

PAST EDITORS.

THE fact that the editorship has changed hands with this issue affords an occasion for a few remarks about those who have held this office in the Club. From its beginning the *Journal* has maintained a high standard, and the thanks of the Club are due, now as heretofore, to those members who have carried the periodical on. All these editors have, one after another, done the Club and its members very good service. The editing of a periodical of this kind has difficulties to contend with that the reader does not always appreciate when he sees the finished product in the shape of the *Journal*. Thanks to its editors, this *Journal* has come through fair weather and bad weather alike; and to-day it enjoys the cumulative results of their labours. Their names are as follows; and as there are not now a great many members of the Club who have known them all personally, we append a few explanatory remarks to their names.

1889-1910, ALEX. INKSON MCCONNOCHIE (six volumes).—First Secretary of the Club and Editor of the *Journal* for many years. Tall and athletic, he tramped all the hills of our district with perfect intimacy, and his knowledge extended over most of the Highlands. In the nineties of last century there was no more ardent hill-climber in Scotland, and he was one of the first men to climb the higher hills in winter. His qualities as a descriptive writer have been very frequently seen in the pages of the *Journal*, as well as in the series of books which have come from his pen.

1911-1912, JAMES G. KYD (two numbers).—One of the pioneers of ski-running in this country and a keen hill-climber.

1912-1914, JAMES B. GILLIES (five numbers).—An admirable Secretary of the Club and Editor. He fell in action in 1916.

1915-1923, ROBERT ANDERSON (three volumes).—All his life a hill-climber and trampler, no one had a more thorough knowledge of the north-east of Scotland, its hills and valleys. He wrote many articles in the *Journal*, and various writings from his active pen are well known, such as the revised edition of Pratt's "Buchan."

1924-1926, HENRY ALEXANDER (three numbers).—Besides contributions to the *Journal*, is the author of the standard Guide to the Cairngorms.

1927-1934, EDWARD W. WATT (two volumes).—While maintaining the character the *Journal* has had from the beginning, he has developed the *Journal* by the inclusion of numerous illustrations and, in particular, by securing full reports of the meetings and proceedings of the Club.

W. M. A.

In Memoriam.

WALTER A. SMITH.

THE death of Walter A. Smith at Potarch on October 25, 1934, removed from the list the name of one of the few remaining original members of the Club. Living in Edinburgh, he was in recent years unable to join to any great extent in the Club's activities. He was also an original member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club and of the Scottish Rights of Way Society, in whose work he took a long and active interest.

Although business kept him largely in the south—he was Secretary and, later, Manager of the English and Scottish Law Life Association—he spent much of his leisure among the southern hills, and was author of "The Pentland Hills: Their Paths and Passes" and of "The Hill Paths of Scotland."