

face at the foot of a 50-ft. face climb to the summit ridge. This ridge, which runs approximately N.W. and S.E., and is here knife-edged, is followed for a few yards, and then abandoned for a traverse of some 20 ft. by small but sufficiently numerous holds across the exposed west face, and round an awkward corner below a big block on the arête, immediately after which the summit is gained without further trouble.

The ascent of the Ago occupied 39 min., and its descent 25 min. Its rocks are thoroughly good. No snow or ice was met with. The route up from the Ago Glacier was followed down (52 min.), except that there being after midday a considerable increase in the water flowing down the upper portion of the chimney a deviation a little to the south of it was made. Here the party descended steep and difficult rocks for about 40 ft., bearing to the right, and then over big blocks to the S.W. corner of the glacier below. They returned to the Allievi hut, having had an expedition of 9 hrs. 12 min., including halts of 2 hrs. 37 min.

## ALPINE NOTES.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE.'—Copies of Vol. I. of the new edition of this work, price 12s. net, and of 'Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps' (being a new edition of the General Introduction), price 3s., can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE,' THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART I.—A new edition of this portion of the 'Alpine Guide,' by the late John Ball, F.R.S., President of the Alpine Club, reconstructed and revised on behalf of the Alpine Club under the general editorship of A. V. Valentine-Richards, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, is now ready, and can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C. It includes those portions of Switzerland to the north of the Rhône and Rhine valleys.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.—L. S. Calvert (1895), H. Pasteur (1873), F. A. Satow (1897).

CONCOURS INTERNATIONAL DE SKI.—The fourth annual meeting, organised by the Club Alpin Français, will be held January 22–30, 1910, at Eaux Bonnes and Caunterets, Pyrenees. Particulars may be obtained from the secretary of the C.A.F., 4 Rue du Bac, Paris.

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA.—The fourth annual camp of the Alpine Club of Canada was held from August 2 to 9 at Lake O'Hara, in the main range of the Rocky Mountains, 6,664 ft. above the sea. It was a notable gathering of about 200 people. The object of the camp is to enable members to meet in the mountains of Canada, and graduating members to receive the assistance of the Club in qualifying for active membership. Lake O'Hara is a lovely spot, surrounded by some very fine peaks. Near by and in view of the camp are Mounts Huber, 11,041 ft.; Victoria, 11,355 ft.; Lefroy, 11,220 ft.; Hungabee, 11,447 ft.; Biddle, 10,876 ft.; Deltaform,

11,225; Cathedral, Odaray, and others, all ice-hung, and some requiring the most skilled climbing. The camp was pitched in an open glade, with comfortable tents in separate places for ladies and gentlemen, with a cook tent, and large awning for meals. Every sleeping tent was 'brushed down' with twigs of pine trees, making a most luxurious and sleep-inducing mattress. Another camp was established at Hector Station, on the C.P.R., as a base, nine miles away, and between these two camps a string of pack horses were kept busy daily. The organisation of the camp was perfect—nothing was wanting for every one's comfort, and there was never a hitch. The credit of thus providing for 200 people in the heart of the Rocky Mountains is due to A. O. Wheeler, president of the Club. Among the guests of the Club were the following members of the Alpine Club: H. B. Dixon, F.R.S., A. L. Mumm, G. A. Solly, Dr. Tempest Anderson, L. S. Amery, G. Hastings, A. M. Bartleet. Mr. Edward Whymper also spent a day and a night at the camp.—(This note is taken from a full account of the meeting in the 'Field' of October 9, 1909.)

**NEW GUINEA.**—The British expedition for the scientific exploration of New Guinea will probably be able to begin work early in 1910. The expedition is commanded by Mr. Walter Goodfellow. Captain C. G. Rawling and Dr. Eric Marshall are the surveyors, and our member, Dr. A. F. R. Wollaston, who has done such good work in Uganda both as a scientist and as a mountaineer, is on the scientific staff. Thus we may hope before very long to learn the secrets of that range of high mountains which is believed to run through the centre of New Guinea.

**RAILWAYS AND ROADS.**—The Chamonix–Martigny railway is now open. It passes by a tunnel under the Col des Montets, and touches several high villages, viz. Vallorcine, Châtelard, Finhaut, &c. &c.

**MONT BLANC RAILWAY**, by which it is proposed to reach the summit of this mountain eventually, is already constructed from Fayet-St.-Gervais to the Col de Voza (1,675 m.). Upon this railway, and upon that of the Montanvert, members of the C.A.F. enjoy a reduction of 25 per cent.

**THE CHAMONIX-MONTANVERT RAILWAY** is already in operation. The journey takes 45 min.

**THE BERNINA RAILWAY** is now complete on the N. side, that is from Samaden to the Hospice (2,309 m.). Upon the S. side it has been in operation since last year to Poschiavo (1,011 m.).

**THE JUNGFRAU RAILWAY**, which for some years has terminated at the Eismeer station (3,181 m.), and is now the highest railway in Europe, carried in 1907 73,400 travellers.

**MOTOR SERVICES.**—The following run in the season: Pont St. Martin–Gressoney la Trinité in about 2½ hrs.; Belluno–Pieve di Cadore–Cortina in about 5 hrs.; Bozen–San Martino di Castrozza in about 5½ hrs.; Bozen–Falzarego–Cortina (a new hotel has been built at Canazei, in Val Fassa, half-way, after the same style as the Sulden and Trafoi Hotels); Toblach–Cortina.

**LA BÉRARDE.**—Arrangements have been made to continue the carriage road from St. Christophe to La Bérarde. This will cost a large sum, as the portion from Bourg d'Arud cost 25,000 francs per kilomètre, or in all 300,000 frs. Towards the expense of the extension the Paris section of the C.A.F. is contributing 500 frs., the S.T.D. 4,000 frs., and the Touring Club de France 60,000 frs. It is rumoured that the guide J. B. Rodier will start a new inn in opposition to the Chalet Hotel, which has now been taken over from the S.T.D. by Monsieur Tairraz.

**HUTS. THE RIFUGIO DU MULAZ (2,560 m.), GROUP DELLE PALE.**—This hut, constructed in 1907 and opened to the public the following summer, has been considerably enlarged, and can now accommodate comfortably 12 persons.

**THE RIFUGIO QUINTINO SELLA, ON MONT BLANC.**—This hut has lately been put in good condition by the Sede Centrale of the C.A.I. Four mattresses have been presented by an eminent English climber.

**THE RIFUGIO EUGENIO SELLA (3,150 m.),** under the New Weissthör, 5 hrs. from Macugnaga, was this year put into good condition at the expense of Comm. Angelo Rizzetti, President of the Varallo Section, C.A.I.

**PROPOSED HUT NEAR THE ALBIGNA GLACIER (BREGAGLIA GROUP).**—The Section Hoher Rohn S.A.C. propose to build this, but the necessary funds cannot be voted this year.

**PROJECTED HUTS.**—The following demands for subventions are recommended by the Committee of the S.A.C. for acceptance by the General Meeting of that Club in November next.

	FrCs.
Strahlegg Hut, 50 per cent. of cost . . . . .	8,400
Guggi Hut, 50 per cent. of cost . . . . .	2,900
Rambert Hut on the Diablerets (enlargement), 50 per cent. of cost . . . . .	2,000
Hut on the Fuorcla de Lavaz, * proposed cost 15,000 frs. . . . .	5,000
	18,300

**THE ROTONDO HUT (ST. GOTTHARD GROUP).**—This new hut, the property of the Section Lägern, S.A.C., stands on the N. side of the Wyttengewasser glacier on the rocks of the Hochthäligrat, somewhere about point 2,600 m. Accommodation is provided for 32. The hut serves an interesting but little visited district, the principal expeditions being the Pizzo Rotondo 3 hrs., the Wyttengewasserstock, the waters from which flow into the North Sea, the Adriatic and the Mediterranean, the Pizzo Lucendro and several others.

The neighbourhood is described as admirably suited for ski-tours.

**GUIDE BOOKS.**—'Die Hohe Tatra,' by Dr. A. Otto, 7th ed., just published, is very favourably reviewed by Dr. A. von Martin,

\* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xxiv. p. 606.

the great authority on that district, in 'Ö.A.Z.,' No. 789, p. 161. Publisher, Grieben. Price, 3 marks.

'Die Erschliessung des Kaisergebirges,' by F. Nieberl, one of the best authorities on this interesting group, where some very hard rock climbs are to be found, is a collection of accounts of climbs from the hut books at Hinterbärenbad. Publisher, Ed. Lippott, Kufstein. Price, 2½ marks.

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

*The Bernese Oberland.* Vol. I. From the Gemmi to the Mönchjoch. Part I. The Main Range. A New Edition, by W. A. B. Coolidge. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1909. Price 10s.

ALL climbers will extend a hearty welcome to this book: to praise it would be superfluous. We need only mention that, as the Preface states, 'the text has been rewritten and the scheme completely remodelled, while great pains have been taken to bring the information up to date. Much care has been devoted to tracing out the history of the names borne at various dates by the peaks, and by the glacier passes which were known before modern climbing began.' This volume contains the Main Range or watershed from the Gemmi to the Mönchjoch. Part II. will take in the detached groups that rise to the N. and to the S. of the Main Range.

*British Mountain Climbs.* By G. D. Abraham. 448 pp. With 18 illustrations and 21 outline drawings. Mills and Boon. 7s. 6d.

This is a capital conspectus of the best rock climbs in England, Scotland and Wales; the illustrations are good and useful and the information is well up to date, some climbs being described which were made only in the present year. Few men can have as good a working acquaintance with the huge amount of ground covered as is possessed by the author, and a book of this kind not merely summarises the information scattered through the many club journals which specialise on different districts, but serves the climber well in reducing to something like uniformity the widely varying standards of difficulty set up by numerous writers representing a wide range of climbing ability. On the whole, excellent judgment has been shown in the latter respect, though in the case of a few new climbs it has obviously been necessary to take the description of the discoverers on trust. In such cases the names of the climbers are sometimes given, but in all ordinary climbs, though full justice is done to pioneers, there is a commendable cutting out of the personal element, thus rendering the book more readable and less of an advertisement for individual climbers.

Of all the important climbs ample details are given, and the space is pretty fairly distributed. Out of some 450 pages Scotland gets 157, the English Lakes 136, and Wales 108. Among climbing