

turn of the century, one of a family of ten brothers and sisters, Smithie's love of the hills was fostered by week-ends and holidays spent in Glen Esk. During the First World War he served in the Royal Navy as a signaller on merchant ships plying between this country and America, and his knowledge and experience proved of value in the last war when he became a Home Guard signalling instructor in the harbour area. After demobilisation in 1919, he served with Messrs A. Scott & Co., Bankers and Merchants in Rangoon, later returning to this country to join the staff of J. & W. Henderson Ltd., Builders' Merchants, of which Company he rose to be Secretary. Owing to ill-health he was, unfortunately, compelled to retire from business before his time.

In his younger days he took a great interest in the Lads' Club and derived much pleasure from taking the boys on excursions on summer evenings and week-ends. To many of these youngsters, as to others, he was a wise counsellor and a staunch friend. Another of his relaxations was a game of bridge.

Smithie, who was also a member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, joined the Cairngorm Club in 1931, becoming in 1946 the first Meets Secretary, a post he relinquished in 1952 on being elected President. In token of his services to the Club over a period of thirty years he was deservedly made an Honorary Member in 1961. An excellent companion on the hills, he possessed a keen though quiet sense of humour and was an accomplished camp cook whose culinary efforts were limited only by the number of stoves and dixies available.

In Scotland, he had been on a large proportion of the Munros, but his heart lay in the Deeside hills. He made three short visits to the Alps, and had climbed at least two of the Zermatt four-thousanders, but preferred the relaxation of the lower tops and alpine valleys.

For the last few years of his life, during which he was upheld by the devoted care of his sister Meg, it was a great sorrow to his friends to see his activities increasingly curtailed as his health deteriorated. His ashes lie buried on the outskirts of Braemar overlooking the hills he had climbed so often and loved so much.

N. F. D.

G. R. PAGE

George Ronald Page's unexpected death on April 12, 1966, some four days after a fall on An Gearanach, came as a tragic shock to his

many friends in the Club. The Club has lost one of its most enthusiastic members as, apart from his family and his work, mountaineering was his main interest. He joined the Club in 1954 and took part in all its activities, rarely missing an outdoor meet. He was a powerful walker and participated in many long treks, including on one occasion seven Munros in one day. Many will recall George's keen sense of humour which made him such a delightful companion on the hills. The Easter meets were his special joy and his infectious laugh and good companionship contributed much to their success. In due course he was elected to the Committee and at the time of his death was Senior Vice-President; most likely he would have been next President. This was his second term of office as Vice-President and he played a large part in the organisation of the many successful indoor meets held during the last few years. An ever-present at the Annual Dinner, a function in which he took great delight, George was on occasions called upon to enliven the evening with a witty speech. His enthusiasm for the hills extended beyond the official meets and excursions of the Club and many of us will recall with great pleasure wonderful climbing holidays spent in his company.

He held the post of Senior Lecturer in the School of Pharmacy at Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology and was responsible for the teaching of Pharmaceutics. He worked hard for his students, the college and the professional standards in which he believed. His mastery of his profession, his tolerance and understanding, made him an outstanding teacher with the ability to make tedious and complicated studies seem alive and simple. George Page was a most erudite man and his advice was widely sought, not only by his immediate colleagues, but also by those in other faculties. The Pharmaceutical Society recognised his abilities by appointing him to its Board of Examiners in 1950 and he remained an active member of that Board until his death. Keenly interested in local pharmaceutical matters, George served as a Committee member of the Aberdeen and North Eastern Scottish Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society and his professional and academic views were highly respected.

Above all George Page was a family man. Those of us who were privileged to know the Pages were ever conscious of the happy atmosphere at 35 Angusfield Avenue and our sympathy is extended to Mrs Page and her two sons.

J. S. G.