpe Veglia nestles under the E side of Monte Leone, a short distance E of the Simplon Pass. Thirty years ago a visit involved a Jeep ride of one hour, followed by a walk of 1½ hours, carrying all your luggage on your back, up an extremely rough path. The way is probably easier now. This area was constituted a National Park in 1977, but even so cannot be as crowded as are most of the better known parts of the Alps. Here now from our friends in the CAI comes a guidebook to climbs and to plants, animals and minerals.

**Les Calanques** (CAF Provence Sect, 1980, pp.190. French, illustrations, sketch plans, npq) Our fellow climbers in the Provence Section of the CAF with whom close links have long been maintained, have produced this new general handbook to the Calanques, which will be of considerable assistance to anyone inspired by the article on this subject in *AJ* 85 21, or otherwise. It gives details of walkers' routes, approaches to crags (climbs are covered in a separate series of handbooks) and whereabouts of caves. Read in conjunction with the IGN 1:15000 map, it is an absolute *must* for the intending visitor.

**Planet Earth—An Encyclopaedia of Geology** A compilation by many authors, A. Hallam Ed (Elsevier Phaidon, 1977, pp.320, 285 × 220mm, extensively illustrated in colour, £7.95) Another splendid addition to the mountaineer's reference bookshelf.

**Assault on Mount Everest** A new board game (\$10.00) for one or 2 players is now on sale in the USA. 'No special mountaineering knowledge is required to begin, although considerable insight into the problems of climbing the world's highest peaks will be gained in play'. In this it would seem to be a mirror of life.

**Mountain Weather** David Pedgley (Cicerone Press, 1979, pp.122, many maps and diagrams, £2.00) The author is a practising meteorologist and the book lives up to its subtitle: 'A Practical Guide for Hillwalkers and Climbers in the British Isles'. The principles of weather and weather maps are well described and the text liberally supported with maps, diagrams and a number of satellite pictures showing particular conditions over the British Isles. A welcome and useful book whose principles if properly grasped will no doubt stand one in good stead in places other than the British Isles.

**Avalanches. Protection, Location, Rescue** (Foundation Internationale Vanni Eigermann, Milan, n.d., pp.186, photos and diagrams, paperback, in English, npq.) A technical book on the current thoughts on avalanche rescue, following the Foundation's symposium held at Sulden in 1975.

**Master of Rock** The Biography of John Gill, Pat Ament (Alpine House, Boulder, 1977, pp. vi + 198, many black and white photos, £7.50.) An unusual book, consisting of hundreds of mainly small photographs of John Gill in incredible situations on boulders in various parts of the States. Gill, one of the finest technical climbers in the USA, prefers to concentrate on boulder problems, and Ament's text explores the reasons for this and generally portrays the life of his subject, whilst various other 'names' in American climbing contribute short reminiscences.

**Jesty's Panoramas** 1) A Guide to the View from the Summit of Snowdon. 3rd. Edition, 1980, 4 sheets, £1.20. 2) A Guide to the View from the Summit of Scafell Pike. 1978, 4 sheets, £1.20. 3) Ben Nevis Panorama. 4th Edition (revised), 1980, 60p. Three from a series of panoramas produced by Chris Jesty over the past 10-years in the form of outline drawings, although the Lake District sheets utilise drawings by Wainwright. The first 2 sets are in considerably greater detail than the Ben Nevis sheet, including notes of interest in the view, and it is unlikely that anything of greater accuracy will be produced. They form a handy guide for those interested in knowing exactly what they are looking at whilst sitting on the summit, although the occasions when everything detailed can be seen by the naked eye must be few and far between.

**The Himalayan Journal Vol. xxxv.** (OUP for the Himalayan Club, ed. S. S. Mehta, 1979, pp.viii + 364, Rs. 70.00) Whilst it is not now customary for the AJ to review club journals, mention must be made of the Golden Jubilee number of the Himalayan Journal, celebrating 50 years of the Club's life from 1928-1978 and covering the years 1976-1978. In addition to the usual reports covering the current crop of expeditions, the opportunity has been taken to reprint 6 articles from earlier journals, and in addition John Martin and Trevor Braham write on the 50 years of the Club's existence. We look forward to seeing many more issues of a journal which is so useful to the ever-increasing numbers planning expeditions to the Himalaya.

**Enjoy your Rockclimbing** Anthony Greenbank (Pelham, 1976, pp.152, diagrams and photos, £3.75.)

**Climbing for Young People** Anthony Greenbank (Harrap, 1977, pp.128 diagrams, £2.75.)

**The Complete Beginner's Guide to Mountain Climbing** Howard E. Smith Jnr (Doubleday, NY, 1977, pp.xiv + 242, diagrams and photos, \$6.95.)

Three further volumes to add to the pile of books already available for beginners.

**Geology of the Shaksgam Valley** Ardito Desio (Brill-Leiden, 1980, pp.xviii + 196, many maps, diagrams and photos, npq.) Volume III of the Scientific Reports of 'Italian Expeditions to the Karakorum (K2) and Hindu Kush'.

**Young Explorers** Richard Gilbert (G. H. Smith, 1979, pp. 8 + 236, maps and photos, npq.) This book is an account of the five schoolboy expeditions which the author has led from Ampleforth College to Iceland (2), Morocco, Arctic Norway and to Kolahoi in the Himalaya. The latter was by far the most ambitious venture and the account of the ascent forms more than half the book. (See also *AJ* 1978, p174.) The book is produced in an unusually large type, with

illustrations that are rather poorly reproduced, although the colour photos are generally sharp and clear.

**The World of Caves** A. C. Waltham (Orbis, 1976, pp.128 numerous diagrams and photographs, all in colour, £5.95.) A description of caves and caving in many parts of the world, including their natural history and occupational history.

**A Lakeland Summer** Elizabeth Batrick (Cicerone Press, 1979, pp.100, drawings, npq.) A charming book, giving a nostalgic look back to a family holiday spent in the Lake District in childhood in the 1930s.

**High Drama** Hamish MacInnes (Hodder & Stoughton, 1980, pp.208, maps and photos, £7.95.) Sub-titled 'Mountain rescue stories from four continents', the author covers rescue stories from the Eiger and Matterhorn, both pre- and post-war, in the Tatras, Cairngorms and Tetons, as well as in New Zealand and on Peak Lenin and Everest, ending with the 'self help' ordeal on the Ogre of Scott and Bonington. Whilst a number of the chapters and introductions are written by the author himself, the majority of incidents are described by people involved at the time.

**Mountaineering** John Cleare (Blandford Press, 1980, pp.169, 200 × 140mm, illustrations, some b & w, many colour, £3.95) This is a volume in the publisher's Colour Series and, as we have come to expect from the author, is magnificently illustrated. No less than 71 colour pictures are bound together in a central block; however, the small format has resulted in some rather small reproductions. The black and white pictures exhibit the usual shortcomings of offset litho and are not notable.

The accompanying text is a succinct survey of the sport—Mountains and Men (philosophy and ethics); Mountains of the World (a 23 page summary); Ten Great Mountains (from Half Dome to K2); Men in High Places (short biographies of 10 great mountaineers); Mountain Sport (short sections on hill walking; fell running; rock climbing; ice climbing; ski mountaineering; Alpine climbing; expeditioning; high altitude mountaineering). There are appendices on the History of Mountaineering at a Glance and How to Start, a Glossary and a Bibliography. All is very nicely presented. The whole range of the sport is encapsulated and at a price which all can afford.

**Men against the Clouds** R. L. Burdsall and A. E. Emmons 3rd (revised & reissued by The Mountaineers, Seattle, 1980, pp.324, npq) This account of the successful Minya Konka expedition of 1932 was originally published by Harper Bros in 1935 and was reviewed in *AJ* #8 199. This new edition has been prepared for the press by our good friend Terris Moore, who was one of the summit party. He contributes a Prologue and an Epilogue putting the expedition in context and bringing up to date the history of the mountain, since claimed as a first ascent (without any justification whatsoever) by the Chinese in 1957.

**Many people come, looking, looking** Galen Rowell (George Allen & Unwin, 1981, pp.164, 298 × 208mm, illustrations all colour—some double page spreads, £15) The illustrations, processed and printed in Japan, are remarkably good; on the double page spread of pp.150-1 you can tell exactly how the rock will feel when you stretch out and touch it. The text is a melange of mountaineering, lands and peoples in the Himalaya and Karakoram. There are expeditions to Nun Kūn and the Trango Towers, travels through mountain valleys and an up-to-date view of the impact of tourism on mountain peoples.

It would beautifully grace a coffee table or the within-reach book-shelf of the armchair mountaineer.

**Calanques, Sainte-Baume, Sainte-Victoire, les 400 plus belles escalades et randonnées.** Gaston Rébuffat (Denoël, Paris, 1980, pp.239 in French, 265 × 220mm, lavishly illustrated with colour and b & w photographs, line diagrams with marked routes and sketch maps, npq) This is yet another splendid volume in this publisher's outstanding series, of which our member Gaston Rébuffat is general editor and sometimes author. Usually each book-only covers 100 climbs, but here where routes are shorter and there are opportunities as well for scramblers and walkers, there is room for many more (400).

The weight (1.2 kg) confines its use to the library but, with its huge range of pictures and route diagrams, it is an excellent instrument for planning. But it would indeed also stand out on its own as a coffee table book. Thoroughly and unreservedly recommended.

**Mountaineering—The Freedom of the Hills** Ed: Peggy Ferber (The Mountaineers, Seattle, pp.478, 230 × 150mm, photographs and sketches, npq) This is the 3rd edition of a club handbook which has gradually developed into a comprehensive treatise. Each of the 6 sections (Approaching the Peaks: Climbing Fundamentals; Rock Climbing; Snow and Ice Climbing; Safe Climbing; The Climbing Environment) is the work of a team of experts and the book serves as a textbook for the Club's Climbing Course. While by no means encyclopaedic it deals with wilderness mountaineering from an elementary to a fairly advanced level.

Even though the approach is directed essentially towards the North American continent, there is much here for everyone, so that the book adds up to one of the finest expositions of mountaineering and its background that has appeared for some years. Very worthy of a place on the climber's bookshelf.

**Atlas et Géographie de la France Moderne—Les Alpes Françaises** Paul & (the late) Germaine Veyret (Flammarion, 1979, pp.316 in French, 256 × 175mm, illustrations both black and white and colour, sketch maps, tables etc, npq) One of a series—Portrait de la France Moderne—this deals with every geographical aspect of the mountain areas of alpine France. Though of only marginal interest to climbers, it would provide good background reading for anyone who wished to learn something more of the mountain region as a whole. The pictures are good.

**Ascent** Ed by Allen Steck & Steve Roper (Sierra Club Books and Diadem Books Ltd, 1980, pp.272, 280 × 215mm, illustrations b & w and colour, \$17, £6.45) The latest offering of 'the Mountain Experience in Word and Image' (for review of previous issue, see *AJ* 82 262), this one is readily available in this country. There is something for everyone—expeditions, rock climbing, building climbing, philosophy and a not negligible piece of new fiction. Mark Twain's ascent of the Riffelberg is reproduced, as well as a translation from *Alpinisme* of that 1930 forecast of competitive climbing 'Un Grand Match' (see *AJ* 84 254). It is an excellent production and the pictures are beautifully reproduced, some of them double page spreads.

But, wonders this reviewer, wither mountaineering literature? Can it be kept up at this rate? Shall we go on getting more and more about more and more until we have had everything about everything, then have to start again at the beginning?

The Club has been fortunate in receiving so many Continental mountaineering books in the past year that a brief note is all that can be made on the majority:-

**Rochers Neiges et Sables** Pierre Dalloz (Lanore, Paris, 1978, pp.256, portrait of author, npq.)

**Carnets de Solitude** Nicolas Jaeger (Denoël, Paris, 1979, pp.240, photos (some coloured), maps and diagrams, paperback, npq.) Sub-titled '60 jours seul à 6,700 mètres d'altitude.'

**Les Andes du Perou** Nicolas Jaeger (Denoël, Paris, 1979, pp.178, many photos including excellent ones in colour, maps and diagrams, npq.) Sub-titled 'au coeur de la Cordillère blanche.'

**tutto Val Malenco** Ermanno Sagliani (Edizione, Milan, 1977, pp.272, photos and maps, softback, L.4,500.)

**Montagne e Natura** Vol I Cesare Saibene and Giuseppe Nangeroni (CAI, 1978, pp.280, hundreds of excellent black & white and colour illustrations, maps and diagrams, npq.)

**Dal Sempione allo Stelvio** Maurizio Gnudi and Franco Malnati (CDA, Torino, 1977, pp.260, many excellent black & white photos and maps, L.10,000.) Sub-titled '112 itinerari scialpinistici nelle Alpi Centrali.'

**Cinquant 'Anni di Alpinismo** Riccardo Cassin (dall'Oglio, 1977, pp.216, many black & white and coloured illustrations, L.15,000.)

**Dizionario Enciclopedico dell 'Alpinismo e degli Sport Invernali** Fulvio Campiotti (Mursia, Milan, 1970, pp.xvi + 864, numerous black & white and coloured photos, drawings diagrams, etc., L.25,000.)

**una salita al Gran Sasso d 'Italia nel 1794** Orazio Delfico (Libreria Alpina Editrice, Bologna, 1977, pp.40, (original numbering 34) + table and 2 folding drawings, softback facsimile, npq.)

**Guide des Raids a Skis** Pierre Merlin (Denoël, 1980, pp.xvi + 278, photos and many detailed maps, npq.) 'Grands Traversées' in the Alps, Pyrénées and Corsica.

**100 Jahre Österreichischer Alpenverein** Sektion Touristenklub Windischgarsten (1980, pp.64, photos, paperback, npq.)

**Der Lawinen Unfall Ursachen Vorbeugung Kameradenhilfe.** Oesterreichischer Alpenverein. (1979, pp.68, diagrams, paperback, npq.)

**La Valle di Rendena** Carlo Gambillo (Libreria Alpina Editrice, Bologna, 1977, pp.140, illustrations, lists of guides' tariffs and hotels, paperback, npq.) Facsimile edition of the original 1882 book.

**Symposion Bergsteigen als Lebensform und Lebenshilfe** (nd., pp.132, paperback, npq.)

**Les Alpes** Robert Bornecque (Arthaud, Paris, 1979, pp.312, many photographs, drawings and maps, npq.) A large format 'coffee table' book with excellent illustrations.

**Masino, Bregaglia, Disgrazia,** fotografata da Enrico Colzani (CAI Piana, 1978, not paginated, npq.) A large format book of black and white photographs of the region.

**Glaciers des Alpes** Robert Bachmann (Payot Lausanne, 1979, pp.320, numerous maps, drawings and photographs, many in colour, npq.) This volume, the French edition of Gletscher der Alpen, 1978, is a beautifully produced book which, after a general introduction, covers in detail all the major glaciers from the Haut Dauphiné to the Marmolada.

**Una Vita per la Montagna** Aldo Bonacossa/Ruth Berger (Tamari Editori, Bologna, 1980, pp.264, photographs, npq.)

**La Route de l'Everest avec l'expédition Française** Claude Deck and Pierre Mazeaud (Denoël, Paris, 1979, pp.146, numerous photos, nearly all in colour, large format, npq.) Excellent colour photos of the French Everest Expedition, concentrating on the approach march.

**The following expedition or other short reports have been received:-**

**1979 British Kishtwar Himalaya Expedition** (pp.13 + map and photos) Ascent of Brammah's Wife.

**RAOC Greenland Expedition 1979** (pp.59, maps and photos) East Greenland—Staunings Alps and Lyell Land.

**Kishtwar 77 Expedition Report** (pp.76, maps, diagrams, drawings and photos). Carlisle Mountaineering Club Himalayan Expedition 1977. Attempt on Sickle Moon and ascent of unnamed 20,970ft peak.

**RAE Mountaineering Club Kishtwar Himalayan Expedition 1980** (pp.35, photos). Ascent of Flat Top.

**Exercise Icy Mountains VI** (pp.28, map) British North East Greenland Expedition 1980. Exploration in the Hochstetters Forland area.

**Irish Andean Expedition 1980** (pp.20, map and photos) Nevado Caraz, Alpamayo and Artesonraju.

**K2 1980** (pp.16, map and photos) The British K2 Expedition 1980. Attempts on the West Ridge and Abruzzi Spur.

**Caves and Tunnels in Southeast England** Parts 1 & 2. Chelsea Speleological Society Records, Vols. 7 & 8 (pp.42 and 45, diagrams) A miscellany of reports on caves and tunnels in all parts of Southeast England.

Members may like to note that the following have been added in paperback during the past year:-

Boardman	<i>The Shining Mountain</i>	Arrow	£1.75
Brown	<i>Hamish's Mountain Walk</i>	Paladin	£2.25
Habeler	<i>Impossible Victory</i>	Sphere	£1.50

## In Memoriam

### Introduction

**Geoffrey Templeman**

1980 has proved to be a year in which the Club has again suffered a heavy crop of fatalities, the list since the publication of the last Journal totalling 16. These are:

Lucien Devies (Hon. Member); David Munsey; Miles Mosley; Dr Dorothy Arning; Margaret Helburn; Kenneth Hockenhill; Campbell Secord; Dr John Lewis; Harold Meyer; Nicolas Jaeger; Nick Tritton; Faye Kerr; Prof Walter Herbert; Frank Pasteur; John Lucas and Mario Fantin.

The majority of those listed above have obituaries in the pages that follow, but, for various reasons, short notes must suffice for one or two members.

**John Ponsonby Lucas**, who joined the Club in 1937, died last year aged 77. In his application for membership he listed climbs in the Alps, Pyrenees and Norway in most years from 1924 until the outbreak of war, all guideless and many alone.

**Mario Fantin** died in Bologna towards the end of last year in his 61st year. He was one of the Club's distinguished Italian members and, in proposing him for membership in 1963, Aldo Bonacossa emphasised how great a debt the CAI owed him through his remarkable activity in organizing expeditions and documenting the results of his researches. The Alpine Club, too, has to thank Mario Fantin for the many Italian books which he presented to the library. His Alpine climbs, starting in 1947, cover most of the major peaks from W to E, including a grand 23-day traverse in 1956 with 22 bivouacs. Elsewhere he climbed in the Karakoram, Peruvian Andes, Kilimanjaro and the Ruwenzori, and in Greenland, as well as producing numerous books, articles in magazines and films.

For the remainder, tributes promised have been beaten by the printer's deadline and must wait until the next Journal. I am, however, pleased to be able to print full obituaries for Michael de Pret Roose and Mrs Doris Porter, both of whom were only mentioned in the last *AJ*, as well as