

[To the Editor of *The Cairngorm Journal*].

DEAR SIR.—Regarding the New Year fatality, may I point out that neither Baird nor Barrie was concerned in the Rectorial kidnapping. This was the work of Findlay and Stewart, both of whom are now doctors and keen climbers. Baird and Barrie had climbed in the Cairngorms however. I knew all four (indeed Baird and Barrie and I were going to start a University climbing club in January, 1928).

HUMANITY DEPARTMENT,
THE UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW, *February, 1928.*

I am,
Yours sincerely,
RONALD BURN.

U.S. MOUNTAINEERING ACCIDENT.

THE New York correspondent of *The Times* gives a graphic account of the fate of an inexperienced climber. Six Dartmouth students, he says, started out from the college at Hanover, New Hampshire, on Wednesday, November 28, to climb Mount Washington during the Thanksgiving Day holiday. They were all experienced climbers but one, a freshman named Herbert J. Young, of St. Louis, who had never been up a mountain before. On the following Sunday night five of the six returned to Hanover with the body of Young. All of them were in a pitiable condition, and two had had their feet frozen. The party had climbed to the top of Carter Notch on Thanksgiving Day (November 29) and next morning they set out for the Appalachian Club hut at the Lake of Clouds, far above the timberline of the mountain. The hut was still a mile away when Young complained of feeling weak. With a gale raging, his companions decided it was wiser to try and reach the base station three miles below than to push on to the hut. But before they reached the timber they were caught in a heavy snowstorm. Young pleaded to be allowed to sleep, but they dragged him along as well as they could. Progress, however, was so alarmingly slow that two of the party, Allen and Fairchild, decided to go ahead to the base and get a toboggan to bring Young in on, while the others remained with him to keep him awake. They left at 1 a.m. on Saturday, and, after a heroic struggle through the snow, reached the base cabin, only to find no toboggan. It was late on Saturday afternoon before they got back to the party on the mountain. Young was then unconscious. The five students carried and dragged him down the mountain, and some time during the journey he died. When they did not know.