NOTES.

This number completes Volume XIV. Title-pages and Index to the volume will be issued with the next number.

To those who have responded to my frequently repeated request for material I tender thanks, not alone for their contributions but also for their patience with the whims and foibles of the Hon. Editor! Mitchell and Train, in producing the illustrations and embellishments, alternatives to these and improvements upon them, have suffered much from my inability to put the tongue of criticism in the cheek of discretion. And yet, withal, our relations continue to be friendly! The pages of notes are largely the efforts of the President and Mr Welsh, who appear to have accepted the principle of the division of labour.

We have suffered of late from a dearth of articles, but an improvement in this respect is noticeable. I received this year two separate accounts of the Easter Meet, to say nothing of several unsolicited articles. Contributions to the next number should be sent to the Hon. Editor, 25 Cairnaquheen Gardens, Aberdeen, at the earliest moment, and not later than the 29th April 1939.

Members' subscriptions are due on January 1 of each year; the Secretary's reminder is sent out in December. Nevertheless, a considerable number delay sending in subscriptions until near the end of the financial year in October. As this naturally causes inconvenience in the payment of Club accounts, members will facilitate the work of the Hon. Secretary by remitting subscriptions as soon after January 1 as may be convenient.

The Club membership now stands at 261 as compared with a total membership of 257 at October 31, 1937.

It does not seem to be generally known that the Club Library is in the Secretary's Office, and is always available for reference or borrowing during business hours.

In addition to the Journals, etc., under review, the following additions have been made to the Library:—

- "The Technique of Alpine Mountaineering," S.A.C. (no date).
- "Scottish Youths' Hostels Handbook," 1937.
- "The Highlands of Scotland," Ward, Lock & Co., 8th Edition, 1937.
- "My Climbs in the Alps and Caucasus," by A. F. Mummery, New Edition, 1937.
- "Wanderings in the High Alps," by A. Wills, New Edition, 1937.
- "List of Altitudes in the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine," by Thos. F. Jamieson, 1859.



R. L. Mitchell

"The sundry contemplation of my travels, by often rumination, wraps me in a most humorous sadness."

Notes. 309

"The Complete Scotland," Ward, Lock & Co.'s Guide, 2nd Edition, 1937.

"Italian Alps," by D. W. Freshfield, New Edition, 1937.

LANTERN SLIDE COLLECTION.

 $_{
m THE}$ following additions have been made to the collection: 27 slides presented by Mr Hugh D. Welsh.

Mr Welsh has also kindly presented four grooved boxes for holding the slides.

THE SILVA COMPASS.

THE Silva Compass, which is made in Sweden, should be of great use to climbers for route-finding in thick weather. The needle is enclosed in a circular box, which is inserted in a rectangular piece of celluloid or other transparent material, and can be rotated with reference thereto. On the underside of the box there is a circle of degrees reading from 0 to 360, which enables one to use the instrument as a protractor if desired. The method of using the instrument is extremely simple and is as follows:—

Orient your map carefully, with the meridian lines pointing true north and south. Place the instrument on it, with the centre direction line, or one of the longer edges, of the celluloid base parallel to the line of the route to be followed and pointing in the proper direction. Hold the base firmly in the above position and rotate the compass box until the pointer on its window is exactly above the north end of the compass needle. The instrument is then ready for use, as it will always point out the proper direction when held with the pointer on the window directly above the north end of the needle.

Luminous points are provided for use at night. The instrument is sold in two forms, liquid-filled and not so filled. The liquid-filled is the one to get, as in the other the needle is too lively and would cause loss of time waiting for the needle to settle. It is marketed by Messrs T. Black & Sons of Greenock, but may be obtained locally.—J. A. P.