

REVIEWS.

The Alpine Journal, No. 243, November, 1931. 10/6 net. Packed full of interesting matter and profusely illustrated, this number well upholds the high reputation of *The Alpine*

THE ALPINE *Journal*. It is impossible here to do more than JOURNAL. indicate one or two of the main features. The opening article is "The Conquest of Mount Fair-weather," the record of what the editor calls "a magnificent expedition," adding that the ascent is "the hardest yet accomplished among the 'Arctic' mountains of North America." Mr. F. S. Smythe deals with "The Kamet Expedition, 1931." This is another record of pioneer work, and is of special interest as showing the ways in which difficulties on unexplored ground were overcome. There are maps, and one of them shows a main glacier "as about 12 miles in length," but it "does not exist." Tributes are paid to a number of well-known climbers who have passed away, including Sir George Morse, and there are accounts of the season's accidents, in regard to which we are told that "a wave of recklessness and folly is spreading throughout the Alps." "And what," asks a correspondent, "is the object of this foolhardiness? The recent illustrations in this, or any other, Alpine periodical will furnish an answer. To force a new route a few yards to the right or left of one discovered years before by some climber not wholly devoid of mountain-sense, and possessed of a reasonable regard for the lives of himself and his companions. And then, Sir, to call on you to play the part of the Recording Angel! Is it not time that *The Alpine Journal* took a firm stand in this matter? It can hardly afford to view without a protest the degradation of a noble sport by the freaks of a relatively small band of gymnasts who, in the last resource, will assail the mountains with the instruments of road-breakers."

The Scottish Mountaineering Club Journal, No. 112, November, 1931. 2/6 net. This is a number of particular interest to members

S.M.C. of the Cairngorm Club, since three of the articles deal with the Cairngorms. In "The Central Crack JOURNAL. of Coire An Lochain," Mr. A. Harrison describes a pleasant rock climb on that crag in search of cairngorms; in "A Week at Corrou Bothy," Messrs Baird and Traquair give a well-written account of their expeditions in the Cairngorms (including rock climbs) and in the Ben Lutharn district; in "Ghosts' High Moon on the Cairngorms," Mr. D. W. Robinson tells of a midnight climb of Angel's Peak from the Feshie, on mid-summer's eve. The chief article is "Twelve Days in the Hut," an

interesting and enjoyable description of the climbs on the Ben Nevis Face, by Mr. G. Graham Macphee. Messrs. J. H. B. Bell and E. C. Thomson reveal their literary powers and a sound knowledge of their subjects in "The Diamond Buttress of Bidean nam Bian" and "In Defence of Ben More," respectively. The number contains the usual notes and reports of the excursions of the Club and of the Junior Mountaineering Club of Scotland, and is well illustrated by six fine photographs and a diagram.

The Hiker and Camper (London : 2 Carmelite Street, E.C.4), of which we have received Vol. I, Nos. 5 and 6, is an interesting publication, packed full of information "for the rambler, the hiker, HIKING. camper, camping motorist, cyclist, and all lovers of the open air." It gives official notes and gossip of the Federations of Rambling Clubs, and The Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland. "Scottish Notes" is a feature, and we observe some sound advice to the unversed and inexperienced who may be tempted to tackle the Cairngorms. Such people are urged not to go adventuring on the hills beyond the reach of a telephone kiosk. If they take this advice, they will be quite safe.

We have received *The Scottish Geographical Magazine*, Vol. XLVII, Nos. 4, 5, and 6 (July, September, and November, 1931).