

Gateshead (where he resided) and Newcastle, and was in many ways of great service to his fellow citizens, by whom he was highly esteemed. He was made a Privy Councillor in 1906.

In Mr. Spence Watson the Alpine Club deeply regrets the loss of one more of that 'Old Guard' of energetic and able mountaineers who did so much to win for mountaineering the high place which it has since held in the estimation of the world.

THE ALPINE CLUB ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

THE Annual Photographic Exhibition was held as usual in May, and once more the best thanks of the Club are due to Mr. Spencer for the time and trouble that he bestowed on its organisation and arrangement; of the skill and experience which he brings to the task it is needless to speak.

Of the general result it may be said that the usual high standard of excellence was on the whole maintained; to attempt any definite comparison with the work of previous years would be difficult and not very profitable. Among exhibits of a special or unusual character perhaps the most remarkable was the youthful portrait of Mr. Wympster, a very successful enlargement from an old photograph by Mr. C. Atkin Swan. (We are glad to note that this portrait has been presented to the Club by the President, as well as an interesting group of the President himself and two well-known guides.) Very striking too was the snow study entitled 'Snow, Steam and Smoke,' by Mr. Will Cadby, who shows an individuality in his subjects and treatment which is a rare distinction in photography. Among the most successful of the winter scenes were his 'Egertental Ski-jump' and Mr. Spencer's 'Grindelwald.' Of the ice-studies quite the finest example was Mr. J. Osborne Walker's 'Märjelensee.' Interest in snow forms for their own sake seems to have declined recently, and this year was hardly displayed at all. On the other hand, there was an unusually large number of happily chosen sub-alpine subjects which formed a welcome diversion from the mountain views. Noticeable among these were Mr. Bainbridge Bell's 'Fairfield,' a pretty peaceful English landscape; the charming little lake study by Mr. Fuller England, 'Sunset at Villeneuve'; and Miss Field's picturesque 'Inn at Landeck.' Two large valley scenes by Mr. Done may also be mentioned in this connexion, and Mr. Weston's 'Valtournanche' and 'The Diablerets from Comballaz.' We think that the exhibition would have lost nothing by the absence of a certain type of picture in which figures are prominently introduced; they are too apt to be artificial, and the effect forced and unconvincing. These remarks are, however, not intended to be applied to all pictures of this description; such scenes as Miss Longstaff's 'The Trail to Assiniboine' and Mr. Byron Harman's 'Pack Train in the Upper Bow Valley' have a legitimate interest, while Mr. A. E.

Murray's 'Mountain Boy' and 'Evening at Sondrio' were quite natural and charming.

In respect of geographical range the variety of subjects was wide, though not exceptionally so. The Canadian Rockies have lately received a considerable share of attention from our members, and as a result we had on our walls a large number of very beautiful scenes from that fascinating region. Among Mr. Mumm's contributions were two really splendid panoramic views of Mount Robson taken respectively from the N. and the S.-E.; to these a very fine 'Mount Assiniboine,' by Mr. T. G. Longstaff, made a worthy companion; Miss K. L. Longstaff displayed her usual artistic and technical excellence in six views of the same district; Mrs. Arthur Schuster sent three charming little pictures from the Rockies and the Selkirks; and Dr. Norman Collie gave us four most delightful exhibits, one of which, 'Sunset on the Yellowhead Pass,' was as near perfection as photography can go, and was probably considered by most visitors to be the finest thing in the room.

Mr. Mead showed a group of scenes from the Garhwal Himalaya, characteristic and imposing pictures, and of course of the greatest interest to the Club generally. The Andes were represented by four interesting frames sent by Mr. Larden and Mr. Haskett Smith.

Dr. Tempest Anderson took us this year to the volcanoes of New Zealand; his three views, admirable as photographs, were even more remarkable for the skill with which the geological features of the landscape were brought out. Mr. MacRury's 'Old Bridge at Mostar,' and a lovely Corsican scene by Mr. Ouston were among the most pleasing of the sub-alpine views already referred to. Of Scandinavian scenery there were only three examples, all in the Lofotens, one by Mr. Woolley—his only exhibit—and two by Mr. H. Walker, but they fully made up in quality for their small number.

Turning now to the strictly Alpine mountain views which naturally formed the backbone of the exhibition, the first place must be given to the magnificent views, shown by Mr. Roos, of Mr. Henry Speyer, whose work we were glad to see again on the Club walls. Mr. Speyer is one of the few Alpine photographers who know how to combine a truly artistic composition with perfection of technique. His 'Looking Westward from the Parrotspitze' was extraordinarily truthful in distance values. Two of the best exhibits in the room were Mr. Atkin Swan's 'Aiguille de Blaitière' and 'Aiguille Verte,' both enlargements on a big scale from telephotos; we do not remember having seen any telephotos quite so good as these. Dr. Thurstan Holland showed his usual care in six exhibits, all excellent. We liked particularly 'The Matterhorn' and 'The Dent d'Hérens,' the latter with a very pretty reflection. Dr. Holland is very happy in his choice of mounts. Sir Alexander Kennedy's work is usually among the best in these exhibitions, and this was exemplified by a very beautiful picture of the 'Pétéret Ridge.' This ridge, by the way, seems to have attracted an unusual amount of attention this year, two other very good photographs of it being shown by Mr. Somerset

Bullock and Miss Pickford. Mr. Priestman's single exhibit and those of Mr. Holmes and Dr. Williamson showed the excellent workmanship which we expect from these gentlemen, and those of the latter, as usual with him, were of such a character as to make a special appeal to mountaineers. Mr. A. E. Hassé sent a charming picture in 'Dawn: the Oldenhorn.' We must here pause to observe that the centrist tendency which has been more than once commented on in the *JOURNAL* seems to be as pronounced as ever; Mont Blanc and his satellites continue to exercise a paramount attraction on our photographers, and that range and the Pennines between them absorbed two-thirds of the whole of the pictures in the category now under consideration.

The Oberland was rather neglected, and, while the Dolomites and other Austrian Alps received a fair share of attention, the remaining Alpine ranges were represented either very sparsely or not at all. Seeing that not long ago more than thirty Matterhorns were shown in one exhibition, it cannot be said that eight is excessive, and some of these were extremely good ones. We have seen no presentation of this mountain more impressive than that of Mr. Reginald Nevill. This gentleman, who is anything but a centrist, and showed a delightful variety of subjects, chosen from a large number of different districts, was perhaps the most successful all-round exhibitor of the year. The Eastern Alps were represented mainly in the work of Dr. H. Roger-Smith and Mr. R. Morrish. Of the former's we preferred the two views of the Brenta Dolomites, though the cutting off of the top of the Crozzon was an artistic error; his other pictures were somewhat flat and weak in tone. Mr. Morrish was most successful with the Sella Thürme and a beautifully composed view of Heiligenblut and the Gross Glockner.

There were many other exhibits well worthy of attention, but space fails to detail them, and among other contributors were Miss Venables, Miss Taylor, Miss Walter, Messrs. Parker, Symons, Tutton, Buck, Daly, Doncaster, Dent, Gore, H. O. Jones, McLeish, Mennell, Morley, Douglas Murray, Carfrae and Huband.

Dr. Holland showed an interesting set of lantern slides, and we had from the Rev. Walter Weston an exquisite set of Japanese slides, hand coloured in a manner of which the Japanese alone seem to possess the secret.

In conclusion, we come to what was perhaps the most interesting feature of the exhibition in the autochromes sent by Dr. Roger-Smith and Miss Hardcastle. Colour photography has now reached a quite marvellous pitch of perfection, a fact which was proved to the Club members a few months ago by Dr. Inglis Clark, when he illustrated his paper by a remarkably beautiful series of autochrome slides. Dr. H. Roger-Smith's and Miss Hardcastle's autochromes varied somewhat in quality, but most of them were extraordinarily truthful in colour tones, and as the manipulation of these plates presents no serious difficulties, we predict great popularity for this interesting development of photography.