

REVIEWS.

The Alpine Journal, Nos. 247 and 248, November, 1933, and May, 1934. 10/6 each. As the years go on, these issues seem to become larger and larger, but they are always full of interest for the mountaineer. No. 247 starts with a detailed account of that great personality, the late Duke of the Abruzzi, whose name, as an explorer and mountaineer of outstanding capacity, will pass down to the posterity of the climbing world. His well-known book, "The Ascent of Mount St. Elias," (Arch, Constable & Co., Ltd.), and his exploration in the Ruwenzori Mountains in Africa, are records of determination and endurance. There is an exceedingly interesting article by Hugh Ruttledge on the 1933 Mount Everest Expedition, splendidly illustrated, and the article on "Climbing in Scotland," by H. MacRobert, the President of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, is no mean tribute to our homeland hills. No. 248 has a fitting foreword on the tragic death of Albert I, King of the Belgians, which ends very aptly thus—"There may come other mountaineering Kings—he has set the example. But there will never be a more kingly mountaineer, or a more noble gentleman." That great mountaineer, Dr. Longstaff, writes an extremely interesting and practical article on "Lessons from the Mount Everest Expedition of 1933," the soundness of which a well-known medical member of the Alpine Club finds it difficult to attack. It is with regret that we find the name of the famous climber, Douglas W. Freshfield, in the *In Memoriam* list.

The Scottish Mountaineering Club Journal, Nos. 116 and 117, November 1933, and April, 1934. 2/6 each. Both numbers are of the usual high standard of this *Journal*, and contain a number of instructive articles and excellent illustrations. The name of Mr. J. A. Parker, whose ability to produce good matter on mountaineering continues to be prolific, is appended to two articles, five photographs and four notes. In the former number he carries on his account of the Outer Hebrides with "The Mountains of South Uist," while in the latter he turns his attention to "The Old tracks through the Western Highlands" as shown on Roy's Map of Scotland, which was prepared between 1747 and 1755. Interest should also be aroused by the claims to the first ascent of the Mitre Ridge of Beinn a' Bhuid, and it seems clear that the honour must go to the two parties who climbed this fine pinnacle on July 4, 1933. Mr. P. D. Baird relates in "Exploration in the North-West," in a clear and brisk manner, the story of ten days' climbing in the district around Loch Broom, and Mr. Percy Donald surveys comprehensively the hills of most of the ranges of

Central Scotland in "The Two Thousand Feet Tops of the Scottish Lowland Uplands." We congratulate Mr. J. Dow on joining the select company of those who have climbed the 277 Scottish Munros. His article, "Munros, Beards and Weather," gives some interesting statistics of his feat (although he suggests that modern transport precludes the use of the word). In the second number, Mr. W. Ross McLean contributes a lengthy article on the Isle of May and the Bass Rock, in which he shows a deep knowledge of the history and topography of both islands. We are amused by Mr. J. Gordon Robinson's account of "A Scavenging Hunt or Ne'erday Nightmare," and hope that the organiser did not suffer too badly in the scramble for the last article. The customary Notes and Proceedings of the Club and the Junior Section make up two excellent numbers.

The Rucksack Club Journal, Vol. VII, No. 4, 1934. 4/-. This is a very fine number, containing several excellent articles dealing with climbing in many parts of the world—New Zealand, RUCKSACK Iceland, Scotland, Dolomites, Eastern Alps, Greece, CLUB Spain, Wales, and Cumberland. Possibly the two most JOURNAL. interesting articles are "On Desert Ways," by R. A. Eastwood, which describes a journey in Iceland, and would be of value to anyone proposing to visit the outlying parts of Iceland, and "The Sierra Nevada of Spain," by G. A. Deane, which describes an ascent of Mulhacen and has two good views. The Editor contributes a very sensible note on mountaineering accidents, from which we notice that the Committee consider that a small Committee should be set up to investigate all cases of serious accident in future. The illustrations are exceptionally fine, but this is only what one expects in *The Rucksack Club Journal*.

The Yorkshire Ramblers' Club Journal, No. 21, 1934. This is an interesting and well illustrated issue. Mr. G. T. Lowe, the first President of the Club, contributes two articles, one dealing Y.R.C. with the first forty years of the life of the Club, and the JOURNAL. second giving a good description of the Roman Wall of Hadrian (with map). There are several articles dealing with cave exploration, the most interesting being probably that by Mr. H. Yates describing the exploration and surveying of Goyden Pot, Nidderdale. The map which accompanies this article is printed in two colours and gives a good idea of how intricate the actual work of the survey must have been. The remaining articles in the *Journal* deal with a variety of places, including South Africa, Johore, Dauphine, and Cumberland.

WE acknowledge with thanks receipt of *The Mountaineering Journal*, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 5, and Vol. II, No. 1; *The Scottish Geographical Magazine*, Vol. XLIX, Nos. 5 and 6, and Vol. L, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.