

H.M.R.W.

**THE
CAIRNGORM
CLUB
JOURNAL**

93

1968

PRICE FIVE SHILLINGS

THE CAIRNGORM CLUB JOURNAL

Vol. 17

1968

No. 93

Edited by R. L. MITCHELL

CONTENTS

	PAGE
The Text of the Letters Patent granting Arms to the Club	225
The Arms of the Club	227
Weisshorn and Aletschhorn Traverses, by Anne Cordiner	228
The Seventy-fifth Anniversary Excursion, by Two Members of Long Standing	234
The Elevation of the Principal Mountains in the Division of Mar, by George Skene Keith	238
The Trap is Sprung, by Hugh R. Spencer	244
Cairngorm Area	248
Maps of Mountains, by R. L. Mitchell	252
Recollections of George Taylor	256
In Memoriam	260
Alpine Sunrise, by Betty Marsh	263
The 1965 Overnight Excursion	264
The Club Library	266
Proceedings of the Club	269
Notes—	
The Six Tops	273
The Highest Point in the Cairngorms	275
Through the Hills	275
The Cairngorms National Nature Reserve	278
Derry Lodge 1951-1967	278
The Lairig in Oil	279
Dare me to the Desert	279
British and Irish Mountain Tops	280
Once Too Often	281
Some Recent Climbing Books	282
Cairngorm Guide-Books	286
Climbing Journals	286
The Cairngorm Club Library Catalogue	287

Illustrations—

The Arms of the Club ; Part of the Cairngorm Club Map of the Cairngorm Mountains, 1895 ; Dr G. A. Taylor ; E. W. Smith and William Malcolm at Pavillon Cathrein, Concordia Platz in 1938 ; The Menu for the First Club Dinner ; Derry Lodge.

PUBLISHED BY THE CAIRNGORM CLUB, 1 AUCHMILL ROAD, BUCKSBURN,
ABERDEEN.

Agents WATT AND GRANT LTD., 247 UNION STREET, ABERDEEN

THIS number completes Vol. 17 of the *Cairngorm Club Journal*. The Title Page, List of Contents, Index and List of Members for inclusion in the bound volume will be issued to members and subscribers as soon as possible.

Material for inclusion in the first number of Vol. 18 should be submitted to the Editor, Dr R. L. Mitchell, 125 Cranford Road, Aberdeen AB1 7NJ. Articles should in general be from 1,500 to 3,000 words in length. Black-and-white photographs need not, in the first instance, be larger than contact prints, provided the negatives are available.



THE CAIRNGORM CLUB JOURNAL

Vol. 17

1968

No. 93



TO ALL and SUNDRY whom These Presents Do or May Concern, WE, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Baron of Learney, Kinnairdy and Yeochrie, Doctor of Laws, Advocate, Lord Lyon King of Arms, send Greeting, Whereas, Ralph Alexander Gerstenberg (President), and John Yeaman Leslie Hay (Honorary Secretary) of THE CAIRNGORM CLUB having by Petition of date 9th December 1964 unto Us on behalf of the said Club SHEWN:—THAT the Cairngorm Club with Headquarters at Aberdeen was founded on the day following Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887 at a meeting of Aberdeen climbers on the shores of Loch Avon; THAT the said Club was formally constituted in January 1889, and the objects, as declared in the Constitution, are to encourage mountain climbing in Scotland with special reference to the Cairngorm group of mountains; to procure and impart scientific and other information concerning mountains; to consider the right of access to Scottish mountains and to adopt such measures in regard thereto as may be deemed advisable; and to issue such publications as may be considered advantageous; THAT Life and Ordinary or Full Membership of the Club is confined to such persons as can satisfy the Committee of Management that they have experience of climbing on the higher Scottish hills, particularly in the Cairngorm area, or have made substantial contributions to the science, art and literature of the Cairngorms or other Scottish mountains; THAT the said Club has since 1893 produced a Journal containing a record of its

proceedings, including articles by members and others of particular interest to mountaineers and has held regular Meets and Excursions throughout the years and has endeavoured to encourage responsible behaviour by climbers, and to maintain good relations with land-owners and tenants; it has co-operated with other climbing clubs and with national bodies to preserve and improve the amenities of the countryside and has taken a direct initiative in erecting and repairing bridges, mountain indicators and mountain huts and refuges; AND the Petitioners having prayed that the said Club might be granted such Ensigns Armorial as might be found suitable and according to the Laws of Arms, Know Ye Therefore that We have Devised and Do by These Presents Assign, Ratify and Confirm unto The Cairngorm Club, the following Ensigns Armorial, as depicted upon the margin hereof, and matriculated of even date with These Presents upon the 129th page of the 45th Volume of Our Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland videlicet:—Per chevron Azure and Gules, a chevron Argent between in chief a cross-crosslet fitchée in dexter and an antique crown in sinister both Or, and in base two ice-axes, head upwards also Or, and in an Escrol this Motto *clac-dian* by demonstration of which Ensigns Armorial, Insignia of Nobility, the said Club is amongst all Nobles and in all Places of Honour, to be taken, numbered, accounted and received as an Incorporation Noble in the Noblesse of Scotland; In Testimony Whereof We have Subscribed These Presents and the Seal of Our Office is affixed hereto at Edinburgh: this 1st day of March in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her Other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-five.

Thomas Innes of Learney
Lyon

THE ARMS OF THE CLUB

IN 1965 the Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland granted to the Cairngorm Club, in the terms set out on p. 225, the coat-of-arms or heraldic achievement illustrated in the frontispiece.

The receipt of this honour by the Club was due entirely to the initiative of the late Dr G. A. Taylor, who was responsible for the presentation of the Club's submission to the Lyon Court, and for putting forward for consideration the salient features of the devices on the shield. The Club is deeply indebted to Dr Taylor for his efforts to ensure that the arms were appropriate.

The principles that were kept in mind in drafting the arms were that the design should be uncomplicated and that the heraldic devices should be of familiar and simple type. They should suggest the foundation of the Club, its main activity, and the locality which the Club considers its own. The latter was met by the incorporation of features appearing in coats-of-arms of the old families associated with the area.

The shield is divided per chevron, as this shape was thought by Dr Taylor to give some idea of a mountain peak, with a red field below to recall the old name of the Cairngorm range, Monadh Ruadh, and blue above to indicate the sky. The silver chevronel may be taken to represent a covering of snow.

The activity of the Club is indicated by the crossed ice-axes, a symbol which occurred on an old badge, while the Motto suggests the circumstances of the formation of the Club near the Shelter Stone. The devices on the shield include extracts from the arms of the two families whose great estates enclosed the Cairngorms. On the true right, or dexter, is a gold cross-crosslet from the ancient arms of the Earl of Mar, while on the left, or sinister, a gold antique crown from the arms of Grant of Grant.

WEISSHORN AND ALETSCHHORN TRAVERSES

ANNE CORDINER

I AM sure that I am by no means the only climber who must have had long-held plans spoilt or delayed by the caprices of the weather. My luck improved slightly in 1963 and some ambitions have been fulfilled, perhaps not always to the hoped-for climax. However, one must not be greedy but be grateful for some of the wonderful experiences vouchsafed unto us.

In the summer of that year, with a group of friends and Cesar (my guide), I drove up the very beautiful and still unspoilt Zinal Valley in the Valais district of Switzerland. The road wound and hairpinned through green and verdant pasture, with inspiring views upwards to the mountains and downwards to the Valley.

Having taken my "good" car as far as possible, we quenched our thirst and the party split up, some going higher to the lovely Arpitetta hut, the others remaining to explore Zinal itself and its immediate environs.

Greta, Cesar and I were packed into the back of the friendly Hotel-owner's Volkswagen, amid rucksacks prickly with crampons, and enjoyed a hilarious journey through rivers, round boulders, over a delta of debris from a gully, all brought down by the Montet Glacier in times past.

Having been deposited at the foot of the Chasseurs path, we struggled almost vertically upwards through a forest of vegetation and young conifers and finally swarmed up fixed ropes over muddy rocks. This was the "short cut" to the private hut at Arpitetta, one of the most charming I have ever visited. Owned and maintained by the Guides of the locality, it has a delightful situation, enjoying quite incredible views of the Weisshorn, Schalihorn, Moming and Dent Blanche. Well appointed, its water supply is collected from a pipe at the back, and it rejoices in a stainless-steel sink and lilos.

Dusk was approaching as we arrived. Having taken time to photograph the sunset, we set to work. Cesar, who had gone on ahead, had a stove going, but there was water to fetch, lamps to fill and food to cook. We ate and drank well that night! Tomorrow—at last—I was to set foot on the Weisshorn: would the weather and my luck hold?

A few hours of uneasy sleep, trying to relax rather than toss and turn, and at 2 a.m. Cesar's alarum watch went off. Quickly up and out into a surprisingly warm morning with the stars bright and twinkling—too good a chance to miss—and before 3 a.m. we were away. Greta was the noble soul who stayed behind, did the housework, decently interred the yards of remaining spaghetti and, on her way down, took photographs in the morning sunshine.

By the time she was setting out from the Hut, well after sunrise, Cesar and I were only just arriving on the Schaliyoch after a difficult journey. The steep snow and ice slopes up to the Joch had been disconcertingly soft, and, in many places, the wet soggy snow did not adhere to the hard ice underneath. An hour's rest in the sun, some much-needed food, mutterings from Cesar about the weather and we were preparing for the Schaligrat, the real climb of the day.

Cesar had not done this route before and he likes new routes. We hoped also to descend the Junggrat, so, to both of us, the climb was strange and exciting; as for me, at last I was achieving an ambition of many years standing.

The climbing was exhilarating and we made height rapidly over rocks rough and warm, much steeper and more exposed than they looked from below, much more difficult too than the Guide Book led one to believe, due to the large quantities of very unstable snow. Hour succeeded hour, I grew hungry, but about this time the clouds, which had been gathering slowly, descended upon us, enveloping us in wet, cold mist. Still we climbed on at full speed and it began to snow. No thought of stopping now and the pangs of hunger were stayed for a while with glucose. The weather, the technical difficulties, the dangerous snow required all our attention, and we hardly spoke. I thought disgustedly that all views had gone and no photo would be possible on the top.

Then suddenly we trod on no more rock, just snow with a couple of sticks in it; we were there! We congratulated each other and certainly my thanks to Cesar were deep from the heart.

Why do Guides climb in these conditions? Certainly not for the money. I have been lucky to find Cesar, for here is a man who loves his mountains. Only the mountain-lover undertakes such long trips and has the courage and skill to press on in face of bad weather. Lesser men would not have started at all. My heart fills with pride and gratitude as we undertake these climbs, for although a Guide, Cesar is well off. He has other businesses which bring him quite a substantial income, and, as he is not married, does not have to provide

for a family. Here is a man who is happy in high places and follows a calling which his father and grandfather (of Aconcagua fame) have bred in his blood, and a more able exponent of Mountaineering Art would be hard to find.

To return to the Weissshorn, fed and warmer now, with extra clothes and gloves on, we debated on the descent. The North Ridge neither of us knew, the usual route was normally not difficult and should have old tracks which might help.

I plunged downwards. The slopes were steep and I plunged in deeply almost to the hips, the ridge narrowed to a steep crest, snow broke away in front of me and rolled in all directions in great woolly balls. I was unhappy as an avalanche seemed inevitable. I could not see Cesar at the end of the rope but the flow of German patois told me that he was unhappy too. The amount of new snow on the East Ridge was appalling, and it was immediately obvious that no one had ascended that day and that we would never find any old tracks.

Thoughts of an enforced bivouac was not an inviting prospect and spurred us to greater speed and care. Clinging precariously to the crest of the rib, we plunged on downwards, pushing down vast quantities of snow, which spun out into space at my right much more gracefully than we had any wish to do.

All the time from Cesar came the order "you are ready to jump, Anne, if the snow breaks? Always we must jump to the opposite side." This advice would possibly save our lives, but it would have been most unpleasant. I realised that, if I had to, I must jump first and think afterwards.

By the grace of God we came to the end of that interminable ridge and reached a small steep glacier, where our passage started a wet snow avalanche which fell between two constricting rock walls. While keeping a wary eye on its speed and dimensions, we rode the avalanche, finding it easier than walking.

Eventually we reached the Weissshorn hut, where a cold welcome awaited us—no stove going, no hot water, and only one couple in residence. While I wrung out my socks and emptied my boots on the veranda, I mused that it was at home in Scotland that one usually got so wet. Cesar organised some tea and our remaining food—chocolate. What were we to do? Supperless to bed and a long walk before breakfast or a long walk tonight with supper, bed and breakfast at journey's end. The answer was obvious! I knew Randa was a long way down and losing the path on one occasion did not help.

We descended with a halo of moths fluttering around our torches and ended, as we had begun, in the pitch dark, reaching the hotel at 10.10 p.m.

A long day in the high places had brought a glow of satisfaction through my weariness. We had endured, practised our craft and, even more important, kept our sense of humour and proportion. The Weisshorn is still there—the Junggrat awaits my boots—maybe next time the climb will have pleasanter memories and allow some photographs.

* * * * *

Much discussion preceded our next trip and, although we had designs on the Viereselgrat of the Dente Blanche, prudence decided against this because of the very dangerous snow conditions.

We settled finally on the Aletschhorn because we could make an easy approach—car to Blatten, cable-car to Belalp and then about two and a half hours to reach the Bernoud or Ober-Aletsch hut. We made good speed at all stages of our journey and enjoyed the walk up to the hut in a pleasant evening and with the company of a Swiss couple.

Andre Pont, Guardian, with his rare sense of humour and ready encouragement, was still there. We had an early meal, broached a bottle of wine and went off to bed at 8 o'clock, which left little enough time for sleep, as we were up again at 1 a.m. After forcing down a good breakfast, we were out in the dark night air at 2 a.m., still sweating slightly from my bunk and not too sure whether it was cold or not. The first blow came just outside the hut when Cesar demanded my torch and I was left racing after a fast departing "chamois", trying desperately to memorise the dangers and boulders which lay between the small circle of light and me. Not for the first time did I bless a pair of long legs.

Our two figures rushed ahead in the darkness, tripping and slithering, leaping over boulders and scree, now down onto the glacier with its refrozen surface glinting in the starlight, then up a gradually steepening side glacier, one step up and slither and backwards! Finally a halt to don crampons, when it was still so dark that we had to hold the torch for each other and our fingers discovered it was indeed very cold.

On and upwards and what a pantomime to avoid crevasses! In the dark the torch revealed only their gaping jaws and the depth was left to our imagination, which our rapid progress kept in check! Among the big crevasses at the beginning and centre of the glacier

we lost a lot of time, as they were too wide for uphill jumping and few had decent bridges. Sometimes we wove our way across several and had to retrace our steps when we met an impassable rift. Slowly we worked upwards, slowly the snow bridges improved and to speed up we trailed a longer rope between us. One moment Cesar was on his feet climbing steadily, next scuttling on all fours across a doubtful snow bridge. Behind, I followed suit, my heart often missing a beat as the snow creaked under me.

But all went well and eventually we puffed up the last steep slope in the cold grey light of dawn and into the sunshine of another new day, arriving at the foot of the Aletschhorn South Ridge.

A superb panorama opened before us—to the south the Valais lay sleeping, still shrouded in cotton wool clouds—only the giants the Weisshorn (“whiter than white”), the Mischabel and the Weissmies groups reaching up to the sun. Nearer at hand stood the massive Oberland ranges: Finsteraarhorn, Monch, Jungfrau, the chain of the Ebnefluh down the north side of the Lotschental and, of course, the Nesthorn and the Bietschhorn with its “cut off” top.

And though I feasted my eyes on this view, took photographs and appreciated how lucky I was, more mundane things imposed on my concentration. I had to admit I felt very sick indeed, and it was a long time since breakfast!

A rest and some food put things to rights again and we speculated on whether we were destined to find this ridge possible. Andre Pont had told us that it had never been climbed in its entirety during his eight years as guardian at the Ober-Aletsch hut. This was an inviting prospect so we roped up and were away.

Everything went easily for the first half-mile, providing the weight was distributed carefully between all available points of support, as the rock was very loose indeed. Climbing down between one gendarme and the next, one was liable to wait there, bridging a pile of rubble made up of blocks the size of the Shelter Stone.

The day wore on, a day of pure physical joy, sun and warm rock, gendarme after gendarme, rock crystals to explore and collect. By midday, as sun and altitude had brought a raging thirst and breathing became more laboured, we had to stop and rest now between the more difficult moves. We could see other parties coming and going on the West Ridge and, from the way they gazed at us, we were also visible to them.

Hour followed hour till we forced ourselves up the last 800 feet to the summit, glad at last to reach cool snow and to give our tortured

lungs and hearts some rest. It was now 2 p.m. and all the other parties had started on the way down. We knew we would not be the last back to the hut, as we watched the progress of the group below us!

An hour's rest and we started the descent—the trek along the glacier and the climb up to the hut were accomplished in a whirlwind two hours. I was only too happy to shove my head into the water-trough. In years gone by, I have run down British mountains for the sheer joy of it, or to catch a bus or train, or simply to get out of the rain. I never expected to run down a 4,000-metre Alpine giant just for fun—and yes, because it was Sunday and Cesar wanted to go to Mass!

Leaving the Hut, we paused for a last look. From the cushions of brilliant blue gentians and pink moss champions, our eyes wandered down to the glaciers below, where two met in a graceful curve, forming a great black heaving medial moraine, living geography, I thought, and wondered what the view from here had been a million years before. Then our eyes swept up to the towering peaks above, the Aletschhorn, a stately beautiful pyramid with its attendant peaks and ridges; in the opposite direction the Nesthorn with its graceful horseshoe of almost vicious-looking ridges and to the south a soft haze rising from the Rhône Valley and blending fold upon fold of hills with the soft darkness of dusk.

My shoulders ached, as did every joint for that matter! I fell into that pleasant lethargy which a long successful day in the hills can bring, when the legs take charge, and we trotted down in companionable silence, occasionally broken by a yodel of sheer joy.

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY EXCURSION

TWO MEMBERS OF LONG STANDING

THE overnight excursion on June 23-24, 1962, marked the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the foundation of the Club at the Dairy-maid's Field by Loch Avon on June 23, 1887. It was followed by a luncheon at the Fife Arms Hotel, Braemar, at which the future prosperity of the Club was toasted by a large company.

The idea was to walk over Cairngorm, 4,084 feet high at the last count, descend to the Shelter Stone, there to hold a Committee meeting at midnight, commemorating the Founding of the Club, and then to repair to Derry Lodge over Macdhuì, or by way of Coire Etchachan if one boggled at the full combat course. There were 43 starters, many of them members of long standing, in whom hope had triumphed over experience. The hopes were not realised: well could we have done with the hot lunch of soup and boiled beef served on the summit of Cairngorm to the 31 members who attended the first meet in July 1889. Those were the days, when earth was nigher Heaven than now!

It was a popular meet, and various extra bodies, all of whom claimed to have booked but whose names could not be found on the official list, turned up to join the transport at Golden Square. The President has been known to be kind-hearted and on this occasion promised to take them as far as Queen's Cross, where the problem persisted. However, there were some absentees, and so, the problem resolved, the party set off for Glenmore, all in fine fettle, on a sunny summer Saturday. Some anxiety showed itself as we ran into low cloud and rain in the Glens of Foudland: it cleared as we reached Grantown for a successful tea, descended again at Nethy Bridge, and by the time we set out from the Cairngorm car park for the midnight rendezvous at the Shelter Stone we knew the worst—at least we thought we did, which was perhaps fortunate! On a similar occasion in Glencoe, the kind-hearted President had exercised his discretion in favour of the comfort and well-being of the party, but had had some difficulty in living it down. This memory hardened his heart, and he said to himself "This is the 75th Anniversary Meet. To Hell with comfort, they will go and get wet this time!" And they did.

Although George Taylor had averred that he rarely encountered

rain on Speyside, it was evident that, on this occasion, it was raining on both sides of the mountain, with hail and snow higher up and a gale to boot. Consequently, most aimed at reaching the Shelter Stone by the shortest route, by Coire Raibeirt, although one or two missed the way and, at least, may properly claim to have made an excursion. We, too, might have made an excursion but for Martin Nichols, who produced a compass, waved it vaguely in a south-easterly direction, and George said he thought that was about it and nobody could well disagree with a Speyside man, so we came into Coire Raibeirt without benefit of map. There doesn't seem to be much to this business of route-finding when one analyses it.

By the time Cairngorm summit was reached the President knew that all but one responsible party were ahead, and that weather conditions had deteriorated to such an extent that further contact would be unlikely. The story of the night from this point on is thus inevitably a personal one, but since it must be similar in design, if not in detail, to that of other groups, it is perhaps worth recording. It had its moments.

From Cairngorm, Bain, Ewen, Taylor, Nichols and party set off for Coire Raibeirt into the teeth of the blizzard and in gathering gloom, running at times in the hope of getting into at least comparative shelter in the shortest possible time. We sympathised with Martin Nichol's expression of parental anxiety on losing contact with his daughter; rather querulously he added: "She has the sandwiches". The only other memory here is of hurricane, hail, hurry and splash. Down Coire Raibeirt and along the shores of Loch Avon things were quieter, and it was possible to see through the murk that there were still vast quantities of snow in the upper reaches of the Feith Buidhe and Garbh Uisge Beag area. Mentally, but perhaps that was because of weather concussion, it seemed just a step now to the Shelter Stone. Some step!

As the open ground of the Dairymaid's Field was reached we met the full fury of the gale and continued progress became almost impossible. The President was brought to a standstill from time to time and Ewen, with water gushing out through the welts of his boots, kept charging up and down the bank of the rapidly rising Garbh Uisge in the purely academic exercise of searching for stepping stones which had long before been completely submerged.

At the head of Loch Avon the wind blew furiously, great sheets of

spray being lifted off the loch and the swollen Feith Buidhe tumbled as furiously through the snowfields over black rocks. The north face of Macdhuì, magnificent at any time, looked even more impressive in the midnight murk. I waited for Martin Nichols to acquaint him with the fact that wading the Feith Buidhe was inevitable, the Shelter Stone being on that side of the stream, as Euclid would say, remote from our station. Bain hardly glanced at the stream: "Heavens," he said, "my sweet peas will be taking a terrible battering." My recollections really end, Mr Editor, with that shattering *non-sequitur*. I know we waded the Feith Buidhe, that the meeting of Committee was cancelled, that we groped our way in mist and dark to Loch Etchachan and thence, at our best speed, to the Derry, as wet as I have ever been in my clothes. I remember that Bain produced a small Thermos flask, filled, I supposed, with hot coffee, the top of which he filled and handed to me. To my surprise it was the authentic brew of Speyside, which I had never seen carried in a Thermos before; but of course Bain is no ordinary fellow. A few slept for an hour or two before making for the celebrations at the Fife Arms, of which I have no clear recollection. For me the affair will always be associated less with those far events at the Dairymaid's Field than with that near horticultural disaster at Milltimber.

The stretch from here up to the Shelter Stone provided the most exhausting effort of the night, but in due course, spurred on by the thought of sanctuary, food and drink, the rendezvous was reached. There were voices to the left, voices to the right, voices ahead. Every boulder in the area, it seemed, was sheltering someone, but there was no sanctuary. The Shelter Stone was full, very full. The President had intended to hold a Committee Meeting at the Stone, co-opting all those present for the occasion, but he couldn't get inside and the Secretary could not, or was unwilling to be, found. Somewhat later the Secretary was located in the Hutchison Memorial Hut, but it transpired that he had omitted to bring the Minute Book, so the whole idea had to be abandoned.

After a quick sandwich and coffee, off we went again, determined to be done with the affair at the earliest possible moment. As we climbed out of Glen Avon, Peter Howgate and party, out of Derry Lodge, hove in sight. It was difficult to understand why they should be laughing and gay, but that was the memory of the moment.

From this point to Loch Etchachan is a featureless flat at any time,

and there was a fair amount of water en route. Despite the help of a torch, visibility in the intense dark and driving rain was limited and Loch Etchachan was only located with certainty when Ewen went in a little deeper than usual.

As far as could be seen through the steam, the Hutchison Hut was fully occupied, so we pressed on as rapidly as our sodden clothes would allow, reaching the Derry Woods as the first grey light of dawn filtered in. It was just possible to make out a couple of tents in the woods. As we looked one flew away on a wisp of wind. It is regrettable, but we laughed our first laugh for a long time and hurried on regardless. Dry clothes, food and drink, a seat by a roaring fire, and Derry has never been so comfortable.

Sunday was bright again, all were safely back and it was once more a happy party of 60 or so who foregathered at the Fife Arms, where we were glad to greet those who, unable to cross from Glenmore, had come from all around to be with us at lunch.

For this historic outing the former custom of recording the names of those present has been resurrected: it is hoped that the lists are accurate, as the official records are not complete and it will be appreciated from the foregoing that the organisation became somewhat chaotic. Your editor, who was in the wilds of Maryland at the time and unable to make a personal check, has therefore had to rely on the recollections of those whose impressions of the same incidents apparently tend to differ!

The main Shelter Stone group comprised Messrs Bain (2), Baxter, Bothwell, Campbell, Dickson, Ewen, Gammie, Gerstenberg, Grant, Hay, Irvine, McAndrew (2), Macpherson, Moir, Nichols, Page, Quarterman, Smith, Swift, Taylor, Watt (3) and, among the ladies, Adams, Alexander, Arthur, Baxter, Beddard, Cordiner, Dickson, Jenkins, McGregor, McNab, Melvin, Murray, Nichols, Rodger, Stewart, Summer, Thomson and Watt.

The parties reaching the Shelter Stone from Derry Lodge comprised Messrs Anton, Deans, Howgate, Esslemont and 2 guests, Mrs Jessamine, Mrs Howgate and Miss Thomson. Train and McDougall were at Derry, while the Honorary President, H. D. Welsh, and 11 others, Mr and Mrs Murray, Mrs Quarterman, Mrs Taggart, Miss Davidson and Messrs Crawford, Duff, McAllan, Malcolm, Reid and Smith, joined the party for a commemorative lunch at the Fife Arms in Braemar, making a total participation of some 66 members and guests.

THE ELEVATION OF THE PRINCIPAL MOUNTAINS IN THE DIVISION OF MAR*

GEORGE SKENE KEITH, D.D.

THOUGH these are among the highest in Great Britain, their height had never been ascertained. One of the bounding mountains, viz. Mont-Battock (on the top of which the counties of Aberdeen, Kincardine and Forfar meet), had been measured by Mr William Garden, and was stated by him to be 1,155 yards or 3,465 feet above the level of the sea. As I knew that Mont-Battock was far inferior to those mountains, which were 40 miles farther west, and nearly in the middle between the Atlantic Ocean and German Sea, I presumed that the highest land in the kingdom was in this county.

Before I set out on my first survey I got a mountain-barometer, made by that excellent artist Mr Thomas Jones, formerly of Mount Street, now of Kenton Street, London. . . . And what was of the utmost consequence, Mr Professor Copland, of Marischal College, had, in the most friendly manner, given me his best advice for carrying on my operations on the mountains, and had very kindly undertaken to mark the heights of the barometer at his house at Fountainhall, by Aberdeen, which is 160 feet above the level of the sea, at half-flood. . . .

July 10, 1810.—Called on Mrs Farquharson of Finzean and obtained a guide to Petershill, which I reached by 4 o'clock p.m. I found the elevation of its summit, above the said level, to be 1,930 feet. . . .

July 11.—In consequence of a great fall of rain, the rivulets were so much swelled, that Mont-Battock was inaccessible. . . .

July 12.—Set out for Mont-Battock; verified my former measure of Petershill—laid my spirit level on its summit, and found that the highest part of Clochnaben, except the rock, was exactly on a level with the point on which I stood.—Therefore as the rock is not above 70 feet, Clochnaben cannot be above 2,000 feet, though said to be 2,370. Walked forward to Mont-Battock . . . and stayed an hour on top of it. Quite disappointed in finding it only 2,600 feet. I can account for so great an error [by Mr Garden] no other way than by supposing that he had either mistaken or put a wrong figure in his

* Extracts from the Appendix to *A General View of the Agriculture of Aberdeenshire*, published in 1811.

field book for the angle which marked the elevation of the Grampians above the first land, called the How of the Mearns.

July 13.—Found the elevation of the Dee, at the intended bridge at Belwade, 310 feet. . . . Found the elevation of the Dee below the Bridge of Ballater, 780 feet (*sic*). The House of Ballater, 720 feet. The top of the Craigs of Ballater, a romantic hill, close by the house, 1,340 feet . . . to the Manse of Crathie, where we arrived at a late hour, and were kindly received by Mr and Mrs McHardy.

July 14.—Breakfasted at 7 o'clock and set out with Mess. Farquharson [of Monaltry] and McHardy. On our way we were joined by Mr Alexander Warren, a very ingenious man, who had measured the estate of Invercauld, consisting of nearly 100,000 Scotch acres, and to whom I was much indebted in my subsequent operations. Three guides took care of our horses, and conducted us in safety to the mountain top, which on the medium of three measures taken on this, and another visit on the 20th, was found to be elevated above the sea almost exactly 3,800 feet. Laid my spirit level on the Ca Cuirn, or highest top [of Lochnagar] in order to compare its elevation with the mountains near the source of the Dee. Found, that after making allowance for the curvature, they were considerably higher. Dined, and staid three hours on this interesting mountain, from whence the German Sea, from the Firth of Forth to the Murray Firth, and a great extent of country, was distinctly seen for about two hours; and where the varied scenery of woods, lakes, rivers and mountains, and the height of the rocks of this mountain, varying from 950 to 1,300 feet, and extending nearly two miles, would have detained us much longer, had not a thick fog, and every appearance of a great fall of rain, obliged us to descend as quickly as possible. Our descent was accompanied with a number of awkward tumbles, and one of the gentlemen was rolled nearly 100 feet; but no accident happened to any of us, except the loss of my spirit level. . . .

July 15.—Preached at Crathie for my friend Mr McHardy, but felt a considerable inflammation in the pleura from the great rains, and exertion of yesterday. Dr Stuart took from me about eight ounces of blood, which gave me relief.

July 16.—Rose at 5 o'clock. Rode along with Mr Warren to Mr Stuart's, at Allanquoch, who is factor, or land-steward for Earl Fife. Here we breakfasted, and our hospitable landlord accompanied us to the mountains of Ben-a-bour and Benavon. The former, viz. Ben-a-bour or Benavoured (a Gaelic name, which signifies the table

hill), is an immense mass, without beauty or fertility, extending about three miles in length, and almost flat on the top; and was found to be elevated above the sea 3,940 feet.

The latter was more interesting, having greater variety of surface. Its highest peak was 3,920 feet, or 20 feet lower than Ben-a-bourd. But the mountain in general was 100 feet lower than the other. Several Scotch topazes and beryls are found in Lochnagar, and in both these mountains. . . .

July 17—Called at Marr Lodge . . . Took the elevation of the Dee at the Linn, which we found to be 1,190 feet. . . . Pursuing our course, we next took the elevation of the Dee at its confluence with the Geaully, a little above the Donbrach (which is the highest arable, or inhabited land in the county), and found it nearly 1,300, or more exactly 1,294 feet, above the level of the sea. We then travelled in a direction due north . . . till we arrived at the junction of the Garchary and the Guisachan. Here the Dee loses its name; and its elevation, at the point where the two mountain streams unite, is 1,640 feet.

Following the banks of the Garchary, we travelled about 4 miles further, to its confluence with the Larig, where the elevation of the united stream was found to be 1,984 feet above the sea. . . .

At 2 o'clock p.m. we set out to climb the mountain, still keeping in sight of the river. In a few minutes we came to the foot of a cataract . . . in about half an hour after, we perceived that this cataract came from a lake in the ridge of the mountain of Cairntoul, and, that the summit of the mountain was another 1,000 feet above the loch, which is called Loch-na-youn, or the blue lake. A short time after, we saw the Dee (here called the Garchary, from this rocky bed, which signifies in Gaelic, the rugged quarry) tumbling in great majesty over the mountain, down another cataract; or as we afterwards found it, a chain of natural cascades, above 1,300 feet high. It was in flood at this time, from the melting of the snow, and the late rains; and, what was most remarkable, an arch of snow covered the narrow glen from which it tumbled over the rocks. . . . A little before 4 o'clock, we got to the top of the mountain, which (by information give me, before I set out, by George Skene, Esq., of Skene) I knew to be Breriach, or the speckled mountain. Here we found the highest well, which we afterwards learned was called Well Dee. . . . We sat down, completely exhausted, at 4 o'clock p.m. and drank of the highest well which we found to be 4,060 feet above the level of the sea; and whose fountain was only 35 degrees of heat, on the 17th of July, or 3 degrees above freezing point. We mixed

some good whisky with this water, and recruited our strength. . . . After resting half an hour, we ascended to the top of Breriach, at 5 p.m. and found it to be 4,280 feet above the level of the sea. We then descended amidst a thick fog, which suddenly overwhelmed us, and attempted next to get to the top of Cairntoul, on the other side of the Garchary. We could not see an object at above 100 yards distance, and at last ascended one of the inferior peaks, but afterwards climbed up the rocks to the highest summit of Cairntoul, which we found to be only 5 feet higher than Breriach, and that apparent difference was only occasioned by the weight of the atmosphere. On this summit the rain poured out in such torrents, and the wind battered us so much, that two gentlemen, holding umbrellas over my head, could not protect me while I marked the height of the barometer in my journal. . . . Unfortunately we had no pocket compass, and afraid of falling over the high rocks of Poten Duon, which are nearly 1,600 feet high, we turned too much to the right hand and completely lost our way. It was 9 o'clock at night before we found, that a small river, whose course we happily followed, was the Guisachan, or the other source of the Dee. . . . Our horses joined us at 10 o'clock, and we mounted, retraced our steps homeward, and arrived at Allanquoich, about half past 1 next morning. . . .

July 19 (*sic*).—After breakfasting at 10 o'clock, Mr Warren and I returned to Crathie. . . . I then dressed, and rode to Abergeldie to dinner, where the kindest reception from Captain and Mrs Gordon, made me forget the fatigue of the two preceding days. The excellent birch wine appeared to me superior to the finest Champagne. . . .

July 19.—. . . My generous landlord, with the true spirit of a highland chieftain, caused his horses to be put to the carriage, and went, with his lady and niece, to Altguisach. This is a most commodious cottage belonging to Captain Gordon, in the neighbourhood of Loch Muich, and of the mountain of Lochnagar, which I wished again to examine particularly. . . .

July 20.—. . . My faithful companion, Mr Warren, joined me on the top of Lochnagar, whose elevation we verified repeatedly and found to be very nearly, as before, 3,800 feet. And the Lake of Lochnagar, at the foot of the rock, 1,300 feet less, or 2,500. The other Lakes, called Loch-an-years, or bird's lakes, from 2,450 to 2,800. The second top, or border of the White Month, 3,780. . . .

July 21.—. . . Arrived at the Bridge of Ballater at 4, dismissed my guide, called at Ballater house, and requested another guide to follow me to Morven. . . . I ascended the mountain, and a little after 6

o'clock p.m. I found the elevation of its highest top to be exactly 300 feet less than Mont Keen, or 2,880 feet. . . .

July 21 (*sic*).—I preached and dined at Glenmuick. . . .

July 22.—Set out on my return . . . concluded my first expedition to the mountains of Marr, which had taken up two weeks, during which time I had travelled above 330 miles. . . .

After returning home and calculating the heights of Cairntoul, Breriach, and the other mountains of Marr, I thought it would be worth while to see whether these were the highest in the country ; and also, when measured with the same barometer, whether they were equal or superior to Ben Nevis, on the confines of Inverness and Argyllshires, and to Cairngorum, in the head of Banffshire, which were reputed to be the highest mountains in the island. The thick fog, and excessive rains on the 17th of July, when I visited Breriach and Cairntoul, and the loss of my spirit-level at Lochnagar, rendered it impossible for me to know whether Ben MacDouie was higher than either of these. . . .

On the 10th of September I left Aberdeen. . . . On the 13th I met my son with a very ingenious friend of his, Mr William Ramsay, son to the Rev. William Ramsay, minister of Cortachy. . . . On the 14th we breakfasted at Marr Lodge, at 7 o'clock, where we were joined by our guides ; and we checked our former measures of the elevation of the Dee, till we came to the summits of Cairntoul and Breriach. We found the snow was melted between the wells of Dee, and on the top of the rocks, though a considerable quantity of it remained on the north ridge of Cairntoul, where the sun never reaches. We found . . . that the peak of Cairntoul, and the top of Breriach, were exactly of the same elevation and 60 feet lower than we found them, owing to the thick fog and rains, on the former survey. . . .

Having adjusted these matters, we directed the spirit-level to Cairngorum, distant about 6 miles, and found it was considerably lower. But when we directed it across the mountain torrent, from the Larig to the top of Ben MacDouie, we found it was considerably higher ; and though not two miles distant, it was inaccessible that day ; it being now past six o'clock, and Aviemore 12 miles distant. . . .

September 15.—After breakfast at this inn, I sent off my young friends to Ben Nevis and set out for Gordon Castle; but staid that night at Aberlour, in the hospitable manse of the Rev. Mr Wilson.

September 16.—Preached at Fochabers for the Rev. John Anderson.

...

[September 17-20.—Fochabers - Aberlour - Inveraven - Grantown - Aviemore-Inverdrurie-Pitmain Inn-Inverishie.]

September 21.—. . . My young men on the way [to Breriach] gave me an account . . . of their having measured the elevation of Ben Nevis, which they found to be, on a medium of two observations, 4,350 feet. Well Dee was now reduced to 4,000 feet in this pure atmosphere; and the top of Breriach, to 4,220 or, at most, 4,230. At 1 o'clock we descended 2,200 feet, and after crossing the Larig, ascended 2,280 feet, to the top of Ben MacDouie. We reached this at half past 2 o'clock p.m. and found it the second mountain in the island, and inferior only to Ben Nevis, by nearly 50 feet, or 4,300 feet high, at a medium of three observations. We dined on the top of Ben MacDouie, the thermometer being 47°, and the water in the highest fountain at 40°, in one of the hottest days of this season.

After remaining there above an hour, we set out for Cairngorum, to the summit of which we mounted at 5 p.m. We found this mountain about 250 feet less than Ben MacDouie, and also inferior both to Breriach and Cairntoul, by 170 feet, its height not exceeding 4,050 feet. But we had the most extensive and delightful prospect from it, owing to the state of the atmosphere. On the west, Ben Nevis, at 70 miles distance, was seen in all its glory, and the waves of the Atlantic appeared, not blue, but of a whitish or cotton colour. Toward the north, the Ord of Caithness was distinctly visible, as well as a great part of the sea-coast, from the north-east and south-east. The south and south-west only presented us with a view of the mountains of Marr. We descended to Lord Huntly's Well, about 60 feet from the top, where we drank his Lordship's health, in a mixture of whisky and water. . . .

THE TRAP IS SPRUNG

HUGH R. SPENCER

THE majority of climbers can recall personal struggles for survival, times when the pleasure of climbing is brutally exchanged for a fight to regain safety, occasions when the mouth of a hideous trap is suddenly sprung behind them, a trap set by nature over which the climber has no control.

In the wealth of climbing literature there are numerous accounts of struggles. Some of these struggles are now classic: Buhl on Nanga Parbat is probably the best example but he is having competition; Bonatti has published a whole book recounting his epics, the most unforgettable of these being the Freney Pillar episode. There are struggles which will never be told of because the participants did not survive the trap. There are the less famous but no less real struggles on our home ground. Was Buhl's struggle on Nanga Parbat any greater than that of a hill walker who broke his leg on the summer snowfield of Garbh Coire Mor on Braeriach and crawled unaided from there to Luibeg? This journey took two days.

How do struggles begin. They are not planned, since no climber would seek out this type of danger; it is alien to his sport. The trap will spring when objective danger changes the character of a route by suddenly confronting the climber unaware with a complexity of odds. Confronted thus the climber's safety is at once jeopardised. His climb will take longer to accomplish, it will demand greater physical effort, much more than he bargained for. Above all it will bring numerous doubts as to his chances of survival. Thus the struggle is not only a physical one but a mental one. His every fear must be controlled, his every action carefully planned to avoid disaster and in these actions he must have every confidence. Without this confidence he will perish in the trap.

The most hazardous of the objective dangers encountered in mountains is that of bad weather. In summer it will mean wind, often ferocious and driving cold rain, but in winter bad weather excels itself. The wind brings a deep biting cold, the rain becomes snow, spindrift will accumulate at the top of cliffs in large unstable masses requiring careful and tiresome handling. This same spindrift will blind the climber and cause great pain to exposed parts of

the face. Add to this an extreme discomfort due to wet and frozen clothes and you have a very nasty situation.

I have encountered these conditions on three occasions whilst engaged in climbing a route. Anchor Gully, normally an easy but steep snow climb was the locus of two of these struggles. Each time the route was started in calm but misty weather and finished with a fast compass escape in blizzard to the Etchachan Hut.

J. McArtney and I entered the gully expecting a quick climb, but although the lower section took only a short time the steep exit funnel became the trap. A gale force wind laden with drift blew over the lip of the cornice and McArtney's struggle over what would have been an easy cornice at the end of 120 feet of rope was a desperate fight. Even in the shelter of the gully the wind threatened to lift me from my stance. Two years later I entered the same trap with R. Robertson, but this time the snow was in a dangerously wet and unstable condition requiring herculean spade work to lay bear a safe cutting surface. This was not foreseeable since the lower 60-foot snow-ice pitch, which forms early in the season, had been found in good condition. This normally easy route took five hours and we were very relieved to finish it. The cause of the change in snow conditions was a sudden rise of temperature and we walked down Glen Derry in pouring rain. Thus the weather can raise the grading even of easy routes and this must always be borne in mind when attempting a climb.

Robertson and I have often suggested that we should cease to climb together in view of the terrible conditions which we attract. It is perhaps significant that nearly all my struggles have been with him, and vice versa.

In Twisting Gully on Beinn a' Bhuird one Good Friday, Robertson and I swiftly despatched the lower pitches only to be met with a worsening of weather on the long upper recesses which hang above the steep slabs of Slugain Buttress and Three-Step. The physical discomforts suffered on that climb were unbearable. Wind, spindrift and a visibility of nil, plus enormous masses of powder snow gave good reason for mental and physical effort. Once on the plateau after eight hours of climbing my wet clothes froze iron hard in the wind. We took to our heels and ran headlong down the Snowy Corrie to shelter without even unroping. It is interesting to note that Robertson sported two frostbite blisters on his wrists where his gloves didn't quite reach his anorak sleeve.

If the tops of these climbs had been far from shelter, for example

on Braeriach, another struggle would certainly have ensued on the plateau. On all these occasions a compass was used on the plateau.

Beware of the usual easy approaches to bothies, for here, too, traps can be sprung and they will take you even more by surprise. Here they are least expected. In November 1962 it took McArtney, Wyness and myself two hours to cover the Derry Road. The reason was the onset of a blizzard, deep snow and a gale. In March 1962 Robertson and I took two hours to cover one and a half miles in Glen Slugain due to an enormous accumulation of snow. The last twenty yards could only be covered by throwing our rucksacks ahead of us and using them as stepping stones.

In these struggles I have never really doubted that safety would eventually be reached. Only once have I felt certain that we were fully ensnared. This was in the Dauphiné Alps in France.

With Robertson, I was enjoying an excellent first season in excellent weather. It was a holiday which gave us five good peaks within seven days. On our second peak, Le Rateau, we had a nasty experience. We left the Chatelleret Hut at 3.30 a.m. on a cloudless night and cramponed steadily up 3,000 feet of snow to the summit ridge, covering a further 2,000 feet to the top by 9.30 a.m. Here we had our first rest. Our intention was to descend by the long east ridge and so complete what seemed an excellent traverse of the peak. At the start of this ridge a distant thunder-clap should have warned us to descend by the normal route, but we took no heed. The ridge although extremely exposed was of an easy standard, but, alas, it was very loose, more like stacked playing cards than rock. Although we moved steadily we seemed to cover no ground, a common belief on long alpine ridges. Whilst still at 12,000 feet, we found ourselves in the centre of a thunder cloud. We hastily stacked our metal gear and took shelter by a rock slab from the heavy hail which was now falling. At this point we smiled at our good fortune of finding ourselves experiencing such a rare phenomenon, but not for long. Each charge built up in our axes with a loud eerie buzzing—when the buzzing stopped, a few minutes silence was followed by a deafening thunder clap. Invisible hands brushed our hair.

We pushed on until the ever-increasing violence of the storm halted us in a small gap between two gendarmes on the ridge. Here we began to appreciate the full extent of our plight. It was nearly 4 p.m. We had a long way to go to reach the hut and the storm was worsening. We were perched on the knife ridge, and our clothes were wet. In fact we were the perfect lightning conductor. It was clear that the

ridge must be abandoned without delay. We were forced to abseil on to a hanging glacier on the north and opposite side of the ridge to that of our destination. This glacier would have to be traversed to the end of the ridge, the Brèche de la Meije crossed, and the descent made to the Hut, a long way away. The descent to the glacier was dangerous and I particularly remember moving down a steep snow ridge composed of slush lying on hard ice. There was no possible belay and certain disaster if either of us should slip. On this ridge I received two painful electric shocks in the tips of my fingers. The situation was un-nerving.

Finally, the storm abated and in the dusk we crossed the Brèche de la Meije and began the long descent to Chatelleret Hut. On this descent fatigue gave rise to the amusing hallucination that I was wearing kletterschuhe and I had constantly to look down at my feet to drag myself back to reality. We reached the hut at 9.30 p.m. We had been climbing for 18 hours with a maximum allowance of one hour for stops. We were saved by our fitness, having spent the whole summer climbing in the remoter corries of the Cairngorms and covering large distances on Friday nights with heavy rucksacks. Our winter experience in the Cairngorms was also invaluable. Without this training the story might have had a different ending.

I have defined the cause of the struggle and spoken of its demands on the climber, mentioning my own, perhaps rather tame, experiences and those of Buhl and Bonatti, but what is the value attached to the fight for life. The answer is easy. Each struggle leaves behind it a wealth of experience which can be rewardingly used if similar circumstances arise in the future. They bear the true meaning of mastery over oneself and nature which is the basis of mountaineering and they give us a great love of life which makes us appreciate this gift more perhaps than the sedentary man. Perhaps this is why climbers are often accused of being too carefree in their attitudes towards the everyday duties of lowland life.

Above all they give us an enormous respect for mountains, a respect which should be present in every climber. I did not seek these experiences and will never be accused of doing so in the future, but without them I would indeed be a poorer man.

CAIRNGORM AREA

THE Report of the Technical Group on the Cairngorm Area of the Eastern Highlands of Scotland, set up in 1962 by the Scottish Development Department, was published on March 3, 1967, by H.M. Stationery Office, price £2. The Group consisted of planning and development officers of the Department and of the five county councils concerned in the administration of the area. They considered the views of some 29 organisations interested in the area in one way or another. Climbers were represented by the Scottish Mountaineering Club. The Report comprises 78 pages of text, 6 figures, 10 plates and 6 fold-out maps detailing various features of the area.

The 1,535 square miles considered in the report cover, in addition to the Cairngorms proper, the Monadhliaths and Loch Ericht in the west, Glen Garry and Loch Errochty in the south, Glen Muick and the Lecht in the east and the Cromdale Hills and the Slochd in the north. Thus, much more is involved than the area of the high tops and isolated glens, despite the impression that might have been gained from the reviews of the Report in the popular press.

Individual chapters cover Population and Employment, Land Use, Communications and Services, Tourist Provision and Recreation, and Landscape, Conservation and Preservation. These are illustrated by the fold-out maps, showing place names, land use, estate boundaries, communications, recreation facilities, and landscape features. There are aerial photographs of the Drumochter, Carn Ban Mor, Sgoran Dubh Mor and Braeriach, Cairngorm, Beinn a' Bhuid and Glenshee snowfields taken in April 1965, together with a few rather uninformative illustrations.

The introductory chapter deals with climate, vegetation and wild life in general and provides a good over-all impression of the area, which is almost twice the size of any of the National Parks in England and Wales. It was originally largely pine and birch forest country below 2,000 feet, but a map of forest distribution shows how small an area is now under trees.

Of the 13,000 inhabitants, 65 per cent. reside in Strathspey and almost 20 per cent. in Upper Deeside, with Grantown, Ballater and Kingussie the only towns with a population of over 1,000. There was a decrease of 8.5 per cent. in the population between 1951 and

1961 : there is thus a case for measures to increase employment in the valleys, where agriculture and hotels and catering are the only occupations with over 1,000 employees. There is useful background information on ancillary industries, such as distilling, forestry and timber, in Chapter 2.

The following chapter on land use explains in some detail the problems facing the sheep farmer and forester, and considers the economics of the deer forest and the grouse moor, not forgetting the difficulties that arise when public access is unrestricted. "Another valuable contribution would be made if the public could be persuaded to keep to a comprehensive system of footpaths and bridle tracks. The paths should be clearly marked with signs or cairns as appropriate ; some could take the form of nature trails with suitably located hides for observing the wild life."

After a summary of the present communications of the area, an ambitious array of new roads is proposed. These include that perennial, the Glen Feshie Road—now to be ". . . a major trans-Scotland route linking the east and west coast ports of Aberdeen and Mallaig . . .". And this through a nature reserve ! This road, with an 18-foot carriageway, which seems narrow for such a modern major traffic artery likely to be subject to severe icing conditions, "will cost not less than £2,000,000 at current prices". The method of statement of the cost is interesting : one is left with the feeling that the figure is certainly not an over-estimate.

The other new roads considered of primary importance are an access road to Coire na Ciste on Cairngorm and two roads to Beinn a' Bhuid, via Glen Lui and the Clais Fhearnaig and via Glen Quoich, into the glen of Alltan na Beinne, where skiable snow is available on the upper slopes until May. The Secretary of State for Scotland is understood to have said that these Beinn a' Bhuid roads costing at least £700,000, would, if built, be the responsibility of the county authorities, not of the government.

Roads suggested for future consideration include one to Lurcher's Gully on Cairn Lochan, one from Nethy Bridge to Glen More—a route possibly warranting greater priority as the tracks are even now occasionally passable and serve a useful purpose without penetrating into remote unspoiled country—a 16-mile road from Tomintoul via Inchrory to Cairndavon and Glen Gairn and finally a Glen Tilt road. These would cost at least £2.6 million as single tracks with passing places.

The longest chapter is that dealing with Tourist Provision and

Recreation ; of it almost half is concerned with skiing, as winter sports are seen to be essential to the growth of local employment and prosperity. It is considered that climbers "will never create any considerable demand for facilities, accommodation and evening entertainment, and will always remain a minority of the winter visitors to the Area. They are unlikely to expect more than reasonable right of access to the hills and the creation of more refuge huts." One wonders how "reasonable" should be interpreted and whether there is a real demand for countless refuge huts amongst organised climbers.

It is interesting to read that "the granite (of the Cairngorms) is poor compared with the volcanic rocks of Glencoe, Ben Nevis and the Cuillins". Most climbers surely prefer the plutonic gabbros and granites of these areas to their volcanic basalts, felsites and trachytes.

The section on ski-runs provides information on the more suitable snow slopes in the area. These are largely corrie and gully runs and are generally given reasonably appropriate designations, but occasional popular names have crept in, as they already have for some rock climbs. It is to be hoped, however, that such spellings as Fiacle for Fiacaill do not persist—not to mention Cupar Angus. The Braeriach also rings somewhat strange, but may be justified.

The problem in ski development is the provision of easy access and evening relaxation. Car parks accommodating 2,000 cars at one centre are being considered, with several ski-lifts and ski-tows carrying nearly 1,000 people per hour. There was a ten-fold increase in lift and tow utilisation over the three seasons 1962-3 to 1964-5, and saturation of the presently available snow-slopes is envisaged. It is for this reason, in addition to providing a wider selection of slopes, that road access to Coire na Ciste and Lurcher's Gully in the west and Beinn a' Bhuid in the east is contemplated. For all other frequenters of the hills there is much to be said in favour of concentrating down-hill skiing and related activities in a few localised areas ; fortunately modern skiers themselves seem to be gregarious people.

For the walker, the Report recommends footpaths through the main passes, with routes (footpaths in the summary !) from them to the mountain summits, together with additional refuge huts. In this section the Report is not quite so ambitious regarding Glen Feshie : two footbridges should be built across tributaries of the Feshie west of the River Eidart. It is recognised that at the upper

levels little conflict exists between walkers and other interests. The implication is that some regulation is to be enforced at lower levels, yet it is just at these levels, and not in the rugged Central Cairngorms, that practice of the sport of orienteering—the modern form of route-finding by map and compass—is to be encouraged, with the agreement of the landowners.

Other activities which it is thought might be developed in the hills include pony-trekking, while in the valleys recreations considered were angling, sailing and boating, canoeing, water-skiing, swimming, golf, tennis, bowls, organised games, gliding, motor sports, ski-jumping, curling, skating and even ice-yachting. But it is not suggested that all can make a practical contribution to the development of the area, or are practicable at all.

Members of the Club will be particularly interested in suggestions concerned with the eastern side of the area. It is not considered that major hotel developments are required: adequate additional accommodation for skiers could in the first instance be obtained by hotels in the area remaining open in the winter. An Outdoor Training Centre similar to that at Glenmore, and a youth hostel, are envisaged in the Derry Lodge neighbourhood. In general, however, the major developments are thought to be most appropriately located in the Spey Valley.

Chapter Six attempts to detail landscape features with a Baedeker-like allocation of stars, and goes on to discuss a code for the control of development. It also includes a list of buildings of archæological, historical and architectural interest in the area.

Finally, the various proposals are summarised and an estimation of the cost of all the projects set out in the Report given. It amounts to no less a sum than £34·71 million. This is no inconsiderable amount of money, and all members of the Cairngorm Club should read and digest the Report carefully. It is a document whose implications are, in your Editor's opinion, well worth detailed study as it, despite minor shortcomings, presents a clear idea of the thoughts of professional planners regarding an area which is as yet practically unspoiled. Its future may now be in the balance.

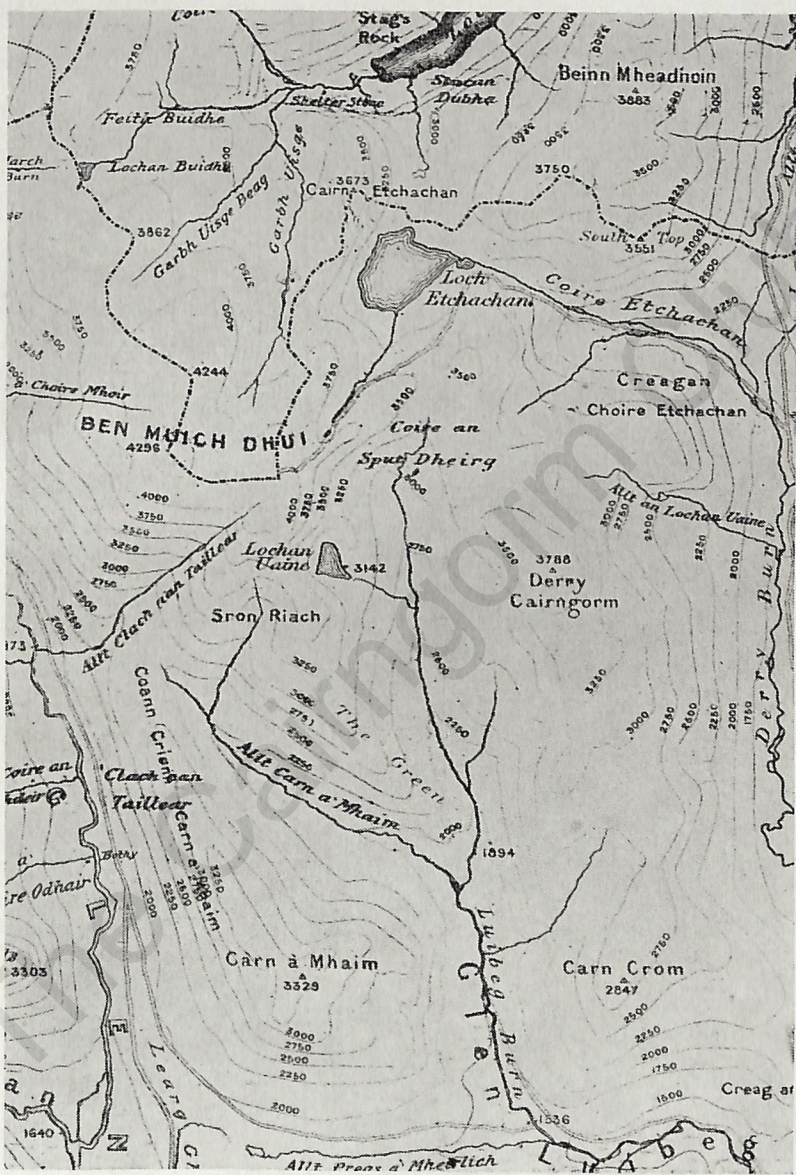
MAPS OF MOUNTAINS

R. L. MITCHELL

WITH the publication in 1964 of a new edition of the Ordnance Survey Tourist Map of the Cairngorms (paper : 10s. 6d.), it seems appropriate to look at some of the maps which serve the Scottish hill-walker, since this Tourist Map can be considered to owe something to the early efforts of the Club. In 1895 the Cairngorm Club Map of the Cairngorm Mountains, on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile, with 250 feet contour intervals and no hill shading, was published. It was presumably based on the current O.S. maps, but no information concerning it appears in the *Journal*. Some forgotten names such as The Green on the lower slopes of the Sron Riath are included. It provided for the first time a coverage of the whole of the Cairngorms on a single one-inch map.

The new tourist map is based largely on Sheets 38 and 41 with parts of Sheets 28, 37 and 48, of the Seventh Series Ordnance Survey maps, fully revised in 1954-5. It covers the area from Carr Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey and the Ladder Hills in the north, to Marble Lodge, Spittal of Glenshee and Clova in the south. It is thus larger than the 1936 Ordnance Survey Map of the Cairngorms, based on the Popular Series, including three miles more to the east and north, and eight miles more to the south, but seven miles less to the west. From the climber's point of view the northward extension is excessive and the map has become even more clumsy to handle out-of-doors. Possibly it was with the skier in mind that the bounds were extended to include Grantown-on-Spey and Spittal of Glenshee.

This map differs in a number of respects from those of the Seventh Series. Most obvious is the very dense hill-shading on a brown background, as a result of which it presents an appearance much less pleasing than the 1936 map and in fact much of the contouring is obscured. This makes it less useful to the hill-walker, as it is difficult to decipher the detail of the topography. In many places the shading renders almost illegible the contour heights, which can be of considerable value to the climber if the conditions are poor. As an example, the reader might examine the contours between Braeriach summit and the Lairig and decide for himself how easily their heights could be read in the wet mist of a late autumn evening.



PART OF THE CAIRNGORM CLUB MAP OF THE CAIRNGORM MOUNTAINS, 1895

This exercise will disclose another alteration, namely that several of the names of secondary features, which were bold enough already, are printed in still larger and heavier type, for instance Cnap Coire na Spreidhe of Cairngorm, and are more distracting than in the Seventh Series maps, sometimes covering useful detail.

Additions to the map include the boundaries of the Nature Reserve (before its 1966 extension) and the Glen More Forest Park, an indication of Rock Climbing areas, rather indiscriminately placed above or below the cliffs in question, the Cairngorm access road and the chair-lifts in Coire Cas and on Cairnwell. A strange omission is the failure to identify the Lairig-an-Laoigh pass.

The current Lorn and Lochaber Tourist Map is much more pleasing in style. It is now designated Ben Nevis and Glencoe, but reaches as far south as Cruachan and Lui, and should serve the purpose of those who get to this area only occasionally.

Generally, the standard maps of the Seventh Series will serve the climber better. Sheets 38 and 41 both cover the Cairngorm-Ben Macdhuì area adequately, as there is a large north-south overlap, but not Cairntoul and Braeriach, as the Garbh Choire strays into Sheet 37 and, a strangely retrograde step, there is no east-west overlap whatsoever. So two changes of map are needed on the walk from Cairntoul to Braeriach when using the Seventh Series. This recalls the time when four sheets of an earlier series met near the summit of Macdhuì, the vagaries of whose name and height are considered elsewhere. There was indeed a lot to be said in favour of Sheet 43 of the Popular Edition!

Apart from the unfortunate abandonment of the one-inch overlap, there are a number of features of the Seventh Series maps which cannot be considered to be satisfactory from the point of view of the hill-walker, and at a time when more and more relatively inexperienced people are being persuaded to go into the hills, every safety precaution is desirable. Most obvious is the alteration in the marking of many summits, on which the triangulation point symbol has been replaced by a simple dot that is much more difficult to identify on a well-used map, particularly among rough pasture symbols. Apparently only the main triangulation stations now receive the symbol and in other instances only the type face used for the height indicates whether or not it has been surveyed by levelling. It is difficult to understand why, if some change were necessary, some new symbol such as \odot was not introduced to locate summit cairns, so that when reached in conditions of poor visibility, the precise location could

readily be established from the map and the exact compass bearing of the next objective determined. There are places where a few yards can make quite a difference !

The construction of dams at many places throughout the highlands has resulted in the enlargement of some lochs and the creation of others where no water was before. The walker in an unfamiliar area can thus sometimes be faced with an unexpected and often difficult detour at the end of a long day, a tricky situation if darkness overtakes him in country inadequately covered by his map. This is the situation in several areas, as the Seventh Series ignores many of the hydro-electric schemes that were approaching realisation at the time of revision.

The standpoint of the Ordnance Survey regarding the modification of mountain heights and the revision of features such as reservoirs on maps has been set out in a number of letters in the May 1966 *S.M.C. Journal* (No. 157). It is stated that the revised heights now being introduced are accurate to ± 1 foot and give the natural ground level above mean sea level at Newlyn in Cornwall. They are considered to be more accurate than those previously used and are being introduced as maps are revised and reprinted to replace exhausted stock. This explanation appeared after the note on Ben Macdhuì (*vide* p. 275) was written, but it still seems strange, if this is the explanation, that only Macdhuì of the triangulated summits in the Cairngorms map area appears to have required alteration. Full revisions of maps of the Scottish Highlands are made only every 25 years, but such features as dams and extended lochs are said to be included in special revisions made every eight years, provided they exist when surveyors cover the ground. It is stated that it is very rare for information to be omitted for security reasons. Access roads other than Class I roads are, however, not subject to this more frequent revision. This means that the Land-Rover track up Glen Quoich to 3,750 feet on Beinn a' Bhuid, although likely to be the highest practicable access road in Britain, will have to wait some 15 years before it appears on a one-inch map. Quarter-inch maps are reprinted every three years with, at least, these special revisions. It is interesting to note that despite the use of Macdui in the Tourist Map of 1964, the Director General of the Ordnance Survey is shown to use Macdhuì in a letter in the *S.M.C. Journal* of July 1965.

Returning to the features of the Seventh Series maps, it is probable that the replacement of mileage points on roads by MS and MP symbols, not necessarily at one mile intervals, was inevitable, but the earlier usage had numerous advantages for the hill-walker.

Despite the full revision of this series, Beinn Tarsuinn does not yet seem to have received its just reward (at least in the early printing consulted). But that head-water of the Allt-na-Glaise, south-east of Beinn Udlamain, no longer flows happily over the col as it was formerly shown to do, to the momentary consternation of at least one route-finder in mist who at first trusted not in the contouring but in the maxim that water should flow downhill. Now the stream appears to have found itself a tunnel!

Despite these minor complaints, the one-inch maps of the Scottish hills are something for which all climbers must be grateful, particularly if they have tried to cover similar ground in Austria, Italy or France using the best maps readily available to tourists, namely those on a 1 : 100,000 scale. Even such maps at 1 : 50,000 as can be found leave much more to be desired than do our one-inch maps. Only the magnificent Swiss 1 : 50,000 sheets of the high Alps seem able to express the character of the land better and provide nearly all the detail the climber needs in difficult terrain.

RECOLLECTIONS OF GEORGE TAYLOR

THROWN early on his own resources, George Taylor's outstanding characteristic was a sturdy self-reliance, carried at times to almost embarrassing limits, for there were few who knew him well who did not have some kindness to replay and whose desire to do so would be frustrated by George's uncompromising independence. Hesitating to make even the smallest demand upon his friends, he never spoke about the possibility of his joining the Cairngorm Club until it was suggested to him that a man with his interests ought to be a member. Then only he revealed that he had long wished it. His sponsors knew that in George they had a good man—how good they never guessed, for, at that time, one had not thought about huts or bridges, or, if one had, one realised that many years and manifold impracticabilities stood between the hope and the realisation.

There is an element of chance in these things, perhaps; at all events the right men came together at the right time. There was the ginger group of young members, mostly medical students, pressing for a Club hut, the better to pursue their studies of the local topography. There was E. B. Reid as President, with a flair for circumventing, or blandly ignoring, difficulties, and there was G. A. Taylor with, in this environment at least, unrivalled engineering knowledge and experience. So, from E. B.'s skill as a negotiator with the Estate, George Taylor's engineering expertise and the labours of the student members there grew first the Lui Beg Bridge and then the reconstruction of Muir as a Club hut.

Although George himself never appreciated this, he was one of those fortunate individuals who know from an early age what they want to be. One was never left in any doubt as to the relative value of the various faculties in the University. While reluctantly admitting to scientific research a certain measure of usefulness, he would make it quite plain that, in his opinion, all progress in civilisation is due wholly and solely to the labours of the engineers! His father, himself a graduate of Aberdeen and lecturer in Veterinary Science in the Canterbury Agricultural College, New Zealand, sent him as a boarder to Fordyce Academy, at which he was the outstanding pupil, learning Greek in the rose-garden, where the Headmaster occasionally nurtured his charges and his favourite blooms concurrently. His father had wondered what the Head would have to say on the subject of pocket money and whether two shillings a week would be enough.



DR G. A. TAYLOR

Doubts were quickly resolved : sixpence was the absolute maximum, and George would ruefully recall the difficulty of living on sixpence a week, the best buy being Abernethy biscuits at three a penny.

Of his academic career one learned very little from George directly, except that he had not been very good at mathematics at school ; nevertheless, he won the Irving Memorial Medal at Fordyce. Not very good at mathematics, indeed ; it depends on one's standards and his were set high. He took Arts before graduating with a First Class Degree in Engineering, qualifications then worth no more than £150 per annum to the City Engineering Department in which he took his first post, transferring shortly to the County, for whom he designed and built, among other things, the attractive road bridge over the Callater at Auchallater, his first solo job. In 1946 he joined the engineering staff of the University, his application for the post occasioning him some difficulty lest he should be presenting his qualifications in too favourable a light, such was his sterling honesty. But he was appointed to the lectureship, becoming shortly involved in investigations, conducted in the engineering laboratories at Marischal College, for various Scottish Hydro-Electric Schemes and other projects. He gained his Ph.D. in 1949 for a thesis : *A Study of Scale Effect in Hydraulic Engineering*, thereafter contributing a number of papers to engineering journals.

The University was certainly his proper niche. He took to it a wide practical experience, a great interest in young people and a deep regard for that ancient institution itself. The Club, too, was the gainer, for the various hut and bridge projects owed much to his association with the Engineering Department at Marischal, where the bridges were sometimes first erected, at least in part. While the mere list of his achievements is impressive, it fails to convey an adequate idea of the time, thought and preparation he devoted to this almost continuous programme of improvements ; in 1948 he built the Lui Beg Bridge ; in 1950 he undertook the reconstruction of Muir and of Corroul ; in 1954, the Hutchison Hut for the Etchachan Club ; in 1955, the reconstruction at Derry Lodge. In 1957 the Lui Beg Bridge was damaged by unusually heavy floods and was transferred to a new site, and the Eidart Bridge was built for the Scottish Rights-of-Way Society. The following year he surveyed the Bridge of Tarff and advised on repairs and, in 1959, built, for the Nature Conservancy, the bridges at Corroul, the Derry Dam and the Glas Allt. He also advised on the repair of the Black Bridge and on other bridges outwith our area.

He was elected to the Committee in 1946, the year he joined the Club, became Vice-President in 1949 and was elected an Honorary Member in 1957, in recognition of his very great services to the Club. He never sought, or thought about, such rewards; indeed, he was never happier than when engaged on these projects and that was reward enough. The natural reserve and diffidence, evident on the formal occasion, evaporated completely in these more natural circumstances; in a small company his humour took on more of the tang of the North-East. He was rarely out of humour, though he disliked being interrupted in his own particular task and could, in these circumstances, become temporarily unco-operative. His insistence on the highest quality of materials and workmanship occasionally earned him some criticism, but, on matters of this kind, he was rarely to be budged; and his sense of fitness extended far beyond the realms of engineering. Observing him hoeing weeds around the Derry, Angus Thomson gaily loosed a shaft at this unnecessary refinement: "Nature's damned untidy, George", he said. "Aye", George drawled, poker-faced, continuing hoeing. While he joined readily in the general hilarity that seemed inseparable from these occasions, his sense of responsibility to the Club was never submerged: this and the energy and enthusiasm he displayed earned him the respect of all his colleagues on the job.

He would never have described himself as a mountaineer but he walked and camped among the Cairngorms from his student days, his only concession to "time-wasting"; in athletics or in indoor games he had no interest at all. He took up ski-ing rather late in life and for long it seemed that he would never attain even a moderate competence, but latterly he enjoyed many long expeditions among the hills of Donside, Glen Muick and Glen Cluny. I suppose most climbers find that one mountain holds, for them, a special appeal; in George's case it was Ben Sgriol, which may surprise as much as the fact that such a typical son of the North-East was born in Dysart, Fife. In later years, he combined camping and climbing with a visit to a Hydro scheme, delighting, on these occasions, to take along some young person to show him Scotland in its various aspects. For he was himself deeply interested in our Scottish heritage, the order of his priorities being revealed, perhaps, in his bequests—to the University, to the National Trust for Scotland, to the Cairngorm Club. A minor interest, in heraldry, found outlet in the design of armorial bearings for the Club.

In 1958 he visited Norway, motoring from Bergen to Hammerfest

via the Arctic Highway, returning by Rovaniemi, Stockholm and Oslo. In the autumn of 1960 he went to Athens, Rhodes and Crete, his interest in things Greek stemming partly from his early study of the language but more, perhaps, from his evident regard for the engineers of antiquity. He was no Philistine—far from it—but the engineer, the easer of man's lot, was honoured a little above the artist. This visit revived his interest in the language and he set about learning Modern Greek, in which he became fluent, though diffident about using it in Athens on his second visit in 1963. He had been in Palestine and Jordan the previous autumn, with Petra as the chief objective and late in 1963 he made his last trip abroad to see the High Dam at Aswan; but the wonders of ancient Abu Simmel appeared to outweigh the new marvels at Aswan.

He had planned to re-visit Greece, but illness necessitating major surgery prevented it. In the late summer of 1964 he visited the Corrou, the Shelter Stone, the new Forth and Tay Bridges, all in the space of fourteen days, before his health again collapsed. During the weeks he spent in hospital there was no word of complaint, no trace of self-pity, only an anxiety that none should be put about in any way. We can let George say the last word: one evening he became involved in a politico-geographic argument with a group of young people, one of whom hurled a question designed to demolish the opposition. "I don't know the answer", said George quietly. "You are the student of geography. You tell me. Me, I'm just a humble engineer." To that there is nothing to add, save that many of us are the better for having known him.

W. A. E.

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM MALCOLM

William Malcolm died suddenly on March 25, 1967, in his 87th year. He was President in 1934 and 1935 and was elected an Honorary Member in 1949. He maintained his interest in the hills and reported in the *Journal* an ascent of Snowdon in 1960. A batchelor and a most unassuming man who rarely talked about his affairs, business or leisure, he was manager of Clyne, Mitchell, Marine Engineers in Aberdeen, until they were taken over by a larger concern, with whom he stayed, less happily, for a few years after the war. On retiral, he went to live with a married sister in Worthing and will therefore be remembered only by the more senior members of the Club.

Records of many of William Malcolm's climbs will be found in the *Journal*. He had a wide knowledge of the Scottish hills, joining the Cairngorm Club in 1911 and the Scottish Mountaineering Club in 1931. He was a very safe and competent climber, particularly good on snow. In 1935, he led E. W. Smith and W. D. Hutcheon—the passing of both of whom we have also mourned in the past years—up the Tower Ridge in preparation for an Alpine holiday, one of several which he spent in various areas of Switzerland.

As President, he took his responsibilities very seriously. He did not approve of attempts to encourage all and sundry to take up serious climbing. One incident on Cruach Ardrain, in which he was not involved, but in which a slip on snow-covered ice by a Club party caused some minor injuries, as much as difficulties in getting away from his employment, probably led to his premature withdrawal from the Presidency.

He was essentially a man who preferred to be on the hills alone or with a few chosen companions, and one of his hobbies reflected this, as he was interested in astronomy, with a telescope in his garden in Bon-Accord Street.

E. W. SMITH

With the death of Edwin Wilkie Smith on January 25, 1962, the Club lost one of its most noted members. Born in Brechin at the



E. W. SMITH (LEFT) AND WILLIAM MALCOLM AT PAVILLON CATHREIN, CONCORDIA PLATZ, IN 1938

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.

As this number was being prepared for press, we heard with regret of the death of James Gray Kyd, whose membership of the Club went back to 1901, and lasted, not quite continuously, until his death. Mr Kyd, who was Registrar General for Scotland for a number of years, edited numbers 37 and 38 of the *Journal* in 1911-12 and was in 1964 in communication with the present Editor regarding some articles in early numbers. At that time, in his 82nd year, he reported that he still walked the Sussex Downs.

During the past years we have unfortunately learnt also of the deaths of a number of other members : reference to these is made in the reports of the Annual Meetings.

ALPINE SUNRISE

See where the jewel box of night,
Soft velvet of the deepest blue
 which diamond stars adorn,
Opens at last to show more bright
Its lining of a lighter hue,
 the lustre of the morn.

The sun, like love's first faltering flare
Finding a fresh, unburnished heart
 stains first the topmost spires
With beryl blush, then garnet glare
Spreads wide and changes to impart
 warm tender topaz fires.

Then soon the snow-girt slopes will gleam
With opal, pearl and moonstone too,
 out in the sun's bright glow ;
While in the splintered glacier stream,
Sapphire, turquoise and zircon blue
 are shadows in the snow.

BETTY MARSH

THE 1965 OVERNIGHT EXCURSION

THERE were only ten of us—but what a walk! From Cockbridge to Derry Lodge. It was about 4 p.m. that we left the Mini-bus and under dull, forbidding skies, in the face of a gusty north-west wind, set out on our long trek.

From Delnadamp Lodge the road becomes a cart-track over the heather and turf to Inchroy Lodge three miles farther on. Now and again the plaintive cry of the curlew drew our attention to these long-beaked birds wheeling down to their distant nests. Not far from the Lodge, the track led to a bridge over the Builg Burn and so to the Linn of Avon where the clear water comes rushing down over the boulders in a series of lovely waterfalls with deep clear pools below. With a fire made of heather roots, my old kettle was used to great advantage for a cup of tea all round.

From the Linn the old hill-path has been bulldozed into a wide rough track along the hillside for about a mile and a half, then abruptly right to the bridge to the north bank. The country hereabouts is fairly open and although the high tops were completely veiled in mist and we were buffeted by occasional showers, we found no lack of interest or beauty. A distant cuckoo reminded us that it was actually summer. An odd break in the clouds allowed sufficient brightness to light up the scenery. We were constantly refreshed by the music of the stream so near us, bubbling along over its pebbly bed. Away to the south we caught glimpses of the fine corries of Ben Avon and at the Slochd we had a good view of the Mitre Ridge of Beinn a' Bhuid.

What a joy it is to be alone with the peace of the everlasting hills! Only the sounds of nature break the silence: the rushing waters of the stream, the shrill cries of the oyster-catcher and the snipe flitting past almost invisibly as the evening wears on and we slowly progress on our way. Gradually the path becomes steeper and leads into a great defile with the river rushing far below. Once again we stopped briefly to shelter from a heavier than usual squall.

Our first objective was Findouran Lodge. We decided that if possible we would shelter there during the darkest hours, as it was cold for mid-summer and unusually dark as well. I was somewhat in advance when I came in sight of this old shooting lodge. Although only about 10.30 p.m., the light was fading fast and visibility not

very good. As I rounded a bend in the path, a great herd of deer came down to graze on the patches of grassy ground surrounding the lodge. The moment they caught sight of me they made for the river, leaping, bounding and rushing across and straight up the steep hillside on the south bank. It was a grand sight. There must have been hundreds of these fine animals guarded by many noble stags.

At the Lodge, I was appalled at the devastation : windows smashed and doors swinging in the wind. It was a dismal sight. Broken glass lay on the dirty floors inside, and not a stick of furniture could I see. Even floor-boards had been torn up in places. There was, however, one habitable room. I wish I could paint a picture of this room after it had been occupied. Soon a fire was blazing in the derelict hearth. Candles helped to illuminate the place. There were a couple of chairs and tables as well as a wooden bench. Our past-president got his primus-stove going and in the few hours we spent there he must have dispensed dozens of cups of tea. Most of us spent the time stoking the fire and sharing flasks and half-bottles to keep up the inner warmth. There was a great spirit of mutual happiness.

About 3 a.m. we set out again, following a path which was not very good. It was probably the wrong path, as we found later, nearer to the river, a much better one which we followed until we reached the Lairig-an-Laoigh path about a mile short of Loch Avon. Here we were glad to find a good bridge across the river. It was now getting lighter and brighter, with Beinn a' Chaorruinn directly ahead of us and Cairngorm swathed in heavy mist to the right. At this point three of our party decided to follow the Lairig path to Derry, but I wanted to go up over Beinn a' Chaorruinn and Beinn Bhreac. The remainder of the party followed me. It was rather slow going as I had to wait frequently for the others. I found it very enjoyable going up the dry slopes to the top of Beinn a' Chaorruinn from which we had a splendid view of Corrie Etchachen directly opposite. Coming down towards the Yellow Moss, I nearly trod on some young ptarmigan running along after the mother bird. I could not resist picking up one of these tiny balls of fluff to have a closer look at it. The Yellow Moss is an ugly stretch of ground between Beinn a' Chaorruinn and Beinn Bhreac. It seemed an endless mass of peat bogs and water holes which made tiring going towards the end of a long walk.

As we came down towards Glen Derry from Beinn Bhreac, the sun broke through a sudden heavy shower, causing a brilliant rainbow to arch across the sky right ahead of us, seemingly from end to end of the glen. We struck the Derry path exactly at the spot where the

bridge crosses the burn and the pine trees begin. It was 10.30 a.m. when we reached the Lodge, to be greeted by our worthy Huts Custodian with the good news that there was plenty of hot water on tap for all. After an excellent breakfast and short rest, we left Derry Lodge by our Mini-bus for the Craigindarroch Hotel at Ballatar where we completed a memorable mid-summer meet with an excellent lunch.

I cannot conclude this account of our Meet without recording our indebtedness to our Vice-President, George Page, for his happy inspiration in hiring the Mini-bus and to his son, Graeme, who drove it most skilfully. The original Meet to Glen Lochy having had to be cancelled because of lack of numbers, we might once again have had no meet at all.

R. A. GERSTENBERG.

THE CLUB LIBRARY

THE Cairngorm Club Library evolved gradually and in a rather informal manner until 1929, when the President at that time, Mr J. A. Parker, compiled a catalogue which appeared in the *Journal* (Vol. 12, p. 87). The introductory paragraph commented that "Local mountaineering literature and maps are of special interest, but any works on mountaineering subjects will be most welcome", indicating the intended scope of the library. It also suggests that expansion was expected to be largely by voluntary contributions of books and maps from members. From the same source we learn of the presentation by Messrs Parker and Garden of the bookcase which still serves to house most of the books, although the journals have long since overflowed into a much less splendid cupboard.

The first formal recognition of the status of the library was made at the 1930 Annual General Meeting, at which J. E. Bothwell was appointed Honorary Librarian and an annual grant of £5 for the purchase of books was approved. This sum remained unchanged for over 20 years, when the Committee resolved to increase the amount to £10 per annum. This is the sum currently available, but fortunately in recent years many books received for review in the *Journal* have passed to the library and the journals of kindred clubs are received on an exchange basis. For this reason alone, the lack of material to enable the *Journal* to be produced regularly (at one time it appeared twice a year!) is to be deplored.

J. A. Parker succeeded J. E. Bothwell in 1932, although the office of Librarian was not fully recognised until the 1935 Annual Meeting, when the Librarian became one of the Office-Bearers of the Club and a member of committee. Mr Parker continued in office until 1941, when William Garden, then Honorary Secretary, took over for the period of the war, being in turn succeeded by the present Librarian in 1945.

The second library catalogue was prepared and issued to members in 1950. It included some 170 titles, compared with only 30 books in 1929. That now presented details over 380 titles, and indicates the increased interest in the library and the active support of many members who have presented books. The range, too, has been widened far beyond the items of local interest mentioned in the preface to the first catalogue. This listed only one book concerned with mountains outwith Great Britain—and that a ski guide.

The Club is particularly indebted to our Honorary President, Hugh D. Welsh, for the gift of over 90 volumes, many of them standard works on the Scottish Hills and on mountaineering in general, including many of the books of Seton Gordon and Frank Smythe. A collection of some 24 books, mostly published in the nineteenth century, on the Highlands and related Scottish subjects from the library of the late Mr A. C. W. Lowe was generously donated to the Club by Mrs Ann Edge. Numerous other members have presented books and journals to the Club.

The collection of journals of kindred clubs is a particularly valuable part of the library. Many of these comprise complete runs and provide an irreplaceable source of information on the development of climbing in Britain.

The records of the use of the library since 1931 survive and it is possible to analyse the changes in the number of borrowings throughout the years:

1931—14	1940— 17	1949—120	1958—149
1932—36	1941— 18	1950—159	1959—185
1933—29	1942— 7	1951—162	1960—155
1934—46	1943— 7	1952—233	1961—147
1935—33	1944— 12	1953—272	1962—188
1936—47	1945— 21	1954—239	1963—216
1937—37	1946— 48	1955—192	1964—209
1938—26	1947— 95	1956—242	1965— 61
1939—41	1948—186	1957—176	1966— 59

It is interesting to compare the annual average of about 40 borrowings in the 1930s with some 200 in the 1950s and early 1960s. The sudden fall in 1965 can be ascribed at least in part to restricted access resulting from the closing of the library earlier in the evening and on Saturdays. Since 1967, accommodation problems have reduced access to one evening per month, with serious consequences to the utility of the library and the number of borrowings, which have fallen to near those of the war years. It is to be hoped that this state of affairs can be rectified in the near future by improvement in location or in conditions of access.

At first the library was accommodated in the Secretary's Office, and when Mr Bothwell took over from Mr Garden in 1950 it was transferred to 34 Bridge Street, where it has remained up to the present. The Club is most grateful to Mr Bothwell for providing this accommodation and for continuing to make it available even after his own removal to Advocates Hall.

The Catalogue which accompanies this record of the library's history has been prepared from the Librarian's files since, as a result of the recent difficulty of access, a considerable number of volumes have been in the hands of members longer than the rules allow and it has not been possible to recall and check them all. Perhaps this Catalogue will encourage members to make an effort to return any Club books and journals that adorn their own shelves !

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

THE 73rd to 79th Annual General Meetings were all held in the Caledonian Hotel Aberdeen, on the Wednesday falling in the period November 20-25 in the years 1961 to 1967. The more important items of business are summarised in the following abstracts.

1961 : The President, Mr Robert Bain, referred with regret to the deaths during the year of three members, Mr F. P. Milligan, Mr John Angus and Mrs Hilda M. Duff. The Huts Custodian reported the reconstruction and decoration of the kitchen at Derry Lodge and the Editor appealed for material for the next issue of the *Journal*. Messrs E. W. Smith and W. M. Duff were unanimously elected Honorary Members.

1962 : The President, Mr Robert Bain, in opening the meeting, made reference to the deaths of a former President and Honorary Member, Mr E. W. Smith, and of five other members, Mr James C. Duffus, Professor J. D. McLennan, Mrs Margaret J. Dunt, Mr John Morgan and Dr A. H. S. Holbourn. Mr J. E. Bothwell was elected *President*, Mr R. A. Gerstenberg and Miss A. F. G. Cordiner, *Vice-Presidents*, Mr J. Y. L. Hay, *Secretary*, and Mr F. E. Coull, *Treasurer*. The other office-bearers were re-elected. Subjects discussed included the arrangement of some Saturday excursions, and the suggestion by Mr A. L. Hay that long cross-country excursions should not be arranged during the winter months. It was agreed, on Colonel E. B. Reid's suggestion, that the Club would co-operate in arranging some outings for members of the 1963 British Association Meeting in Aberdeen.

1963 : The President, Mr J. E. Bothwell, referred to the deaths of three members, Miss E. A. Garden, Mr R. R. Macdonald and Mr Malcolm Smith, and of two good friends of the Club, Miss Davidson, who for many years had attended to the Club accounts, and Mrs Robert Scott of Luibeg. Conflicting views were expressed regarding the continuation of Saturday excursions and it was agreed to leave the decision about their future to the Committee. The President reported that the landlord of Muir of Inverey was not yet in a position to consider a renewal of the lease for that Hut and that the terms offered for the revision of the Derry Lodge lease had been unacceptable.

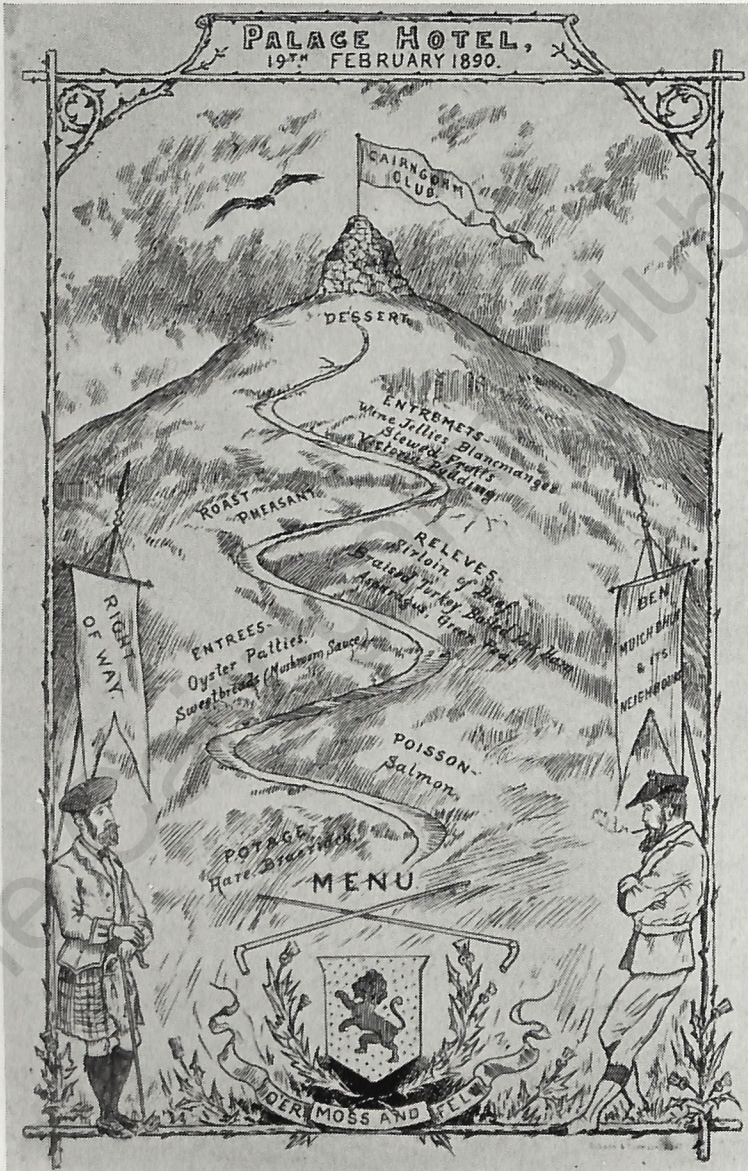
1964 : The President, Mr J. E. Bothwell, opened the meeting by referring to the deaths of three members, Dr G. F. Cables, Mrs W. Duncan and Mr John L. McNaughton. Mr R. A. Gerstenberg was elected *President* and Mr G. R. Page and Miss A. F. G. Cordiner, *Vice-Presidents*. The other office-bearers were re-appointed. In the course of the discussion preceding the election, Mr A. L. Hay considered it desirable that the Vice-Presidents should be younger members than had been the case in the past. The Honorary President, Mr H. D. Welsh, expressed the hope that the Club would soon have its own Club Rooms and added that he proposed to present to the Club the chair which had formerly been the property of Miss Maggie Gruer

of Thistle Cottage, Inverey. In moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr A. L. Hay expressed the great indebtedness of the Club to Mr Bothwell for the efficient and pleasant manner in which he had carried out his duties as President during the past two years and as Secretary for the thirteen years prior to that.

1965 : In opening the meeting, the President, Mr R. A. Gerstenberg, referred with regret to the death of our Honorary Member, Dr G. A. Taylor, and five members, Mr R. H. Calvert, Mrs G. J. Catto, Mrs H. D. Garden, Mr A. D. Lyall and Mrs E. J. Penwill. He expressed, in particular, the Club's great indebtedness to Dr Taylor for the many excellent works he had carried out in the Cairngorms for the benefit of climbers and for the magnificent bequest, amounting to some £4,000, that he had made to the Club "for the improvement or acquisition of its Club Huts". The Editor expressed his regret for the delay in issuing the *Journal*, due to lack of material and to his indisposition. The Huts Custodian reported that provisional agreement had been reached with the landlords for new leases for Muir of Inverey and Derry Lodge, on a short-term basis. At the request of Mr W. A. Duff, the Secretary detailed the terms of the Derry Lodge lease, namely £100 per annum, and the charge for the use of the road, £150 per annum. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to leave the decision regarding Derry Lodge to the Committee in conformity with the powers delegated to it regarding arrangements of this nature. Mr W. A. Baxter was elected *Vice-President* and Mr W. A. H. Reid, *Treasurer*. The other office-bearers were re-elected. In order to facilitate the administration of the George Taylor Bequest and other funds, arrangements were made at a Special General Meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting for the appointment of Club Trustees. Messrs J. E. Bothwell, W. A. Ewen and A. Leslie Hay were appointed, and the meeting unanimously resolved to place the management of the assets of the Taylor Bequest and the income arising therefrom in the hands of these Trustees.

1966 : In opening the meeting, the President, Mr R. A. Gerstenberg, referred with regret to the death of the Vice-President, Mr G. R. Page, and four members, Mr G. W. Murray, Mr George Cumming, Mrs Audley Chapman and Mr Donald H. Marr. The question of library accommodation was raised by the President, as the facilities previously so generously provided by Mr J. E. Bothwell would shortly no longer be fully available. It was remitted to the President and Secretary to make suitable arrangements. After full discussion of the unsatisfactory nature of the Derry Lodge lease, it was agreed to leave to the Committee the decision regarding future policy. Sheriff J. Aikman Smith and Mr E. F. Johnston were appointed *Vice-Presidents*. The other office-bearers were re-elected. The meeting unanimously agreed with acclamation - that Messrs E. Birnie Reid, James E. Bothwell and William A. Ewen be elected Honorary Members of the Club.

1967 : Before commencing the business of the meeting, the President, Mr R. A. Gerstenberg, referred with regret to the deaths of a former President and Honorary Member, Mr William Malcolm, and three other members, Mr William Mitchell, Mr W. D. Hutcheon and Mr Ian F. Rose. Mr Malcolm bequeathed a legacy of £100 to the Club. The Huts Custodian reported that the lease of Derry Lodge had been given up in May 1967. Mr W. M. Duff raised the question of life membership charge and it was agreed that the Committee look into this. The following office-



THE MENU FOR THE FIRST CLUB DINNER

bearers were elected : *President*, Mr A. C. R. Watt ; *Vice-Presidents*, Sheriff J. Aikman Smith and Mr E. F. Johnston ; *Secretary*, Mr E. F. Johnston ; *Treasurer*, Mr W. A. H. Reid ; *Editor and Librarian*, Dr R. L. Mitchell ; *Huts Custodian*, Mr K. W. Fraser, and *Meets Secretary*, Mr Graham Ewen.

At a Special General Meeting preceding the 1967 Annual General Meeting, a resolution that premises in Braemar be purchased and equipped as a Club Hut failed to obtain the two-thirds majority required to satisfy the Trustees that members were substantially in favour of the project, which the Trustees themselves did not support.

ANNUAL DINNERS

The tradition of holding the Annual Dinner in the Caledonian Hotel on a Saturday in late November has been maintained, with the pre-dinner lecture being given by an authority on some aspect of mountaineering or mountain lore. During the past years the Club has been particularly fortunate in its speakers, who were :

- 1961 Tom W. Patey : Ascent of Rakaposhi.
- 1962 A. Graeme Nicol : The British-Soviet Pamirs Expedition.
- 1963 Mrs Elsie G. Cairns : Bird-Life in the Scottish Highlands.
- 1964 Robin Chalmers : The 1964 Scottish Andean Expedition.
- 1965 C. H. Gimingham : Arctic-Alpine Plants in Scotland.
- 1966 Hugh Simpson : Crossing the Greenland Ice-Cap.
- 1967 William B. Spiers : Climbing in East Africa.

After the dinners, members listened contentedly to the accounts of the years' activities by the various Presidents and acclaimed fully the welcome to the representatives of our Kindred Clubs whom we were, as always, delighted to entertain. Their spokesmen in turn responded with a brief reply that was often the highlight of the after-dinner proceedings.

MEETS AND EXCURSIONS

1961

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan. 15. Lochnagar. | June 11. Glenmore Lodge. |
| Feb. 5. Glen Clunie. | Midsummer. Inveroran to Kingshouse. |
| Feb. 26. Lochnagar. | Aug. 27. Lochnagar. |
| Mar. 19. Beinn a' Bhuird | Sept. 17. Cairnwell to Inverey. |
| Easter Fort Augustus. | Oct. 15. Tarfside to Aboyne. |
| April 10. Derry Lodge | Nov. 5. Glenbervie to Feughside. |
| May 21. Glen Lyon. | Dec. 10. Bennachie. |

1962

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan. 21. Lochnagar. | June 10. Blair Atholl. |
| Feb. 11. Glen Clunie. | Midsummer. Speyside to Linn of Dee. |
| Mar. 4. Lochnagar. | Aug. 26. Newtonmore. |
| Mar. 25. Beinn a' Bhuird. | Sept. 16. Lochnagar. |
| Easter. Kinlochewe. | Oct. 21. Glen Clunie. |
| May 6. Glen Isla to Glen Clova. | Nov. 18. Cock Bridge to Glen Gairn. |
| May 20. Ben Lawers | Dec. 9. Clachnaben. |

1963

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jan. 20. Lochnagar. | June 8. Derry Lodge. |
| Feb. 10. Beinn a' Bhuid. | Midsummer. Glen Spean to Glen Nevis. |
| Mar. 3. Lochnagar. | Sept. 8. Lochnagar. |
| Mar. 24. Glen Clova. | Oct. 5. Schichallion. |
| Easter. Tyndrum. | Oct. 20. Cock Bridge to Glen Gairn. |
| May 5. Glen Clunie. | Nov. 17. Mount Keen. |
| May 26. Drumochter. | Dec. 7. Correen Hills. |

1964

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Feb. 2. Lochnagar. | Sept. 6. Lochnagar. |
| Mar. 15. Beinn a' Bhuid. | Oct. 3. Glen Clova. |
| Easter. Ullapool. | Oct. 25. Cairnwell to Inverey |
| May 3. Ben Lawers. | Nov. 15. Ben Rinnes. |
| May 24. Cairngorm to Linn of Dee. | Dec. 6. Bennachie. |

1965

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jan. 20. Lochnagar. | May 23. Glen Feshie. |
| Feb. 14. Mount Battock. | Sept. 5. Cairngorm. |
| Mar. 6. Glen Clunie. | Oct. 3. Linn of Dee. |
| Mar. 28. Lochnagar. | Oct. 24. Lochnagar. |
| Easter. Glen Affric. | Nov. 14. Glen Esk to Aboyne. |
| May 2. Glen Isla to Glen Clova. | Dec. 5. Morven. |

1966

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan. 23. Lochnagar. | June 4. Glen Tilt. |
| Feb. 13. Cairn Taggart. | Midsummer. Dundonell to Kinlochewe. |
| Mar. 6. Lochnagar. | Sept. 4. Achallater to Glen Muick. |
| Mar. 27. Glen Clova. | Oct. 2. Lochnagar. |
| Easter. Onich. | Oct. 23. Loch Lee. |
| May 1. Ben Avon. | Nov. 13. Carn Bhac. |
| May 22. Ben Chonzie. | Dec. 4. Hill of Fare. |

1967

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jan. 22. Lochnagar. | Midsummer. Achnashellach to Torri- |
| Feb. 12. Glen Clunie. | don. |
| Mar. 5. Lochnagar. | Sept. 10. Mount Keen. |
| Easter. Invergarry. | Oct. 1. Lochnagar. |
| May 21. Ben Vorlich. | Oct. 29. Glas Tulaichean. |
| June 3. Speyside to Linn of Dee. | Nov. 19. Ladder Hills. |

In addition, Muir of Inverey and Derry Lodge were available each year for informal New Year Meets, but there is no longer a demand for a Hotel Meet at this time.

During the period under review, several projected excursions had to be cancelled. The experiment in 1964 with more excursions on Saturdays rather than Sundays was unsuccessful, three out of the five being put off because of lack of support and one because of the typhoid outbreak. In 1967, the December excursion to Clachnaben was cancelled because of the foot-and-mouth epidemic that was widespread in England and Wales. It would appear that the now traditional pattern of 14 outings or meets per annum, largely on Sundays, satisfactorily meets the requirements of most members, and that changes in the nature of the programme seldom meet with enthusiastic support.

The outstanding excursion was, of course, that to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Club. This is dealt with fully elsewhere in this number, as is the 1965 substitute for the midsummer overnight outing which, most exceptionally, failed to obtain the usual support, possibly because no traverse of the type traditional to overnight excursions was apparent from the circular. The 1964 midsummer excursion also failed to find adequate support, presumably because it did not venture outside Cairngorm country.

THE SIX TOPS

THE round of the six main Cairngorm tops in the day has become something of a classic since it was first done 60 years ago (June 20, 1908) by H. J. Butchart and four companions in 19 hours (*Cairngorm Club Journal*, vol. 6, p. 49). Butchart's route omits Beinn Mheadhoin (3,883 feet), which is actually 40 feet higher than Ben Avon. To include it and thus take in all seven of the highest tops would add another 1,500 feet up and down to what is already a strenuous day; but it has been done at least once (*The Cairngorms*, 3rd Edition, p. 18). Recorded times for the Six Tops up to 1932 can be found in *C.C.J.*, vol. 13, p. 98 (1932).

The "Butchart walk" is now accepted as having a standard course between Loch Builg Lodge (long in ruins) at one end and the Corrour Bothy at the other. The fastest practicable route is about 24 miles, with a rise and fall of a little over 9,000 feet. About a third of the distance follows some kind of path, the rest is more or less rough going. As Mr E. F. Johnston has said (*C.C.J.*, Vol. 17, p. 210, 1961), it is not so formidable as is generally believed. Having dry going underfoot is a very great advantage and so of course is good clear weather.

I have made the round three times, from west to east on June 23, 1963, and from east to west on August 11 and September 1, 1968. On each occasion the actual journey was between the locked gate on the Corndavon road at Daldownie at one end and Derry Lodge at the other, a distance of 33 miles. On each occasion also there was mist on Ben Avon and Beinn a' Bhuid, though otherwise the weather was excellent, and the hills very dry.

After making the trip on Sunday, August 11, this year I looked up Mr Johnston's note on his own times for the same course in 1960, and found that I had taken only 15 minutes longer than he did. In fact, I finished at the Derry with some energy still to spare and walked on almost to the Linn of Dee before meeting my homeward transport (kindly provided by Dr Adam Watson). Fortunately the dry weather continued and gave me a chance to better my time three weeks later on September 1. The August trip could then be regarded as a useful rehearsal; I knew what mistakes to avoid and how fast a pace to keep up. I travelled as lightly shod and

equipped as possible, made no stops of longer than a minute or so at any point, often trotted downhill on easy ground, and this time managed to knock 1 hour 36 minutes off Mr Johnston's record.

JUNE 23, 1963	<i>Time</i>	<i>Interval</i>
Carrour Bothy	5.40	—
Cairtoul	6.55	1 hr 15 min
Braeriach	8.11	1 hr 16 min
Ben Macdhui	10.22	2 hr 11 min
Cairngorm	11.47	1 hr 25 min
Beinn a' Bhuid	15.05	3 hr 18 min
Ben Avon	16.25	1 hr 20 min
Loch Builg Lodge	17.52	1 hr 27 min
TOTAL	—	12 hr 12 min
AUGUST 11, 1968		
Loch Builg Lodge	6.00	—
Ben Avon	7.44	1 hr 44 min
Beinn a' Bhuid	8.50	1 hr 6 min
Cairngorm	12.15	3 hr 25 min
Ben Macdhui	13.31	1 hr 16 min
Braeriach	15.15	1 hr 44 min
Cairntoul	16.29	1 hr 14 min
Courrou Bothy	17.25	0 hr 56 min
TOTAL	—	11 hr 25 min
SEPTEMBER 1, 1968		
Loch Builg Lodge	6.12	—
Ben Avon	7.44	1 hr 32 min
Beinn a' Bhuid	8.42	0 hr 58 min
Cairngorm	11.29	2 hr 51 min
Ben Macdhui	12.38	1 hr 9 min
Braeriach	13.59	1 hr 21 min
Cairntoul	15.04	1 hr 5 min
Corrou Bothy	15.46	0 hr 42 min
TOTAL	—	9 hr 34 min

The times for the three trips can be compared in the table. For the whole 33 miles between Daldownie and Derry my 1968 elapsed times were 14 hours 10 minutes and 12 hours 20 minutes respectively. (In 1963 I had a bicycle cached at L. Builg to save the last four miles.) I am now in my sixties, so the door is wide open for a younger man to better my time. In fact I would very much like to see the Six Tops looked upon as a rewarding and permanent challenge.

V. C. WYNNE-EDWARDS.

THE HIGHEST POINT IN THE CAIRNGORMS

WHAT is its proper designation? As a Club we committed ourselves to Ben Muich Dhui in our earliest publications. It is so rendered in the programme for the 1892 Summer Excursion and in the 1895 map. At this time, and for some time afterwards, the S.M.C. were of two minds. In the first volume of the *S.M.C. Journal* we find Ben Muich Dhui in an article (admittedly by A. I. McConnochie) in the initial, January 1890, number but Ben Macdhui in the original Munro's Tables in the September 1891 number.

It may well be that our first recognition of Ben Macdhui was in 1924 on the Lochnagar Indicator. Thereafter the *Journal* followed this practice—earlier, our only usage of this form that has been noted is in 1914 in a map of a proposed Feshie road based on a Bartholomew original. From then on the Macdhui form seemed well established, having also received the blessing of the Ordnance Survey.

Sir Henry Alexander, in the *S.M.C. Cairngorms Guide*, notes that Ben Macduff was used in one of Timothy Pont's maps of about 1608 and that in the 1795 *Statistical Account* the mountain was referred to as Binn-na-muick-duidh, the hill of the black pig. This form presumably gave rise to Ben Muich Dhui and related variants. James Macdonald in *The Place Names of West Aberdeenshire* (1899) gives Ben Macdhuie from Beinn muic duibhe. In the local Gaelic vernacular, however, according to F. C. Diack, the form was Binnmach Duibh—the dark hills.

Despite this variability, one is tempted to question the grounds for the change by the Ordnance Survey in the 1957 Seventh Series One-Inch map to the apparently novel Ben Macdui. Even they appear to have had some qualms, as they append in italics an equally novel, but presumably intended as Gaelicised, form, Beinn Mac Duibh.

So was our 4,296 feet high summit designated—until the new Ordnance Survey Tourist Map of the Cairngorms appeared in 1964. Finding the name too recently established to change, the surveyor apparently could do little but consider the height. The original (1847) 4,296 feet trigonometrical point was a six-inch deep hole in a boulder, over which was built a cairn 22 feet in height. This cairn has suffered through the years from random causes, and the present survey pillar is erected on a truncated, but nevertheless artificial, cairn—presumably at a height of 4,300 feet. So now the highest point in the Cairngorms, call it what you will, is officially four feet higher. On the same basis, had the enthusiasts of 1878 built the foundations of the Lawers cairn more solidly we might now have a new 4,000-er awaiting recognition in the Tables.

Or can it simply be that reference has been made to that remarkable book by George Skene Keith, *A General View of the Agriculture of Aberdeenshire*? This, in 1811, included as frontispiece a map of the soils of Aberdeenshire, possibly the first soil map ever published. In this map we find Macdui H[ill] for the mountain—and the height, of course, 4,300 feet!

THROUGH THE HILLS

A ROAD through Glen Feshie is no new idea. When General Wade came to Scotland in 1724, one of the projects he examined was a road from Ruthven

Barracks to Castle Marr by the Feshie and the Dee, as a sketch map among the General Wade papers in the possession of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society shows. This map is reproduced in *C.C.J.*, Vol. XI, No. 62 (1924). The road was to take the place of an existing track on the south bank of the Dee from Braemar to the Eidart, and was to run on the north bank, passing over the side streams by means of arches with spans of 25 to 30 feet before crossing the Feshie beyond Achlean and swinging north of Killiehuntly to the barracks at Kingussie.

Wade's period of active roadmaking in Scotland came to an end in 1731 with the Corrieyairick, without the Feshie scheme materialising. Nor was it one of the projects completed in the spell of military road-building after the '45. With diminishing military requirement, ideas of a Feshie road apparently subsided and almost 200 years seem to have elapsed before the project was actively raised again. A letter in the *Aberdeen Free Press* in January 1913 advocating the construction of a driving road over the 17 miles from the Linn of Dee to Glen Feshie Lodge to stimulate the development of Deeside and Speyside is the earliest of the recent proposals of which we are aware.

In 1918, the Club decided to support the proposal, believing that such a road conveying by motor or electric traction visitors from near and far . . . would in no way interfere with the seclusion and charm of these glens and mountains! The Rural Transport (Scotland) Committee, in the same year, gave the project its blessing, estimating that the 17 miles of new road would cost £50,000. The Club renewed its support in 1924 and was informed by the Ministry of Transport that the local statutory highway authority had refused to consider the question of the maintenance of the road even if the cost of its construction were met from Government sources.

The matter was raised more recently at the 1960 Annual Meeting of the Club, but the motion was lost, indicating that the majority of members present considered that tourist traffic and unspoiled glen were no longer as compatible as they had appeared forty years earlier. The Glen Feshie road project has subsequently been the subject of debate in the correspondence columns of the Scottish press, notably in *The Scotsman*, where many letters, pro and con, appeared, especially in 1964. Some opponents disliked the scheme so much that they supported an alternative through the Lairig-an-Laoigh, although it would seem even more undesirable to have a road up Glen Derry. The matter appeared to rest following a Government statement in March 1965 to the effect that the expenditure of £2 million could not be considered at present, but the recent Cairngorm Area Report has revived it.

It is difficult to see what the real benefits would be. Little or no advantage to traffic from the south would accrue, particularly in winter, when Drumochter is generally preferable to the Devil's Elbow. From Aberdeen the new route would be around 12 miles shorter to Kingussie, but actually 12 miles longer to Aviemore, than by the Lecht and Nethy Bridge. Would not a small portion of the £2 million be better spent in improving this existing route? Even from Ballater the gain in distance to Kingussie would only be some 13 miles; only from Braemar and Upper Deeside would the distance to Kingussie be appreciably shortened.

One of the main arguments advanced in favour of the new road has been the tourist traffic. But might this not be a disadvantage to Ballater and Tomintoul, which could well be by-passed? In any case the touristic attraction of a car or coach trip through Glen Feshie with its relatively narrow valley and steep enclosing slopes is difficult to appreciate. Many tourists will, one suspects, have seen enough

of such scenery in Glen Shee and Glen Clunie and would welcome the open moors of the way via Corgarff and Tomintoul.

Perhaps the perusal of the continued, and, be it said, somewhat reiterative and unimaginative public presentation of the views of both sides has tended to make your scribe drowsy . . . he has just emerged into the sunlight again after driving through the tunnel from White Bridge to Feshie Bridge, under Cairn Geldie, Carn Cloich-mhuilinn, Beinn Bhrotain, Monadh Mor, Carn Ban Mor, Sgor Gaoith and Geal Charn. This snow-free route, combined with that from Gleann Beag to Glen Clunie Lodge under the Cairnwell, has been becoming increasingly popular with through traffic from Perth to Inverness, despite its somewhat greater distance, particularly as vehicles using it receive a subsidy. . . .

The time may indeed come when economic or social requirements would make such a scheme feasible. At present the cost would be colossal, but the benefits might justify it if it meant saving the flora and the fauna, the quiet and the dignity, of an area which the Nature Conservancy has decided worthy of inclusion in the Cairngorms Nature Reserve.

In Europe, the past few years have seen great developments in tunnelling through mountains. Previously, economic factors restricted tunnels to railways but now the increased importance of road transport has made road tunnels popular. In 1964 the Grand St Bernard tunnel from Bourg St Pierre to St Rhemy and in 1965 the Mont Blanc tunnel from Chamonix to Courmayeur were opened. These tunnels, 3.6 and 7.2 miles long respectively, serve rather different purposes. There was already a road, closed in winter, over the St Bernard, while the Mont Blanc tunnel eliminates a long detour and shortens the way from Central France to Northern Italy by some sixty miles. The alternative direct passenger route from Chamonix to Courmayeur, with two changes of téléphérique on the way, has had a somewhat chequered history. The driving time of only ten minutes through the Mont Blanc tunnel illustrates the benefit of a project which took six years to complete, and which involved massive access roads at least on the Chamonix side, but which does not suffer from the restrictions of an Alpine winter.

It is not only such major trans-mountain routes that qualify for road tunnels. The little village of Binn above Fiesch on the Rhone is inhabited in summer only, but is now approached by a 2,000-yard-long tunnel large enough for the post-bus run by the Furka-Oberalp Railway. Even the path along the north side of the Grimsensee to the Lauteraar Hut has a sizable tunnel, just after crossing of the Spitallamm dam (374 feet high and 300 yards long) which for a time was the largest in Europe.

The era of tunnels only for railways, canals and hydro-electric schemes thus seems to be being succeeded by one of road-tunnels, but probably it is optimistic to think of a snow-free route from White Bridge to Feshie, and even from Glen Clunie Lodge to Gleann Beag, in the foreseeable future. But we emerge from our fantasy to find, on the same dark day in March 1967, suggestions for a meter-gauge rack railway from Aviemore to the top of Cairngorm and, in the Cairngorm Area Report, proposals for the further consideration not only of the Feshie road, but also of roads through Glen Tilt, by Glen Lui, Clais Fhearnaig and Glen Quoich to Beinn a' Bhuird, and from Tomintoul to Crathie by Inchrory and Loch Builg, at total cost, including some access roads to the high snows, of over £5 million.

R. L. M.

THE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

Two substantial additions to the Cairngorms National Nature Reserve have been announced. The original area, as established on July 9 1954, amounted to 39,689 acres and was described in *C.C.J.* No. 89.

On January 23, 1963, the Nature Conservancy declared an area of 19,133 acres of the Glenfeshie estate an extension of the original reserve. This area, which is included within the boundaries shown on the Tourist Map of the Cairngorms, extends from the river Feshie on the west and south to the earlier limit set by the Aberdeenshire boundary on the east and the Invereshie estate on the north. The area is rich in flora and fauna—perhaps particularly in birds, but it is difficult to interpret a statement in a leading newspaper to the effect that “the montane flora includes species either absent or very scarce in the Cairngorms”.

The second addition, of 5,296 acres, notified on May 21, 1966, is the area south of the Glenmore Forest Park, between Loch Etchachan and Cairngorm and extends to the north-east as far as the Barns of Bynack. It comprises Loch Avon and the high tops around it. This extension has been made possible by an agreement between the Nature Conservancy and the owners, Major G. S. Wills and Mr D. S. Wills.

The present reserve of 64,118 acres, or just over 100 square miles, now forms a compact area which with the Forest Park covers the whole of the high Cairngorms west of the Lairig-an-Laoigh with the exception of a narrow strip of the slopes to the north-east of the Allt Druidh.

DERRY LODGE, 1951-1967

THE original lease of Derry Lodge to the Club was for a period of 15 years, which expired at Whitsunday 1966. The annual rental was initially £15 but was latterly increased to £25. The Club carried out maintenance repairs in 1951 and regularly thereafter, without which it would today scarcely have been habitable. In addition, in 1955, very considerable improvements to the structure were effected under the able direction of the late Dr George Taylor, at large expense to the Club, and for which no compensation was obtainable.

Difficulties regarding Derry Lodge first arose when part of the Mar Estate, including the lodge, was acquired by an Investment Company. Soon new conditions were imposed with regard to the use of the road from Linn of Dee to Derry Lodge. These amounted to a substantial increase in the charge for the key to the gate giving access to this road.

More than a year before the lease was due to expire, negotiations with the proprietors, through their Agents, regarding terms for the renewal of the lease were commenced. At first the Club was informed that the future rent would be in the neighbourhood of £500 per annum. After considerable correspondence and consultation, the most favourable terms that could be obtained involved a rental of £100 for the Lodge plus a payment of £150 per annum to cover the use of the road by Club members and guests at Derry Lodge. Keys were made available to the Club who were supposed by the Proprietors to be able to reimburse themselves by making an appropriate charge to members. The duration of any new lease was restricted to one year, with three months notice on either side. This complete lack of security of tenure made it out of the question for the Club to



DERRY LODGE

consider carrying out the redecoration and repair urgently required to maintain the Lodge in habitable condition. In the meantime, the Proprietors, whose responsibility it was, had allowed the road to deteriorate to such an extent as to make it impracticable for an ordinary car to use it.

The Club agreed, after full consideration, to the terms of the new lease for a year from Whitsunday 1966 in order to retain the use of Derry Lodge, and access rights to Derry, not only on behalf of its own members, but also out of consideration for those of kindred Clubs who had enjoyed its amenities during the previous 15 years. It became obvious, however, during 1966-7, that it would be completely uneconomic to continue the lease any longer under the conditions indicated above and after further prolonged discussion, during which it became apparent that it would be impossible to obtain any improvement in the conditions for a future lease, the Club Committee reluctantly reached the decision that the lease should be terminated at Whitsunday 1967.

Apart from the question of cost, the two unsurmountable obstacles to the retention of Derry Lodge were the complete lack of security of tenure and the continual difficulties with regard to the access road. It was with considerable regret that the decision was reached, as it was realised how widely the facilities offered by Derry Lodge were appreciated by all with the true interests of the Cairngorms at heart.

THE LAIRIG IN OIL

THE Club in 1964 received the generous offer of an oil painting depicting the southern aspect of the Lairig Ghru, viewed from the lower slopes of Beinn Bhrotain, by C. Grey, R.H.A.

This landscape in oils was presented by Professor K. J. Franklin, F.R.S., to one of our members, Mr I. F. Rose, a London surgeon, in view of his interest in the Cairngorms. Mr Rose's recent death will be profoundly regretted by members, particularly those who recall the rockets which enlivened several New Year Meets at Braemar. In accepting the gift, Mr Rose indicated to Professor Franklin that the painting would become the property of the Club, but that as the Club had at present no premises suitable to accommodate it, it would meantime adorn his late father's house in Cults.

The Club is most grateful for the generosity of both donors, and looks forward to the time when a suitable location can be found for it in Club property.

DARE ME TO THE DESERT

AFTER his retiral in 1951 from the Survey of Egypt, in which he had served as Director of Desert Surveys and of the Topographical Survey, as well as Technical Expert from 1947 to 1951, G. W. Murray came to Aberdeen, where he and Mrs Murray entered with enthusiasm into the activities of the Cairngorm Club. For fifteen years members have enjoyed their reminiscences of Egypt and of the Alps, where both had climbed extensively, and were deeply grieved to learn of G. W. Murray's death in 1966, a few months after his 80th birthday which he celebrated by climbing Lochnagar. Now, thanks to the generosity of Mrs Murray, a copy of her husband's book *Dare Me to the Desert* (Allen and Unwin, 1967) is in the Club Library and members can read something of his travels since 1907 in Sinai and

Egypt, and of his ascents of many of their mountains. It betrays little, however, of the author's professional eminence or of the esteem in which he was held by other travellers and by the Arabs of the deserts.

The story is in fact recounted with the modesty which has been one of the predominant traits of both George Murray and his wife. One recalls, for instance, following a talk to Club members, his embarrassed reply to a questioner who invited an opinion of the maps of the Red Sea Hills, to the effect that he was scarcely qualified to judge as he was responsible for them!

Many members will welcome the opportunity of reading this book and recollecting with pleasure their outings with the Murrays and their Airedale.

BRITISH AND IRISH MOUNTAIN TOPS

OUTSTANDING new books which deal with the classification of the mountains of Britain are few and far between. One of these was W. M. Docharty's *A Selection of some 900 British and Irish Mountain Tops*, published in 1954, which we noticed briefly in *C.C.J.* No. 90. This listed 661 mountains and tops in Scotland between 2,500 and 3,000 feet together with selected mountains of interest below 2,500 feet, and gave similar lists, including tops above 2,500 feet, for Ireland (98 entries), Wales (70 entries) and England (104 entries). In addition, in an appendix were seven instructive panoramas from the North-West Highlands and two from Ireland.

A two-volume Supplement has been produced by Mr Docharty and, like the original, printed for him privately at the Darien Press, Edinburgh, in 1962. The inscription on the numbered copy (No. 57) presented to the Club reads "To all members of The Cairngorm Club whose own very special Mountain Tops have provided me with so much romantic pleasure, and with every good wish from W. M. Docharty". The Supplement is in fact twice as extensive as the original with 18 panoramas more magnificent than the first nine, and including a selection of 1,000 tops in the British Isles under 2,500 feet. There are also several fine photographs.

The short Part I of Vol. I of the Supplement gives further information on the mountains listed in the original text, while Part II covers mountains and tops between 2,500 and 2,000 feet together with a selection of those of interest below 2,000 feet, including Bennachie and Clachnaben. These tables, with map references and useful comments on the individual tops, provide a valuable source of information for anyone about to explore a new area who desires to cover the mountains comprehensively. The actual tables run to some 150 pages, and provide space for any fortunate owner to enter dates of ascent and other notes.

In Vol. II of the Supplement, an Epilogue collects, from A to Ω , a series of related memories of the author's mountain experiences, and is illustrated by a number of fine alpine views as well as by several pictures of the double-headed "Hielandman" on the West Highland line!

The 18 panoramas are mainly Scottish, but include a few from other mountain areas of the British Isles. The summits included are detailed in the captions but the pictures themselves are not defiled by identification marks: it is left to the reader to pick out the individual peaks. The time and effort that this entails is well spent, as it leads to a knowledge of the topography approaching that to be

gained on the viewpoint itself, but where so often lack of time unfortunately rules out such detailed study.

Of the panoramas we pick out No. 12 from Beinn an Lochain, from west, through north and east, to south by east, largely because it was made in 1960 on Mr Docharty's 500th excursion over his homeland hills, a far cry from his first to Ben Lomond in 1916. This was not followed by a second until 1933, after an interval caused by a war wound which incapacitated him for over ten years and indeed nearly cost him a leg. How successful the remedial treatment eventually proved could not be better illustrated than by these books which members of the Club now have the privilege of consulting.

It was with the most profound regret that we learned of Mr Docharty's death as this note was being prepared for the press.

ONCE TOO OFTEN

SOME years ago we reported the early Alpine exploits of Maccabeo, the Irish setter from Gressoney-la-Trinité. Since then she has apparently spent each summer among the high tops, leaving her hotel home in June and returning in early September. She has visited most of the huts and crossed many of the high glacier passes in the Monte Rosa area. We learn with regret from *The Times* that, in 1963 at the age of 11, she failed to return from her summer wanderings, and so another unaccompanied climber has disappeared in the Alps. She had previously been pulled out of crevasses, but this time, it is feared, no rescue party was available and her long career has ended in a remote glacier.

SOME RECENT CLIMBING BOOKS

Rock Climbing, by PETER KNOCK. A Foyles Handbook. (W. & G. Foyle, Ltd, 1963, 4s.)

Rock Climbing in Britain, by J. E. B. WRIGHT. (Nicholas Kaye, 1963, 16s.)

A Climber's Guide to Pontesford Rocks, by W. UNSWORTH. (Wilding & Son Ltd, Shrewsbury, 1962, 5s. 3d.)

The Craft of Climbing, by W. H. MURRAY and J. E. B. WRIGHT. (Nicholas Kaye, 1964, 15s.)

Artificial Aids in Mountaineering, by GEOFFREY SUTTON. (Nicholas Kaye, 1962, 9s. 6d.)

This group of books has a sort of sequence, and Peter Knock's book makes an excellent start. His descriptions of equipment are practical and up to date and his writing is clear and lively. The book is well produced, illustrated with drawings and photographs and at the price is good value for money. Though there is a chapter on climbing in the Alps this is strictly confined to rock routes.

Having decided to go climbing, Wright's book tells you where to go for the best climbing. He describes the climbing areas of Britain, recommending the most interesting routes for beginner and expert. A good feature of the book is the way he considers the crags in their situations amongst the hills and gives many combinations of rock climbs with scrambles and hill walks to produce satisfying mountain days. Though half the book is devoted to Scottish climbs local climbers will be disappointed to find that the Cairngorms receive scant mention. This is more likely due to unfamiliarity on the author's part, as he describes only those climbs he knows personally, than to the absence of good routes.

If you ever find yourself in the West Midlands and feel the urge to do a rock climb then the guide to Pontesford Rocks describes about fifty routes you can try out on this crag in Shropshire.

The Craft of Climbing is meant for the more experienced climber. The title is misleading in that the book as well as dealing with the finer points of rope management and snow and rock climbing has sections of a polemical nature about such matters as nationalism in Himalayan mountaineering and unreasonable use of artificial aids. The two subjects are mixed throughout the text and, along with the different styles of the authors, produces a book which is too disjointed for pleasant reading. The sections by Murray on snow climbing are very good.

If, after having read the previous authors' strictures on artificial aids, you are still determined to try this branch of the sport, then Sutton's book is a must. He makes a comprehensive survey of the equipment needed and gives a clear and detailed account of the techniques used.

P. F. H.

The Real Book of Mountaineering, by W. B. MCMORRIS. (Dobson, 1961, 10s. 6d.)

This is one of an American series designed to cover, for young readers, a "range of subjects in a virtually encyclopedic manner". The author's idea of what this should imply will not be that of any responsible mountaineer. Scarcely any climbing exploit is considered worthy of mention unless it involved sensation,

disaster or defeat. The book is less an attempt to instruct the young climber regarding what to do and what not to do than a glorification of those who tended to push their attacks beyond the prudent limits. The style is naïve and the line drawings do little to instruct the novice in good techniques. The short bibliography that concludes the book would direct the learner in the right direction, but there is no mention of Winthrop-Young.

Mont Blanc and the Seven Valleys, by R. FRISON-ROCHE and P. TAIRRAZ. (Nicholas Kaye, 1961, 45s.)

Between Heaven and Earth, by G. REBUFFAT and P. TAIRRAZ. (Nicholas Vane, 1965, 63s.)

Starlight and Storm, by GASTON REBUFFAT. (Kaye and Ward, 1968, 30s.)

Mont Blanc and the Seven Valleys is a background book, of interest to climbers as well as to the hill-walker making one of the simpler tours in the Mont Blanc area. It provides a particularly good introduction to many of the less-commonly visited valleys of Switzerland, Italy or France that penetrate into the Massif. There are 169 excellent photographs, mainly by Pierre Tairraz, to illustrate Roger Frison-Roche's text, which has been translated by Roland Le Grand and Wilfred Noyce. Apart from the topographical descriptions, the glimpses of the folklore of this remarkably compact area well repay the careful reader, who will however find occasional slips such as the location of the Giomein in Zermatt or the misdating of the first ascent of the Via della Peira as 1939.

But it is good to be taken again over the Col de Balme which the men of Argentière used to cross to tend their vineyards above Martigny, to stand by Lake Chécrouit and look down into the Val Veni or up to the Peuterey ridge and the Dames Anglaises, or, of course, to wander along the path to the Mauvais Pas, beyond the masses at the Monteners, with its amazing expanse of mountain from the Dru to the Geant, above the Mer de Glace.

The photographs of the Mont Blanc region by the Tairrez family of Chamonix have long been famous, and the selection in *Between Heaven and Earth*, in which the pictures overshadow the text, demonstrate that fourth generation Pierre is adequately upholding the reputation. He is responsible for most of the 104 monochrome and eight colour plates. It is somewhat difficult to judge the latter, as the colour reproduction could be better, but most of the black and whites capture the feeling of rock and snow completely.

There are photographs of a Matterhorn traverse in addition to those covering such notable climbs in the Mont Blanc area as the South Face of the Aiguille du Midi and the Bonatti routes on the Drus. The text is largely that prepared as commentary for the film "Entre Terre et Ciel" which many will have seen in Chamonix on a wet day. As such it does not, when read, match up to the photographs. But for these alone the book is well worth study—although the price is high.

Starlight and Storm was first published in France in 1954 and in England in 1956, and has now appeared in a second English edition. It is a non-technical account of the author's impressions during his ascents of six of the great alpine north faces—Grandes Jorasses, Piz Badile, Drus, Matterhorn, Cima Grande di Lavaredo and Eiger. The text is very short, no more than 170 pages of about

240 words, and while some of the 40 photographs are excellent, others are disappointing, in that the opportunity is not taken to relate them adequately to the routes. The appeal of this book must be not to the climber who is looking for information about the climbs discussed, but to the general reader with an interest in the approach of a great climber to his early climbs.

The Mountaineer's Companion, edited by MICHAEL WARD. (Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1966, 50s.)

In the 600 pages of this compilation, many memories of outstanding moments in the hills are revived, and it is to be hoped that at least some of the short extracts from classics of mountaineering, and from accounts of recent major ascents, will encourage the reader to turn to the originals. Perhaps the chief criticism of what is essentially a bedside book is that some of the items are rather short—sometimes barely two pages—and therefore scarcely adequate to introduce the author. The section dealing with Everest, on the other hand, covers the subject adequately, with quotations from leading participants in all the important expeditions.

Several glaring misprints have slipped into the text: Bennen certainly was not avalanched on the Hant-de-Cry in 1846, to cite one double error. But probably there are equally obvious mistakes in this *Journal* and your editor-reviewer, reminded elsewhere in this most enjoyable *Companion* of the feud between Coolidge and Davidson regarding their mis-spelling of mountain names, can only recommend it to all members as an excellent introduction to many of the best books about mountains.

Climbing Days, by DOROTHY PILLEY. (Secker and Warburg, 1965, 42s.)

Mountaineering in Scotland, by W. H. MURRAY. (J. M. Dent, 1966, 8s. 6d.)

New editions of two mountaineering classics fall to be reported. Thirty years have passed since *Climbing Days* heralded the penetration of the Alps by women. Then it was outstanding in the current alpine literature: it still reads well. It was started when the author was in China, homesick for European hills. *Mountaineering in Scotland* was written in even more restrictive circumstances, in a German prison camp after the author's capture in the North African desert. Now it has appeared as an Aldine paperback, with the 1962 revised text but without the plates of the earlier editions. It is, of course, the story of the initiation of modern rock and ice climbing in Scotland in the 1930's. Nothing more needs to be said about either of these books—they are essential reading for all with a real interest in climbing and climbers.

The Ascent of Dhaulagiri, by M. EISELIN. (Oxford, 1961, 25s.)

This is one of the standard accounts of the first ascents of the great mountains of the world. Dhaulagiri, one of the eight-thousanders, was climbed by a Swiss Expedition making use of aerial transport. The Pilatus Porter plane proved somewhat unreliable and eventually crashed, but not before making a successful landing on the 5,700-m N.E. col. On Friday, May 13, 1960, six men, including

two Sherpas, reached the summit: ten days later other two of the party of 13 gained the 8,222-m top, by way of the four ridge camps above advanced base on the N.E. col. This is a good account of a successful expedition, without any climbing mishaps, by the 28-year-old leader.

Americans on Everest, by J. R. ULLMAN. (Michael Joseph, 1965, 50s.)

This official record of an expedition which included the first traverse of Everest joins those of earlier British and Swiss expeditions in providing a factual account of the planning and organisation of a considerable exploit. But, like several of its predecessors, it gives a somewhat impersonal impression of the proceedings, and one must once again await with some impatience the personal accounts of members of the summit parties. For this highly successful expedition put two two-men parties on the North Top by the South Col route and a third (Unsoeld and Hornbein) by the West Ridge, with a descent to the South Col.

The chronicler, a professional writer, is certainly an experienced and senior mountaineer whose earlier books will be known to most members, but because of an unfortunate disability which developed during the year of active preparation, he was unable to get far beyond Kathmandu. So his record, however well written, is inevitably somewhat second-hand.

The leader was Norman Dyhrenfurth, who had had considerable Himalayan experience, but several of the other 19 members of the party were on their first expedition outside North or South America. It was a well-organised and competent party, which concentrated on the main task of reaching the top by the South Col, and had, as its reward, the almost last-minute, brilliant traverse as a well-deserved bonus, because of the magnificent efforts of the small team who were all that could be spared to reconnoitre the West Ridge. Unfortunately, the collapse of an ice wall on the Khumbu Glacier during the initial approach to the Western Cwm cost the life of one of the party. Miraculously, his American and Sherpa colleagues on the rope were not seriously injured.

As is the custom, more than one-third of the book is concerned with technical accounts, by the responsible officers, of many of the administrative and scientific aspects of the expedition. The quality and presentation of the photographs unfortunately fail to attain the high standard that might be hoped for in a book of this importance. The end-paper drawings, however, give, as no map could, a wonderful impression of the whole area.

Mountaineering, by ALAN BLACKSHAW. (Kaye and Ward, 1968, 42s.)

The young climbers of the immediate post-war period seeking instruction were well served by John Barford's Pelican *Climbing in Britain*, published in 1946, but this has long been unavailable and the many attempts to fill the gap scarcely met all the requirements. In 1965, however, with the approval of the B.M.C. and A.S.C.C., the first printing of this most adequate replacement came from Penguin, who reprinted it with revisions in 1968, and now a hard-cover version has been made available by Kaye and Ward.

This training manual on hill-walking and climbing in Britain, with an introduction to alpine mountaineering, should be required reading for every novice and most

experienced climbers. It is impossible in a few lines to detail the topics covered in the 500-odd pages—they range from equipment and technique, through advice on where to climb, to a glossary of mountain names and a short bibliography of climbing books. There are odd remarks that might be misconstrued. For instance, there is in fact, as stated, access for cars to the Zermatt camp site—but there is still a prohibition on taking a car beyond St Niklaus without permission! But this is scarcely a climbing matter.

The descriptions and explanations of the procedures recommended in different circumstances are clear and comprehensive, and the equipment needed is adequately detailed. It was good to read that climbing nails “have certain advantages over the vibram sole on greasy rock or on hard snow or ice, and their value must not be overlooked, particularly for Scottish conditions”. Most accidents in the hills arise because of inadequate adhesion!

CAIRNGORM GUIDE-BOOKS

THE third edition of the S.M.C. guide, *The Cairngorms*, Sir Henry Alexander's classic, revised in 1950 by W. A. Ewen, has been out of print for some time. A new edition is in preparation and will be published by the Scottish Mountaineering Trust, who have taken over responsibility for all the guide-books from the Club. There are, however, still available the two volumes of the *Climbers' Guide to the Cairngorms Area* by Malcolm Smith. Those members who did not buy Vol. 1 (*The Cairngorms*) and Vol. 2 (*Lochnagar, Broad Cairn, Clova*) when they appeared in 1961 and 1962 under S.M.C. auspices will find that they now must pay 20s. and 18s. respectively, some 10s. more each than the original prices.

These pocket-size guides provide a complete introduction to the worthwhile climbing and scrambling in the Cairngorms Area. It would probably astonish the pioneers to find that of the 337 pages of route descriptions, only 70 deal with Lochnagar.

The stimulus given to climbing in the area by the author's achievement in producing such excellent guides and meeting an obvious requirement is illustrated by the number of new routes described in the S.M.C. Journals since they appeared. In the May 1968 issue, over 30 new climbs are listed and a revised edition will undoubtedly be called for as soon as this one is exhausted.

CLIMBING JOURNALS

WHILE this *Journal* has failed to meet several publication deadlines over an unfortunately long period, there has been piling up on the reviewer's desk—and the Library shelves—such an accumulation of Journals of Kindred Clubs that it has become manifestly impossible to find space even to mention them, far less refer to their contents. We can only express our thanks to all the clubs who have sent us their publications.

THE CAIRNGORM CLUB LIBRARY

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS AS AT 30 JUNE 1968

ABRAHAM, A. P.	Rock-climbing in Skye	1908
ABRAHAM, G. D.	The Complete Mountaineer	1907
	British Mountain Climbs	1909
	Modern Mountaineering... ..	1933
	The Place Names of Aberdeenshire.	1952
ALEXANDER, W. M.	Days of Fresh Air	1939
AMERY, L. S.	Guide to Highlands and Islands of Scotland ...	1842
ANDERSON, G. and P.	Walks round Aberdeen	1912
ANDERSON, R.	The Pentland Hills	1926
ANDERSON, W.	Selected Poems on West Penwith and Reflections	1957
ANDREWS, A. W.	Narrative of an Ascent to the Summit of Mont	
	Blanc	1830
AULDJO, J.	A Tramp through England and Across the	
	Grampians	—
BAIN, R. W. K.	The British Highlands with Rope and Rucksack	1933
BAKER, E. A.	Mid Moor and Mountain	1955
BALSILLIE, M. and WESTWOOD, J.	Commando Climber	1955
	Rakaposhi	1959
BANKS, M.	Climbing in Britain	1946
BARFORD, J. E. Q.	The Last Blue Mountain	1959
BARKER, R.	Kanchenjunga Challenge... ..	1955
BAUER, P.	A Progress in Mountaineering	1950
BELL, J. H. B.	British Hills and Mountains	1940
BELL, J. H. B., BOZMAN, E. F. and BLAKENBOROUGH, J. F.	Mountains beneath the Horizon	1950
	British Mountaineering	1909
BELL, W.	No Picnic on Mount Kenya	1952
BENSON, C. E.	British Hills and Mountains	1947
BENUZZI, F.	Black's Picturesque Tourist of Scotland ...	1889
BICKNELL, P.	The Language and Literature of the Scottish	
BLACK	Highlands	1876
	Mountaineering	1968
BLACKIE, J. S.	Peaks, Passes and Glaciers	1926
BLACKSHAW, A.	High Heaven	1947
BLAKENEY, E. H.	I Chose to Climb	1966
BOELL, J.	Always a Little Further	1947
BONINGTON, C.	The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides (2nd	
BORTHWICK, A.	Edition)	1785
BOSWALL, J.	A Visit to the Sherpas	1956
BOURDILLON, J.	The Ascent of Rum Doodle	1956
BOWMAN, W. E.		

BREMNER, A.	The Physical Geology of the Dee Valley ...	1912
	The Physical Geology of the Don Valley ...	1921
BRISTED, J.	A Pedestrian Tour through Part of the Highlands of Scotland in 1801. Vols. I, II ...	1803
BROWN, J.	The New Deeside Guide ...	1848
	The New Deeside Guide ...	1866
BROWN, J.	The Hard Years ...	1967
BROWN, T. G.	Brenva ...	1944
BROWN, T. G. and BEER, G. de	The First Ascent of Mont Blanc ...	1957
BROWNE, J.	A History of the Highlands and of the Highland Clans. Vols. I, II, III, IV ...	1840
BRUNNING, C.	Rock Climbing and Mountaineering ...	1946
BUHL, H.	Nanga Parbat Pilgrimage ...	1956
BURDSALL, R. L. and EMMONS, A. B.	Men Against the Clouds ...	1935
BURTON, J. H.	The Cairngorm Mountains ...	1864
BUSK, D.	The Delectable Mountains ...	1946
CAMPBELL, A.	The Grampians Desolate ...	1804
CAMPBELL, A.	The Romance of the Highlands ...	1927
CARR, H. R. C. and LISTER, G. A.	The Mountains of Snowdonia ...	1925
	The Mountains of Snowdonia (2nd Edition) ...	1948
CHAPIN, F. H.	Mountaineering in Colorado (2nd Edition) ...	1890
CHEVALIER, P.	Subterranean Climbers ...	1951
CHORLEY, K. C.	Hills and Highways ...	1928
CLARK, R.	The Victorian Mountaineers ...	1953
CLARK, R. W.	An Eccentric in the Alps ...	1959
CLARK, R. W. and PYATT, E. C.	Mountaineering in Britain ...	1957
COLLIE, J. N.	Climbing on the Himalaya and other Mountain Ranges ...	1902
COLLOMB, R. G.	A Dictionary of Mountaineering ...	1957
CONWAY, W. M.	The Alps from End to End ...	1905
	Autobiography of a Mountain Climber... ..	1933
COOLIDGE, W. A. B.	The Alps in Nature and History ...	1908
COPELANDS, F. S. and DEBELAKOVA, M.	A Short Guide to the Slovene Alps ...	1936
CORSON, F. R.	Beyond the Great Glen (2nd Edition) ...	—
COWAN, W.	Rambles through Scotland among the Bens and Glens ...	1933
COXHEAD, E.	One Green Bottle ...	1951
CROMBIE, J. M.	Braemar ...	1861
CUTHBERTSON, D. C.	In Scotland Now: Highland and Lowland Byways ...	—
DAVIES, J. S.	Dolomite Strongholds ...	1896
DENT, C. T.	Above the Snow Line ...	1885
	Mountaineering ...	1892

DESIO, A.	Ascent of K2	1955
DINNIE, R.	The Deeside Guide	1879
DIXON, C. M.	Rock Climbing	1958
DOCHARTY, W. M.	A Selection of some 900 British and Irish Mountain Tops	1954
	Supplement to A Selection of some 900 British and Irish Mountain Tops. Vols. I, II ...	1962
DODDERIDGE, M.	Man on the Matterhorn	1940
DRUMMOND, R. J.	Forgotten Scotland	—
EGELER, C. G. and BOOY, T. de	The Untrodden Andes	1955
EGGLER, A.	Everest-Lhotse Adventure	1957
EISELIN, M.	The Ascent of Dhaulagiri	1961
ENGEL, C. E.	A History of Mountaineering in the Alps ...	1950
	They came to the Hills	1952
EVANS, C.	Eye on Everest	1955
	Kangchenjunga	1956
	On Climbing	1956
EYRE, D. C.	John Sikander	1954
FERGUSON, W.	The Great North of Scotland Railway Guide ...	1881
FERGUSON, R. M.	Rambling Sketches in the Far North and Orcadian Musings	1883
	Rambles in the Far North (2nd Edition) ...	1884
FIELD, A. E. and SPENCER, S.	Peaks, Passes and Glaciers (3rd Series) ...	1932
FINCH, G. I.	The Making of a Mountaineer	1924
FIRSOFF, V. A.	The Tatra Mountains (2nd Edition)	—
	Cairngorms on Foot and Ski	1949
FISHER, J. E.	Bibliography of Canadian Mountain Ascents ...	1945
	Bibliography of United States Mountain Ascents (Except Pacific Coast States and the Eastern Seaboard)	1945
	Bibliography of Eastern Seaboard Mountain Ascents	1945
	Bibliography of Alaskan and Pacific Coast States Mountain Ascents	1945
	Bibliography of Mexican, Central and South American Mountain Ascents	1945
FITZGERALD, E. A.	The Highest Andes	1899
FLATTERLY, S.	Australian Snow Pictorial	1952
FORBES, J. D.	Travels through the Alps... ..	1900
FRANCIS, G.	Mountain Climbing	1958
FRASER, C.	The Avalanche Enigma	1966
FRASER, G. M.	The Old Deeside Road	1921
FRASER-DARLING, F.	Natural History in the Highlands and Islands...	1947
FRERE, R.	Rock Climbs	1938
FRESHFIELD, D. W.	Below the Snow Line	1923
	Italian Alps	1937

FRESHFIELD, D. W. and SELLA, V.	The Exploration of the Caucasus. Vols. I, II	1968
FRISON-ROCHE, R.	First on the Rope	1949
	Mont Blanc and the Seven Valleys	1961
FUCHS, V. and HILLARY, E.	The Crossing of Antarctica	1959
GARDNER, A.	The Peaks, Lochs and Coasts of the Western Highlands	1928
	Sun, Cloud and Snow in the Western Highlands	1933
	Britain's Mountain Heritage	1942
	Western Highlands	1947
GEIKIE, A.	The Scenery of Scotland (3rd Edition)	1901
GODEFROY, R.	La Nature Alpine	1948
GOODALL, W.	Letters of Mary Queen of Scots to Boswall. Vols. I, II	1754
GORDON, S.	The Charm of the Hills	1912
	The Land of the Hills and the Glens	1920
	Cairngorm Hills of Scotland	1926
	The Charm of Skye	1929
	Highways and Byways in the West Highlands	1935
	Afoot in Wild Places	1937
	Highways and Byways in the Central Highlands	1948
	Highlands of Scotland	1951
	The Golden Eagle... ..	—
	Afoot in the Hebrides	—
GOS, C.	Alpine Tragedy	1948
	Le Cervin. Vols. I, II	1948
GOS, F.	Zermatt and its Valley	1926
GRANT OF LAGGAN, Mrs	Poems	1803
GREIG, B. D. A.	Tararua Story	1946
HAGEN, T., DYHRENFURTH, G. O. <i>et al.</i>	Mount Everest	1963
HALL, T. S.	Tramping Holidays in Scotland	1948
HALLBERG, F. and MÜCKENBRÜNN, H.	The Complete Book of Ski-ing	1947
HARKER, A.	The West Highlands and the Hebrides... ..	1941
HARRER, H.	Seven Years in Tibet	1953
	The White Spider	1961
HENDERSON, K. A.	Handbook of American Mountaineering	1942
HENDRY, W. M.	Byways round Aberdeen	1926
HERRLIGKOFFER, K. M.	Nanga Parbat	1954
HERZOG, M.	Annapurna	1952
HIEBELER, T.	North Face in Winter	1962
HILLARY, E.	High Adventure	1955
	Schoolhouse in the Clouds	1964
HIRST, J.	Songs of the Mountaineers	1922
HOGG, J.	The Queen's Wake (6th Edition)	1819

HOLDEN, A. E.	Plant Life in the Scottish Highlands	1952
HOLMES, W. K.	Tramping Scottish Hills	1946
HUBER, E. and ROGERS, N.	The Complete Ski Manual	1949
HUMBLE, B. H.	Tramping in Skye... ..	1933
	The Songs of Skye	1934
	Wayfaring around Scotland	1936
	On Scottish Hills	1946
	The Cuillin of Skye	1952
HUMBLE, B. H. and McLELLAN, W. M.	Songs for Climbers	—
HUNT, J.	The Ascent of Everest	1953
HUNT, J. and BRASHER, C.	The Red Snows	1960
HUXLEY, A.	Standard Encyclopedia of the World's Mountains	1964
IRVING, R. L. G.	The Romance of Mountaineering	1935
	The Mountain Way	1938
	The Alps	1941
	History of British Mountaineering	1955
JACKSON, M. and STARK, E.	Tents in the Clouds	1956
JAMIESON, T. F.	List of Altitudes in the Counties of Aberdeen, Kincardine and Banff	1859
JENKINS, G. G.	Hill Views from Aberdeen	1917
JOHNSON, S.	A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland...	1775
	A Journey to the Hebrides	1886
KEITH, G. S.	A General View of the Agriculture of Aberdeenshire	1811
KILGOUR, W. T.	Twenty Years on Ben Nevis	1905
KING, C.	Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada	1947
KIRKUS, C. F.	Let's go Climbing	1946
KNIGHT, F. A.	By Moorland and Sea	1893
KUGY, J.	Alpine Pilgrimage... ..	1934
LAMBERT, R. and KOGAN, C.	White Fury	1956
LANDSBOROUGH, D.	Excursions to Arran and Ailsa Craig	1851
LONGMUIR, J.	Speyside	1860
LOWSON, A.	Tales, Legends and Traditions of Forfarshire...	1891
LUIGI, A.	The Ascent of Mount St Elias	1900
LUNN, A.	The Alps	1914
	The Bernese Oberland. Vol. II... ..	1920
	Mountain Jubilee	1943
	Mountains of Memory	1948
	A Century of Mountaineering	1957
LUNN, A. H. M.	Oxford Mountaineering Essays	1912
McCARTHY, R.	The Outdoor Guide	1960

McCONNOCHIE, A. I.	Ben Muichdhui and his Neighbours	1885	
	Bennachie	1890	
	Lochnagar	1891	
	Deeside	1893	
	Bennachie (2nd Edition)	1897	
	Deeside, with Deeside Guide (3rd Edition) ...	1900	
	Donside	1900	
	Strathspey	1902	
	The Royal Dee	1898	
	The Deer and Deer Forests of Scotland ...	1923	
	The Life of John Knox. Vols. I, II (4th Edition)	1818	
	The Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland. Vols. I, II, III, IV	1824	
	MACDONALD, E. A. and PHILIP, J. B.	Nigg Bay Guide	1923
MacGREGOR, A. A.	The Western Isles	1949	
MACGILLIVRAY, W.	The Natural History of Deeside and Braemar...	1855	
MACMILLAN, H.	Holidays on High Lands	1869	
McMORRIS, W. B.	The Real Book of Mountaineering	1961	
MACROW, B. G.	Hills and Glens	1949	
	Speyside to Deeside	1956	
	Unto the Hills	—	
MAGNONE, G.	The West Face	1955	
MANNERING, G. E.	With Axe and Rope in the New Zealand Alps...	1891	
MARTIN, M.	Western Islands of Scotland in 1695 and A Voyage to St Kilda in 1697 (with Western Isles in 1549 by D. Munro)	1934	
	MASON, B. R.	Safety in the Mountains	1963
MASON, K.	Abode of Snow	1955	
MATHEWS, C. E.	The Annals of Mont Blanc	1898	
MILLER, W. J.	The Scottish Mountains	1896	
MILNER, C. D.	Mountain Photography	1945	
	Rock for Climbing	1950	
	Mont Blanc and the Aiguilles	1955	
	MOFFAT, G.	Space below my Feet	1961
	Two Star Red	1964	
MOIR, G. M.	Tips for Trampers	1950	
MOORE, A. W.	The Alps in 1864. Vols. I, II	1939	
MORRIS, J.	Coronation Everest	1958	
MUMMERY, A. F.	My Climbs in the Alps and Caucasus	1936	
MURDOCH, J.	A Guide to the Highlands of Speyside	1852	
MURRAY, G. W.	Dare me to the Desert	1967	
MURRAY, W. H.	Mountaineering in Scotland	1947	
	Undiscovered Scotland	1951	
	Scottish Himalayan Expedition	1951	
	The Story of Everest (3rd Edition)	1953	
	Five Frontiers	1959	
	Highland Landscape	1962	
	MURRAY, W. H. and WRIGHT, J. E. B.	The Craft of Climbing	1964

MURSELL, W. A.	Isles of Sunset	1931
NOCK, P.	Rock Climbing	1963
NORMAN-NERUDA, M.	The Climbs of Norman-Neruda	1849
NORTH, F. J., CAMPBELL, B. and SCOTT, R.	Snowdonia	1949
NOYCE, W.	Mountains and Men	1947
	To the Unknown Mountain	1962
ORBELL, G. B.	In the Bush	1952
PALMER, W. T.	Wanderings in Scotland	—
PASCOE, J.	Unclimbed New Zealand... ..	1939
	Great Days in New Zealand Mountaineering	1958
PATTERSON, G. N.	Tibetan Journey	1954
PAUSE, W.	Salute the Mountains	1962
PEARSALL, W. H.	Mountains and Moorlands	1960
PERRY, R.	In the High Grampians	1948
PHEMISTER, J.	British Regional Geology : Scotland ; Northern Highlands (2nd Edition)	1948
PHILLIPS, G. G.	Wanderings in the Highlands of Banff and Aberdeen	1881
PIERRE, B.	A Mountain Called Nun Kun	1956
PILLEY, D.	Climbing Days (2nd Edition)	1965
PINE, L. G.	The Story of Heraldry	1963
PLUMB, C.	Walking in the Grampians	1935
POUCHER, W. A.	Scotland through the Lens	1943
	Lakeland Journey	1945
	A Camera in the Cairngorms	1947
	The Magic of Skye	1949
	The North-Western Highlands	1954
	The Lakeland Peaks (2nd Edition)	1962
	The Scottish Peaks	1964
PROFEIT, R. A.	Under Lochnagar	1894
PYATT, E. C.	Where to Climb in the British Isles	1960
PYATT, E. C. and NOYCE, W.	British Crags and Climbers	1952
QUIGLEY, H. and ADAM, R. M.	Highlands of Scotland	1936
RAMSAY, A. C.	Tour in Arran. The Geology of the Island	1841
RATTI, A. A.	Climbs on Alpine Peaks	1925
READ, H. H.	British Regional Geology : The Grampian Highlands (2nd Edition)	1948
REBUFFAT, G.	L'Apprenti Montagnard	1946
	Starlight and S'orm	1956
	Mont Blanc to Everest	1956
	Neige et Roc	1959
	Between Heaven and Earth	1965

REY, G.	Peaks and Precipices	1914
	The Matterhorn	1946
RICHEY, J. E.	Scotland: Tertiary Volcanic Districts (2nd Edition)	1948
RIDDELL, J.	The Ski Runs of Switzerland	1957
	The Ski Runs of Austria	1958
ROBERTSON, J. A.	The Gaelic Topography of Scotland	1864
ROBSON, G. F.	Scenery of the Grampian Mountains	1814
ROBINSON, A. M.	Alpine Roundabout	1947
ROCH, A.	Climbs of my Youth	1949
RODAHL, K.	The Ice Capped Island, Greenland	1946
ROWELL, G.	Poems	1938
RUSSELL, R. S.	Mountain Prospect	1946
RUTTLEDGE, H.	Everest 1933	1938
SANDEMAN R. G.	A Mountaineer's Journal	1948
SHIPTON, E.	Nanda Devi	1939
	Upon that Mountain	1943
	The Mount Everest Reconnaissance Expedition 1951	—
	Land of Tempest	1963
SLESSER, M.	Red Peak	1964
	The Andes are Prickly	1966
SLINGSBY, W. C.	Norway, the Northern Playground	1941
SMITH, A.	A New History of Aberdeenshire. Vols. I, II	1875
SMITH, J. A.	Mountain Holidays	1946
SMITH, W. A.	Hill Paths in Scotland	1926
SMITH, W. P. H.	Climbing in the British Isles: Vol. I, England... ..	1894
	Climbing in the British Isles: Vol. II, Wales and Ireland	1895
SMYTHE, F. S.	Climbs and Ski Runs	1929
	The Kangchenjunga Adventure (3rd Edition)	1931
	Kamet Conquered... ..	1933
	Over Tyrolean Hills	1938
	Camp Six	1938
	Peaks and Valleys... ..	1938
	Over Welsh Hills	1941
	An Alpine Journey	1941
	The Mountain Vision	1941
	The Spirit of the Hills	1941
	Mountaineering Holiday	1941
	British Mountaineers	1942
	The Adventures of a Mountaineer	1945
	Snow on the Hills	1946
	Again Switzerland	1947
	Rocky Mountains	1948
SMYTH, S.	At Grips with Everest	1945
	Alpine Adventure	1946
SPENDER, H. and SMITH, H. L.	Through the High Pyrenees	1898

SPENCER, S	Mountaineering	—
STEEL, C. W. S.	The Ben Nevis Race	1956
STEPHEN, L.	The Playground of Europe	1894
STEPHENS, C.	The Island Hills	1955
STEWART, D.	Sketches of the Character, Manners and Present State of the Highlands of Scotland. Vols. I, II	1822
STRUTFIELD, H. E. M. and COLLIE, J. N.	Climbs and Exploration in the Canadian Rockies	1903
STYLES, S.	The Mountaineer's Week-end Book	1951
	Mountains of the Midnight Sun... ..	1954
	The Moated Mountain	1955
	Shadow Buttress	1959
	Introduction to Mountaineering	—
SUTTON, G.	Artificial Aids in Mountaineering	1962
SWISS ALPINE CLUB	Mountaineering Handbook	1950
	The Technique of Alpine Mountaineering	—
SYMONDS, H. H.	Walking in the Lake District	1962
TERRAY, L.	Conquistadors of the Useless	1963
THOMSON, T. B. S.	Bens and Glens	—
THORINGTON, J. M.	Early American Ascents in the Alps in the Nineteenth Century	1943
TICHY, H.	Cho Oyu	1957
TILMAN, H. W.	Mount Everest 1938	1948
TYNDALL, J.	The Glaciers of the Alps	1860
ULLMANN, J. R.	Kingdom of Adventure, Everest... ..	1948
	Man of Everest	1955
	Americans on Everest	1965
UNDERWOOD, M.	Give me the Hills	1956
VARESCHI, V. and KRAUSE, E.	Mountains in Flower	1947
VICTORIA, H. M. Queen	Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands	1868
	More Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands	1885
WALKER, J. H.	Mountain Days in the Highlands and Alps	1937
	On Hills of the North	1948
	Walking in the Alps	1951
	Rondoy	1965
WALL, D.	English Lakeland	1940
WALLACE, D.	The Mountaineer's Companion	1966
WARD, M.	Highland Days	1948
WEIR, T.	Camps and Climbs in Arctic Norway	1953
	The Ultimate Mountains	1953
WHYMPER, E.	The Ascent of the Matterhorn	1880
	A Guide to Chamonix and Mont Blanc	1896
	A Guide to Zermatt and the Matterhorn	1897
	Scrambles amongst the Alps (5th Edition)	1900

WILCOX, W. D.	The Rockies of Canada	...	...	...	1900
WILLS, A.	Wanderings among the High Alps	...	...	...	1937
WILSON, C.	Mountaineering	...	...	...	1893
WRANGHAM, E. A.	Selected Climbs in the Range of Mont Blanc	...	...	...	1957
WRIGHT, J. E. B.	Mountain Days in the Isle of Skye	...	...	...	1934
	Rock Climbing in Britain	...	...	...	1958
	Rock Climbing in Britain (Revised Appendix)				1964
	The Technique of Mountaineering (3rd Edition)				1964
YELD, G.	Scrambles in the Eastern Graians	...	...	...	1900
YOUNG, G. W.	Mountain Craft (5th Edition)	...	...	...	1946
YOUNG, G. W., SUTTON, G. and NOYCE, W.	Snowdon Biography	...	...	...	1957
YOUNGHUSBAND, F.	The Epic of Mount Everest	...	...	...	1926
	Everest the Challenge	...	...	...	1948
ZURBRIGGEN, M.	From the Alps to the Andes	...	...	...	1899
ANONYMOUS	Letters from the Mountains. Vols, I, II, III (4th Edition)	...	...	...	1809
	Guide Book to the Formartine and Buchan Railway	...	...	...	1861
	Description of Dufftown and Strathspey Railways				1863
	Deeside Tales	...	...	...	1872
	Ben Nevis Observatory	...	...	...	1883
	The Deeside Guide	...	...	...	1893
	Mountain Moor and Loch (West Highland Railway)	...	...	...	1894
	The Freedom Lands and Marches of Aberdeen				1929
	Scotland's Heritage of Beauty	...	...	...	1936
	Braemar Octotoddle	...	...	...	1939
	Olympisk Revy, Oslo, 1952	...	...	...	1952

INDEX

	PAGE		PAGE
A'Chir	14	Dauphiné	246
Aletschhorn	231	Dairymaid's Field	235
Alpine Sunrise (Poem)	263	Derry Lodge	17, 32, 102, 236
Aonach Mor, Beag	79		251, 257, 270, 278
Arolla	209		
Arran	13		
Baffin Land	2	Devil's Point	19
Bain, R.	189, 235	Dinners, Annual—1953	45
Baird, Col. Pat	2, 206	1954	98
Beinn a' Bheithir	82	1955-56	152
Beinn a' Bhuid	50, 51, 107, 161, 239, 245	1957-60	207
Ben Alder	81	1961-67	271
Ben Avon	239	Docharty, W. M.	105, 280
Ben Macdhui	106, 147, 214	Dolomites	83, 100
	243, 254, 275	Duguid, James W.	29, 204
Bequest, George Taylor	270		
Birds	3, 25, 40, 119, 124, 180	Editor	1, 263
Blue Stacks	195	Egypt	279
Braeriach	51, 52, 160, 240, 242	Elie de Beaumont, Mount	40
Bridges	135, 138, 155	Eskimos	2
	192, 225, 256	Etchachan Hut	48, 236, 245, 257
Broad Cairn	29	Everest, Mount	103
		Ewen, W. A.	1, 188
		Excursions	46, 99, 152, 207
			209, 234, 264, 271
Caenlochan	52		
Carn an-t'Sagairt Mor	30	Feshie Road	206, 249, 275
Cairngorm	106, 159, 213	Flowers, Alpine	40, 57, 119, 164
	234, 243		
Cairngorm Area	248		
Cairngorm Road	213	Garbh Coire Mor Snowfield	147, 213
Cairngorms, Circuit of	75, 210, 273	General Meetings, Annual—	
Cairngorms, Elevation of	238	65th	45
Cairngorms, Maps	252	66th	98
Cairngorms Nature Reserve	21, 49, 278	67th-68th	151
Cairntoul	240, 242	69th-72nd	205
Chamonix	47	73rd-79th	270
Chandra, River	101, 140, 165	General Meetings, Special	151, 270, 271
Clachnaben	12, 238	Georgia, South	119
Climate	147, 184	Glacier Dome	42
Cloch-na-Bhien (Poem)	12	Glen Doll	186
Club Huts	32, 256	Glen Einich	185
Coat of Arms	225, 227	Glen Feshie	206, 249, 275
Coire Etchachan	48	Glen Spean	77
Coire Sputan Dearg	158	Graians	47
Cook, Mount	37	Greenland	153
Corrour Bothy	19, 191	Guide, Swiss	197
Creag an Dubh Loch	52, 107		
Creag Meaghaidh	81		
Croaghgorm	195		
Culardoch	31		

	PAGE		PAGE
Hermitage	37	Mont Battock	238
Hill Paths	212	Morrone	213
Himalaya, Lahul	101, 140, 165	Morven	241
In Memoriam	44, 94, 150, 200, 260	Mountain Indicator, Morrone	213
Alexander, W. M.	200	Mountain Rescue	156, 184
Angus, John	201	Mountain Tops, British and Irish	105, 280
Brown, Arthur R.	200	Muckle Spate	135
Duncan, J. Lindsay	96	Muick, Spittal of	47
Gray, Maitland H.	97	Muir of Inverey	32, 257
Lowe, A. C. W.	201	Munros, Cairngorm	75
McArthur, Hamish	202	Murray, G. W.	279
McDonald, J. B.	203	National Trust for Scotland	49, 258
McHardy, James	97	Nature Conservancy	21, 48
Malcolm, William	260	Nature Reserve, Cairngorms	21, 49, 278
Page, G. R.	261	Office-Bearers	45, 98, 151, 205, 206 207, 269, 270, 271
Pope, Herbert G.	150	Osprey	124
Robb, Marshall J.	203	Owl, Snowy	25
Sellar, Robert T.	97	Parker Bridge	138, 154, 256
Smith, E. W.	260	Plants, Alpine	57, 119, 164
Taylor, George	256	Reviews	54, 56, 109, 111, 162, 163 Æ 216, 218, 220, 282, 286
Watt, E. W.	95	Robertson, John	47
Williamson, R. M.	94	Rock Climbs—	
Jotonheim	89	Beinn a'Bhuird	50, 51, 107, 161
Komatik	2	Ben Macdhui	106, 158
Lairig-an-Laoigh	265	Braeriach	51, 52, 160
Lairig Ghru, Oil Painting	279	Caenlochan	52
Library	266, 287	Cairngorm	106, 159
Library Catalogue	287	Carn Etchachan	106, 159
Link, The	175	Creag an Dubh Loch	52, 107
Litter	215	Lochnagar	9, 52, 108, 158, 175
Loch Avon	225, 235	Maoile Lunndaith	53
Loch Muick	28, 241	Sgoran Dubh	161
Loch Ossian	80	Stack Polly	161
Lochnagar	9, 28, 52, 108, 158 175, 239, 241	Rope, Climbing	113
Luibeg	17, 135, 155, 256	Ross, Capt. H. D.	204
Maccabeo	104, 281	Ruwenzori	129
Malcolm, William	211, 260, 270	Seventy-fifth Anniversary	234
Maoile Lunndaith	53	Sgoran Dubh	161
Meets and Excursions—		Shelter	184
1953-54	46	Shelter Stone	212, 227, 236
1954-55	99	Six Tops, The	210, 273
1955-56	152	Snow-bunting	180
1957-60	207, 209	Snowdon	211
1961-67	234, 264, 271	Southern Alps	37
Meets, Indoor	45, 98, 152	Spate, Muckle	135
Meije, Brèche de la	247	Spate, 1956	135, 154
Membership, Ordinary	225		

Index

299

	PAGE		PAGE
Stack, The	9	Weather, Bad	184, 214, 244
Stack Polly	161	Weisshorn	228
		Welsh, Hugh D.	205
Taylor, George	154, 190, 206, 227	White Mounth	29
	234, 256, 270, 278		
Trustees, Club	270, 271	Yellow Moss	265
Visitors' Books, Shelter Stone	212	Zermatt	154

The Cairngorm Club

