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INDICATOR ON BEN MACDHUI.

THE Club has decided to proceed with the erection of an indicator on the summit of Ben Macdhui similar to that on Lochnagar and it is hoped that the work may be completed this summer. The matter was mentioned at the annual dinner of the Club in December, and subscriptions amounting to no less than £120 were intimated towards the cost of the scheme. It was resolved, however, by the committee of the Club, which met in March to discuss the details of the project, to issue a general appeal for subscriptions because the expenditure involved will be heavier than in the case of the Lochnagar indicator, and because it is desired to have a fund permanently in hand for the future upkeep of the indicator.

The idea of an indicator on Ben Macdhui was first mooted in 1914 when a number of members present at the Dalwhinnie meet suggested that a memorial should be raised to Mr. Alexander Copland who was the first President of the Club and who did so much to establish it in its early days, and that it should take the form of an indicator on Ben Macdhui, an appropriate tribute in view of Mr. Copland's labours in preparing a panorama from the summit. (Published in four sections as supplement to Vols. II. and III. *C.C.J.*) As matters developed, it was found simpler to proceed with the Lochnagar indicator first; Lochnagar being a hill much more frequently ascended than Ben Macdhui, and the

success of the Lochnagar undertaking has encouraged the Club to now take in hand the more costly and more arduous task of erecting an indicator on the highest of the Cairngorms. Once again the technical skill and mountaineering enthusiasm of Mr. James A. Parker have made such an enterprise possible. He has prepared a design, circular in form, showing the principal summits and points visible from the top of Ben Macdhuì, and this will be transferred to a porcelain slab of the same style as the Lochnagar one and erected on a masonry pedestal close to the summit cairn of the mountain. The top of Ben Macdhuì lies within the Fife estate and the consent of the Princess Royal to the erection of the indicator has been graciously given. The inscription on the indicator will bear that it is in memory of "Alexander Copland, a President of the Club."

Mr. Parker ascended Ben Macdhuì on April 19th, taking with him the drawing of the indicator and a plane table and 5 inch compass, for the purpose of comparing the drawing with the actual horizon. He was alone and had a very considerable weight to carry, but fortunately the snow, which was continuous from the foot of the Sron Riach to the summit, was hard and the going was good. Mist lay on the top, when he arrived shortly before one o'clock, but in some twenty minutes it lifted and a magnificent view opened up in every direction, and the weather continued perfect for the rest of the afternoon, Mr. Parker being able to erect his table and check his drawing by bearings on the actual hills under exceptionally fine conditions. It was a piece of extraordinary luck to go out from Aberdeen and climb the mountain upon chance and get an all-round view of such a rare character.