

to recent snow. The slope gets steep at the top and ends in a face of rotten rocks which, although not difficult, needed great care. This landed us on the Col just below a small gendarme and some 500 ft. to the right of the Aiguille Mummery.

The descent to the Couvercle we found to consist chiefly of easy snow-slopes interspersed with snow-covered rocks.

P. W. H.

ALPINE NOTES.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY :	Date of Election
Wagner, H.	1869
Coolidge, W. A. B.	1870
Beachcroft, Sir R. Melvill	1871
Waugh, H. D.	1894
Spender, E. Harold	1896

'BALL'S ALPINE GUIDE,' THE WESTERN ALPS.—The edition (1898) by Mr. Coolidge covers the Maritimes, Graians, Dauphiné, Mt. Blanc group, and Pennines to the Simplon. With maps of each district, 1 : 250,000, and a general map. Price 10s., or 10s. 4d. post free. Obtainable from any bookseller or the Assistant Secretary.

'BALL'S ALPINE GUIDE,' THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART I.—The edition (1907), by Rev. A. A. Valentine-Richards, covers Switzerland and N. of the Rhone and the Rhine. With nine maps, 1 : 250,000, and a general map. Price 5s., or 5s. 4d. post free, or unbound 2s. 6d., or 2s. 10d. post free. Obtainable as above.

'BALL'S ALPINE GUIDE,' THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART II.—The edition (1917), by Rev. G. Broke, covers the Alpine regions S. and E. of the Rhone and Rhine as far as the Adige, *i.e.* the Lepontine, Grisons, Rhaetian (including Bernina), Ortler and Adamello groups. With nine maps, 1 : 250,000, and a general map. Price 5s., or 5s. 4d. post free, or unbound 2s. 6d., or 2s. 10d. post free. Obtainable as above.

MR. COOLIDGE'S edition of BALL'S 'WESTERN ALPS' is still the only complete guide to the country described, and, save as to the detail of inns and club huts, is as instructive and sufficient to the mountaineer—and to the climber with eyes—as when published, while the maps are admirable.

The volumes of the 'Central Alps' are, for the mountaineer, the best general guides to the districts described and contain the well-known Ravenstein maps.

'GUIDES DES ALPES VALAISANNES.'—

Vol. I. Col Ferret to Col de Collon, by M. Kurz, 10s.

Vol. II. Col de Collon to Col Théodule, by Dr. Dübi, 9s.

Vol. III. Col Théodule to Weisstor, by Dr. Dübi, 8s.

Vol. IV. Col Simplon to Furka, by M. Kurz, 8s.

At Stanford's, Long Acre, W.C. 2.

LES AIGUILLES DE CHAMONIX (GUIDE VALLOT).—Par J. de Lépiney, E. de Gigord and Dr. A. Migot, with 39 route-marked illustrations and 2 outline maps. Paris: Fischbacher, 33 rue de Seine. 1925. 20 fr., or from the Assistant Secretary, 23 Savile Row, 6s. post free.

This admirable Climbers' Guide is a complete monograph of the Aiguilles and may be said to be a much enlarged and more elaborate 'Kurz' or 'Mont Blanc Führer.'

A CLIMBER'S GUIDE TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF CANADA.—By Howard Palmer and J. Monroe Thorington, published for the American A.C. by the Knickerbocker Press, N.Y., 1921. This very useful summary, with several maps, of what has been done in the Rockies to 1921, can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, 23 Savile Row, price 7s. 6d.

THE 'CLUBFÜHRER DURCH DIE BÜNDNERALPEN.'—Vol. IV., covering the Bregaglia and the Disgrazia group, by H. Rütter, with the assistance of Christian Klucker, can be obtained from Sauerländer and Co., Aarau, Switzerland.

LES ALPES DE SAVOIE.—Vol. VI., Part I., by Commandant Emile Gaillard, M.C. (Dardel, Chambéry, 27 fr. 50 post free), covering the groups Trélatête, Bionnassay-Goùter, M. Blanc, Brouillard-Peuteret, and Maudit-Tour Ronde, with skeleton maps of each group and several marked sketches, has just appeared. It follows generally the plan of the Kurz guide, and includes the full information of all recent climbs.

Part II., covering the groups of the Chamonix Aiguilles and the groups of the Grandes Jorasses and the Talèfre will appear very shortly and can be subscribed for at 22 fr. 50 post free from the Assistant Secretary.

The full series is as follows :

Vol. I. Le Massif entre l'Arc et l'Isère (new edition).

Part I. N. of Col de la Vanoise, 27 fr. 50 post free.

Part II. S. of Col de la Vanoise, 22 fr. 50 post free.

Vol. II. La frontière entre la Seigne et le Thabor, 22 fr. 50 post free.

- Vol. III. Les Massifs entre la Savoie et le Dauphiné, 24 fr. 50 post free.
- Vol. IV. Les Massifs de Beaufortin et Les Bauges, 27 fr. 50 post free.
- Vol. V. Les Massifs entre le Lac d'Annécý et le Léman (to appear in 1926).
- Vol. VI. Le Massif du M. Blanc.
Parts I. & II. as above.

The volume of Commandant Gaillard's 'Les Alpes du Dauphiné,' Part II., covering the Massifs of the Meije and Ecrins, is announced for 1926 and can be subscribed for later.

These guides have full sets of skeleton maps and many route-marked sketches, so that the French Alps are now very well off for guidebooks.

Commandant Gaillard will issue early in 1926 a new coloured map of the M. Blanc group, scale 1:50,000, with all the most recent nomenclature.

THE JOURNAL OF DE SAUSSURE covering his sojourn at Chamonix in July and August 1787, with an introduction and many notes on little known details by Commandant Gaillard and Mr. Henry F. Montagnier, and heliogravures, will be published very shortly, with the authorisation of the family. It shows his preoccupations and hopes and finally his unmixed joy at the success.

Subscriptions can be sent direct to Commandant Gaillard, M.C., Barberaz, Savoie, France. Edition de Luxe, 4to, 105 fr., ordinary 4to, 45 fr., post free.

LA SOCIÉTÉ DE GÉOGRAPHIE DE FRANCE has conferred on Commandant Gaillard, in recognition of his work on his series of Guides, *Le Prix William Huber* with a silver medal.

The distinction is well earned. His work has been done in a conscientious and able manner, comparable in every way with the Conway-Coolidge Climbers' Guides and other similar works, and those who have any experience of such work know full well the meticulous care and very considerable research such work demands.

LA TOUR CARRÉE DE ROCHE MÉANE (LE DAUPHINÉ).—A very useful monograph of this difficult climb by M. Pierre Dalloz of the G.H.M. appears in *La Revue Alpine*, 1926, pp. 19-27. It includes a photograph, a sketch of route, and a bibliography.

THE FIRST WINTER ASCENT OF THE ECRINS was made on February 21, 1926, by M. D. Armand-Delille. With Mlles. Barbier and Lambert he left the Refuge Caron at 4 A.M. on skis and ascended

to the rimaye on the N. face (4 hours). Leaving his companions he reached the summit on crampons by the right bank of the Whymper Couloir (3 hours). He descended by the N.W. arête to the Brèche Lory and by the N. face to the rimaye (2½ hours). Weather fine, with low temperature.

THE FIRST WINTER ASCENT OF THE PELVOUX was made on January 18, 1925, from the Refuge Lemercier by MM. D. Armand-Delille and J. Meyer. Raquettes were used.—*La Montagne*, November 1925.

THE FIRST WINTER ASCENT OF THE MEIJE was made on March 16, 1926, by MM. D. Armand-Delille and P. Dalloz. Summit reached 4.30 P.M. Long bivouac on descent near Pas du Chat; no colder than a summer bivouac. The head of the great couloir and the start up the Grande Muraille were difficult owing to verglas.

THE NEW REQUIN HUT (2516 m.) may be of use not only for the immediate peaks. From the foot of the Géant séracs one can ascend the Glacier des Périades, passing the icefall near the right bank. At the foot of W. face of Périades turn S., and almost immediately after passing a *rognon* of rock shown in the B.I.K. map you find, in the face on the left, a couloir leading without difficulty to the skyline of Périades slightly to S. of lowest gap in the crest. From this little col you can descend about 30 m. to the Mallet Glacier.

From here you can follow the N. arête of Mt. Mallet without great difficulty, though long, and thus gain the Rochefort arête. From the col between Mt. Mallet and the Rochefort arête one can descend to the Glacier de Leschaux; in normal snow the rimaye is crossed on the right side, but in 1925 it had to be turned on the left by a wide and steep ice-couloir descending nearly from top of Mt. Mallet to the plateau of the glacier. You descend in this couloir for about 100 m. and then turn to the right in the séracs and rejoin the bottom of the valley. You rejoin the left bank of the glacier near the Périades, and at the bottom, the moment you reach the ice, traverse to the right to rejoin the Leschaux Glacier.

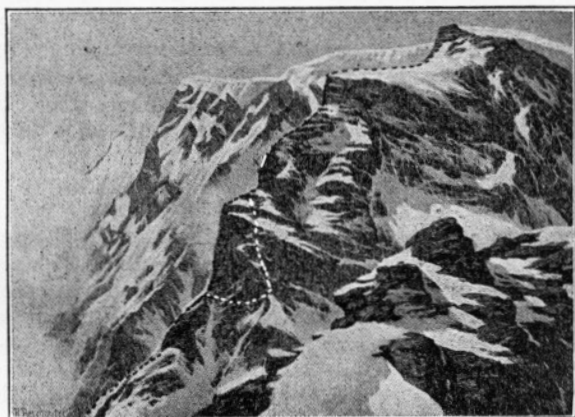
From the above plateau of the Mallet Glacier (about 3400 m.) one can also ascend to the Col des Grandes Jorasses and even the Punta Margherita.—M. Victor Puiseux in *La Montagne*, 1925, p. 333.

AIGUILLE DES PÈLERINS (3318 m.).—The first ascent by the N.W. face and S.W. arête (Col de Peigne side) was made on July 29, 1925, by Armand Charlet, the well-known Argentière guide, and the first traverse—ascend by W.N.W. face, descent by S. face—on September 10, 1925, by Misses Y. and E. Carmichael with the same guide and his brother Georges.

Full particulars, with a marked sketch, will be found in *La Montagne* December 1925.

TRAVERSE OF GRÉPON FROM C. P.—M. Ferdinand Loicq, with Georges and Albert Simond. G. Simond led up the Knobel chimney without any artificial aid, entirely on his own. The Grand Gendarme, which has never been climbed without help from above, was, for the first time, *turned* on the Mer de Glace side by using a horizontal fissure which starts at the level of the bottom of the gap on the S. side of the Grand Gendarme and leads direct to the Râteau de Chèvre—very delicate and very exposed. To overcome the last step G. Simond accepted a rope from a party on the Râteau de Chèvre as a matter of prudence, but considers he could have dispensed with it. Thus an unassisted traverse can now be made.—*La Montagne*, December 1925, p. 335.

N. ARÊTE OF NORDEND.—Reverting to my note, vol. xxxvii. 391, Herr W. Welzenbach has kindly marked his route with dashes.



Franz Lochmatter writes that when his brother Josef and he made with Captain Ryan the first ascent in 1906, the line then followed was much the same, except that at the spot marked with a cross, he climbed the arête direct as shown by the dotted line. Franz repeated the ascent on July 31, 1923, with Mme. L. Kuhn and the porter Albert Fuchs of St. Nicolas, and with the object of finding an easier way he bore away to the right to outflank the lower step. He has dotted his route. He does not recommend this variation as easier and it is exposed at sunrise to stonefall. My good friend Paul Montandon at my request asked Mme. Kuhn for details. She reports that they left Bétemps about 2 A.M. and the Jägerjoch about 7. 'We then attacked the arête consisting of snow and rocks. At first it was not steep, but soon we reached the foot of the first great step in the arête which we turned

on the right over about 30 m. of slabby blocks. Then followed an almost vertical chimney 5 to 6 m. high: difficult, sloping holds. This brought us to the big wall about 100 m. high, consisting of tile-like slabs affording neither good foot- nor hand-hold. Above it one gains the arête, whence the next rock step is reached up slabby blocks and climbed by its arête; rocks loose and very exposed. Here the major difficulties end. One follows the arête over comfortable rocks, a sharp snow and ice arête, till one reaches, rather unexpectedly, the summit plateau of Nordend (about 1 P.M.). Descent to Silbersattel and by the ordinary way to Bétemps.'—F.

MT. ARARAT.—Mr. Brant writes: 'I came across in a Foreign Office List of 1861 a mention of an ascent of Mt. Ararat made by Major (afterwards Colonel) A. J. Fraser in July 1856.¹ No report on the subject can be found. Fraser at that time was on the staff of Sir F. Williams and was proceeding along the N.E. frontier of Armenia with two staff officers who made the ascent with him. Fraser went to S. Africa on November 1, 1842, where he did distinguished service as an Assistant Staff-surgeon, subsequently acting in military and civil capacities in various parts of S. Africa. In 1855 during the Crimean War he served in Armenia with the Turks. In 1860 he served in Syria. Altogether he seems to have distinguished himself wherever employed.'

KAISERGEIRGE.—A full description of the ascent of the S.E. face of Fleischbank by Herr Roland Rossi, A.A.K., Innsbruck, referred to in 'A.J.' xxxvii. 392, will be found in the *Deutsche Alpenzeitung*, 1926, 1st Heft (with marked routes). This paper is admirably got up and the papers are first-rate. By the way, I am informed that the 'violent revolutionary song' (p. 283) is meant *sarcastic*!—J.P.F.

TATRA GROUP.—The Secretary of the Karpathenverein, founded 1873, Kesmark, Czechoslovakia (with many branches), is so good as to offer all information and to procure English-speaking guides.

SØNDMØRE DISTRICT (NORWAY).—By the volunteer labour of the men of Norangsdal, organised and led by Sivert Öie, with some pecuniary aid from a few Norsk and English frequenters of Öie, a small shelter hut is being built on the watershed in Habostaddal at 2500 ft. above sea-level. It ought to be ready at the end of June 1926. It will contain a paraffin stove and two or three camp-beds. A long-needed resting-place is thus provided on the passes between Öie and Brunstad, and Öie and Stranden. The hut will also be useful to climbers on Smörskredtind and Brekktind.

C. W. PATCHELL.

¹ Cf. *A.J.* xxxii. 10, where it is stated that the Rev. Charles Hudson made the ascent in 1856. Possibly he joined Major Fraser's party.

TURLO PASS.—Walkers from Macugnaga to Alagna by Turlo Pass are cautioned that the new path referred to in 'A.J.' xxxvii. 393, follows the Colle della Rottiglia track above la Piana in Val Quarazza.

Ling, Brown and myself, driven back from the Colle delle Loccie by rain, with the same information as on page 393, and with only a railway map of Northern Italy to go by,¹ were misled. We saw our error after we had passed the cowsheds about 1500 ft. above la Piana, and traversed across scree towards the Turlo, but in the mist we hit the Little Turlo [or Piccolo Altare], and found ourselves at Rima for the night.

The track up the Val Quarazza has been reconstructed as far as la Piana, and is good. In August last the reconstruction had reached to about 1000 ft. above la Piana, following the Rottiglia path. A nice footpath is being turned into a staircase having such large steps that it reminds one of the Great Pyramid, and is most tiring.

If the new path is going towards the Turlo it must eventually branch off from the Rottiglia path at the cowsheds already mentioned.

P. J. H. U.

PATH FROM HUTEGG IN SAAS VALLEY TO ST. NIKLAUS OR STALDEN VIA THE HANNIG ALP AND GRÄCHEN.—That there is a path from Hutegg over the northern end of the Balfrin range to the Zermatt valley appears to be well known to all climbers, but I had not come across anyone who had taken it. In the bad weather in August 1925 we thought it worth while trying, and this note is to advertise an exceedingly pleasant hill walk. We left Grund about 1 P.M. and, delaying for lunch on the roadside, reached Hutegg about 4—rather late for a walk entailing a rise of 2000 ft. Leaving a little before 5 we walked down the road a few hundred yards to where, very clearly marked, there bears off to the left a very good and rather steep path in excellent order zigzagging upwards over 1000 ft., the upper part through a pleasant wood. At first over open ground, it bears left towards some chalets, but 50 yards from these goes off to the right, a delightful route among trees in and out of a deeply cut ravine, then zigzags once more and loses itself, as the Siegfried map clearly shows, near the Tirbjen chalets. It is easy to pick up the continuation at the other side of an open space, and the well-marked track, mostly through woods and very attractive all the way,

¹ The Club published with vol. xxix, thanks to my good friends the Guglierminas, a splendid map of the district. It is amusing to find these very eminent mountaineers for once wandering, lost, mapless. My friend Brown's profession is to probe into the bowels of the earth: Unna's to look right through, to examine from every side, from above and from below, from far and near, every subject he illuminates: as to Ling, the ever youthful, when will he arrive at years of discretion?—F.

traverses under a line of cliffs, tending upwards all the while, and crossing another very fine ravine, until with a final zig-zag it runs out level with a glorious view of the Oberland. As it was about 7 P.M. when we reached the Hannig Alp (2-2½ hrs. walking from Hutegg) we consulted Baedeker for possible inns in the hamlets on the Zermatt side of the ridge. The first village of Grächen is credited with an inn, but an arrival there after a descent of ½ hr., mostly in a wood, we discovered that that particular inn is now a pension, but there is a small new inn called the Hannig Alp Hotel, and there are several large chalets, in one of which, perfectly new, we got beds, dining at the inn. The village is in a wonderful situation and well worth a visit; it lies on a shelf and has a magnificent view across the Rhone valley to the north, and an equally fine view, the other way, of the Weisshorn. The place is evidently well known to Swiss tourists, and anyone who wishes for a place where there are no big hotels could spend several pleasant days there, high above the Mattervisp. There is said to be some good rock climbing, and a visitor who appeared to know the place told us of a small peak which had only once been climbed!

Descending to Stalden by the track through Eggen, it is quite easy to miss the way soon after entering the great wood at the point 1698. The proper track descends almost as soon as Stalden comes into view. The route, though interesting and with fine woodland scenery, is rather too steep to be really pleasant. I do not think there are 50 yards of it right down to the bridge at Stalden which are not downhill and very steep.

W. M. ROBERTS.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY CLUB MEET.—The Club meet was held last year at Arolla from July 18 to July 26. In some ways it was a mistake to have chosen Arolla, as it offers much good rock but little snow or ice work; as it happened, the weather was bad so that snow peaks of any height would have been out of the question. The party was divided into three ropes, under S. B. Van Noorden, P. W. Harris, and L. R. Wager. We stayed at the Hôtel du Pigne, where the new management made us more than comfortable. As a training climb one party traversed the Petites Dents de Veisivi, while the others valiantly trudged knee-deep in soft snow round Mont Collon. On the second day one party traversed part of the Aiguilles Rouges, while another made an attempt on Mont Collon, defeated by bad weather. After two days of unsettled weather the meet got into its stride: the Douves Blanches and the Za were traversed by two parties, the Aiguilles Rouges completely traversed, and Mont Collon traversed by two parties. Bad weather again set in, and some of us were turned on the Perroc, some on the Bouquetins, and some on Mont Blanc de Seilon. At the end of the meet Wager led his party out of the head of the valley in the hopes of doing a high level to Courmayeur, while Van Noorden's party went by way of the face of the Za to Bricolla.

P. W. H.

LT.-COL. E. L. STRUTT gave a lecture on the 1924 attempt on Mt. Everest at the Académie des Arts, Brussels, on April 17. The lecture, which was under the auspices of the newly reconstituted Club Alpin Belge, was attended by 2000 persons and over 700 had to be turned away. His Majesty the King of the Belgians and H.R.H. Prince Léopold were present. At the conclusion of the lecture, which was listened to with the most remarkable attention, M. le Sénateur Lafontaine, Président du C.A.B., presented Colonel Strutt with the *Médaille d'Honneur* of the Club, stating that this was the first time that this medal had been awarded. His Majesty also privately presented the lecturer with the Belgian *Croix de Guerre* and *palme*, for which decoration Colonel Strutt had become eligible in 1916. Colonel Strutt was most hospitably and lavishly entertained throughout his stay in Brussels, among others, by M. le Sénateur H. Speyer, A.C.

Thanks very largely to the great interest displayed in it by the King, the C.A.B. appears to have taken on a new and most vigorous lease of life, and the Alpine Club wishes it every possible success and prosperity.

AWARDS TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. F. NORTON, MAJOR KENNETH MASON, AND AFRAZ GUL.—The Royal Geographical Society announce that the King has approved the following awards:—

The FOUNDER'S MEDAL to Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. Norton, D.S.O., M.C., R.A., for his distinguished leadership of the Mount Everest Expedition, 1924, and his ascent to 28,100 ft.

The COUNCIL have awarded:—

The CUTHBERT PEEK GRANT to Major Kenneth Mason to assist his further exploration of the Himalaya.

The BACK GRANT to Afraz Gul for his surveys in Central Asia and Hunza.

Mr. J. J. WITHERS, C.B.E., V.P. of the Club, has been returned, unopposed, M.P. for the University of Cambridge.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of M. VICTOR DE CESSOLE'S Presidency of the Section Alpes Maritimes of the C.A.F. was celebrated by a great 'manifestation' on April 4, 1925, at Nice. The banquet was attended by Baron Gabet, Past President, and Commandant Regaud, President of the C.A.F., and many of his other friends.

Few men have done as much to introduce the younger generation to mountaineering; no one has done more to relieve the distress among the poor and infirm in his own town; and there can be no one who is held in more profound respect or who retains with greater reason the affectionate regard of his countless friends. Our Club is honoured in counting M. de Cessole among its Hon. Members.

WE much regret to note the death on January 24 of Sir W. H. WINTERBOTHAM at the age of 81. He was formerly a member of the Club, and his charming 'Travel Memories' in 'A.J.' xxxv. will not be forgotten. One of his sons was killed with 3 companions on the Grand Paradis in 1904.

THE veteran guide JEAN CHARLET-STRATON, best known for his conquest of Petit Dru, died at his home at La Roche-sur-Foron on December 10. His career was dealt with and his portrait given with the obituary notice of Mme. Charlet-Straton in 'A.J.' xxxii. He was in his day a fine and determined rock-climber and an all-round sound mountaineer. In his later years he was fond of attending Alpine Congresses, and was certain to find among the members a very sympathetic and respectful reception.

WE much regret to hear of the death of the well-known Courmeyer guide JOSEPH PETIGAX, aged 66. He was best known as chief guide to H.R.H. the Duke of the Abruzzi on his great expeditions to the Himalaya, Alaska, Central Africa and the N. Pole.

THE late R. v. TSCHARNER. Mr. M. C. Teves writes :
'It may be of interest to know that, by the desire of his father, Lendorff and I placed, on July 15 last, a bronze tablet on the S.E. arête of the Finsteraarhorn to v. Tscharner's memory. He was one of my best friends. The place was over 4000 m. on a steep red gendarme above the place of the accident.'

ZERMATT, April 9.—'We had beautiful weather for all the last month and so the mountains are in good condition. Last week were climbed Dent Blanche, Breithorn, Castor and Pollux, Monte Rosa, Rimpfischhorn, etc. for during Easter we had many tourists.'
—*Adolf Aufdenblatten to Mr. E. G. Oliver.*

THE GLACIERS OF SAVOY.—An interesting article upon the glaciers of Savoy, by Dr. A. E. H. Tutton, appeared in *Nature* of March 27, 1926. He summarises a report of investigations carried out during the first twenty years of this century by the Commission Glaciaire de Savoie, which has been issued, under the title 'Études Glaciologiques,' by the Ministère de l'Agriculture, Département (Direction Générale) des Eaux et Forêts. The commission included M. Tairraz of Chamonix and the late M. Joseph Vallot. It is only practicable to notice a few particulars of more general character here; for further details reference should be made to Dr. Tutton's article, or the original document.

Between 1910 and 1920 the glaciers on the Savoy side of Mont Blanc have been advancing generally. The Gl. des Bossons was advancing between 1917 and 1920; and did so with a waddling motion, the greatest forward movement of the snout being some-

times on one side, sometimes on the other and sometimes at the centre. The rate of advance varied according to season. The following figures give the mean advance for each season during the four years: Spring, 11 m.; Summer, 5.2 m.; Autumn, 1.7 m.; and Winter 5.1 m. The greatest annual advance took place in 1917, and amounted to 51 m. The more rapid advance during the spring is accounted for by the additional pressure due to accretion of névé, unaccompanied by melting of the ice. The glaciers of the Tarantaise, and other parts of Savoy, advanced in a less pronounced manner, and in some instances were still retreating.

Measurements taken by M. Vallot to determine the thickness of the Mer de Glace, distributed over a wide area, have been confirmed by independent observations taken by the commission. The general thickness varies from 100 to 200 m.

Between 1910 and 1920 the volume of ice in the Gl. du Tour increased at the rate of $8\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic m. per annum. The corresponding figure for the Gl. d'Argentière and the Mer de Glace are from one to three million; while the latter showed a slight loss in 1920. The gain in the case of the Gl. des Bossons was from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ million. Between 1912 and 1920, the total increase in the Gl. de Bionnassay was five million, and in the Gl. de Trélatête 17 million; the corresponding increase in the thickness of the ice being 17 and 6 m. respectively.

'ALPES VALAISANNES.' Vol. II., Collon to Théodule and III., Théodule to Simplon.—M. Marcel Kurz has undertaken new editions of these volumes on the same plan as his other Vols. I and IV.

Any corrections or additions (sketches are welcome) should be sent to him, St. Honoré 7, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, as soon as possible.

'GUIDE DE LA CHAÎNE DU MONT BLANC.'—By Louis Kurz. A third and carefully revised edition is being prepared by M. Marcel Kurz who will be grateful for any unpublished information. Address as above.

CLUB ACADÉMIQUE FRANÇAIS D'ALPINISME.—This is a newly formed guideless club, the moving spirits being the brothers Legrand, Dr. Roux, and M. Saint-Jacques. Their quarterly review, No. 1, contains a valuable monograph by Dr. Roux on Les Bans of the S. Summit of which Mr. Coolidge made the first ascent in 1878. We wish the new club every success.

OESTERREICHISCHE ALPENZEITUNG.—From the *Oesterreichische Alpenzeitung*, which under its present editor, Dr. Franz Rudovsky, has fully resumed its old position as the most authoritative Journal in the Eastern Alps, one gathers that the ambitious and valiant young mountaineers of Munich and the other University centres are paying great attention to the Wetterstein group. The November

issue contains notices of several new expeditions in the group, varying from 'sehr schwer' to 'äusserst schwierig,' as much as 10 hrs. being needed to climb the 1000 m. W. face of the Zugspitzeck. Herr W. Welzenbach, known for several first-rate expeditions in the Western Alps, appears also to be the leader of many of these climbs.

The April issue contains a perfectly charming confession by Ernst von Siemens of his boyhood's conceptions of mountain climbing, and of his introduction to it when a student at Munich. He was told on his first fairly difficult climb to ask for the rope when he wanted it! For his second climb he was beguiled by a comrade on to the 'Dülferweg' up the W. face of Predigtstuhl in the Kaisergebirge. His experiences are narrated with an exquisite humour that I do not remember to have seen equalled. He goes on to relate his ascent by himself of the difficult Geschweistenkamin in the famous Totenkirchl. But underlying it all one feels the stern discipline to which these young schools of mountaineers submit themselves so enthusiastically. It makes men!

Among guides in the E. Alps, there seems to be a new light, one Emil Solleder, who led the first ascent of the N.W. wall of the Civetta, 15 hrs. for 1100 m. He must needs be good to lead these exacting young enthusiasts!

M. JACQUES DE LÉPINEY finds fresh mountains to conquer at his new post in the Forestry Department in Morocco. *La Montagne* for October 1925 relates his first ascent of Djebel Angour (3617 m.) in the Great Atlas on July 12 to 14, 1925. No great difficulties seem to have been encountered. The view is described as magnificent, to the N. over the Marrakech plain and to the S. and W. ranges of mountains. Splendid pastures were found at an altitude of 10,000 ft.

It is understood that M. de Lépiney will spend his summer leave in the Mont Blanc group.

LA VALLÉE D'ENTRE-LES-AIGUES (DAUPHINÉ).—One of the chalets at the village (1610 m.) has been purchased by the C.A.F. and fitted up as a hut. This valley which debouches at Vallouise is well worth a visit. A good expedition is to traverse Les Bans. M. Camille Blanchard has written in *La Montagne* for April 1926 a careful monograph of the ridges bounding the valley, and has added a valuable skeleton map 1.50,000. Mr. Coolidge's article on the same valley in *La Revue Alpine* 1904 will not be forgotten.

The Editor of *La Montagne* adds great value to the Journal he so ably conducts by the inclusion of monographs like the one now referred to, and M. de Lépiney's 'Aiguilles Rouges,' Col. Godefroy's 'Sirac,' and others.

THE REFUGE ERNEST CARON (3169 m.) on the S. spur of the Roche Paillon, which lies on the N.W. wall of the Glacier Blanc, was burnt

down in 1921, but was rebuilt in 1922. It is intended to house 20 people. The principal expeditions are the Ecrins N. face, the Pic de Neige Cordier, and the Roche Faurio. It is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the Chalet de l'Alpe by the Col Emile Pic or the Col du Glacier Blanc and 8 hrs. from La Bérarde by the Col des Ecrins. It makes a good centre for several days among splendid glacier scenery.—*La Montagne*, November 1922.

THE REFUGE DU FOND TURBAT (2175 m.) in the Valjouffrey, built by the Isère section of C.A.F. in 1922, lies about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. above Le Désert, right in front of the magnificent W. precipice of Pic d'Olan. It is well worth the detour if bound for the Valgaudemar, as the Col Turbat is easily reached in 2 hrs. It should be noted that the direct ascent from this side of Pic d'Olan referred to in 'A.J.' xxxiv. 164, notwithstanding the attempts mentioned in *La Montagne* 1922, p. 266, yet remains to be done. M. Guiton, the well-known French mountaineer, as mentioned above, reached the Lavey arête at the N. foot of the Peak, the summit of which he gained in a further 2 hrs. Reference should be made to M. Piaget's photograph in *La Montagne* 1922, p. 240, and to M. Guiton's note and sketch on p. 267, for full particulars.

REFUGE DU SÉLÉ IN THE DAUPHINÉ.—Wooden hut on the N. side of the Sélé Glacier at ca. 2780 m., close to the foot of the long buttress which descends from the E. Ailefroide summit. Time: 5 hours from chalets d'Ailefroide; $7\frac{1}{4}$ hours from La Bérarde; $9\frac{1}{2}$ hours from the X. Blanc hut in Val Gaudemar by the Cols de Gioberney and du Sélé. Water in a little ravine about 100 m. to E.; twelve mattresses; no wood. It serves for many near summits, including the three Ailefroides, from the S. One could in three days ascend the Ailefroide, the Pelvoux, and Les Bans. Cf. *La Montagne*, May 1925, for a detailed paper by M. C. Blanchard.

REFUGE DE LA PILATTE.—Wooden hut on left bank of Pilatte Glacier at ca. 2400 m., at foot of Mt. Gioberney. Time: $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours from La Bérarde by good path. Water to left of path a few minutes below hut; twenty sleeping places; no wood. The principal expedition is Les Bans, either by the Col de la Pilatte and the E. face or the Santi arête and Valgaudemar face. This face can also be reached from the hut by a traverse from the Col de Gioberney. Mt. Gioberney itself, a splendid belvedere, can be reached in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours either by the Col de Gioberney, the Col du Says, or the S.E. face. Various cols can be taken to the Ailefroide Valley, the Val d'Entraignes, and the Valgaudemar. Cf. *La Montagne*, March 1926, for a detailed paper by M. D. Chalonge.

A HUT at the foot of the *Colle delle Loccie* $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours above Macugnaga was opened by a Milan Society in July last. Bunks excellent. Cooking arrangements indifferent. No catering.

A NEW S.A.C. hut, to hold 60, has been built above Saas-Grund at 2730 m. at the foot of Weissmies.

A NEW hut has been erected on the Mittellegi arête near the great gendarme, presumably to serve for the ascent of the Eiger. Mr. Yuko Maki subscribed 10,000 fr. and Mr. Hasler gave considerable financial assistance. The Grindelwald guides subscribed either in cash or services. The general superintendent was Fritz Amatter, Mr. Maki's leader on the first ascent. The great arête will need much 'improvement' before it becomes a regular course, but the traverse from Alpigen to the Kalli will also be an interesting expedition. On July 20, 1925, Dr. Kehl of Berlin with Amatter, Fritz Suter, and Adolf Rubi (porter) left the Jungfrauoch late, and ascended the Eiger *via* the Mönchjoch and Eigerjoch; they descended the Mittellegi arête and reached the hut late on the 21st.

ITALIAN SHELTERS.—The C.A.I. propose to install low wooden shelters about 7 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches by 4 feet high, with semi-circular zinc roof, five thick coverlets, a stove, lantern, etc., on (1) Col d'Estellette, (2) Glacier de Frébouzie, (3) Tête de la Roëse, Valpelline, (4) Col Signal, M. Rosa. They would be quite all right for three men or any emergency.

THE BIETSCHHORN and ENGELHORN HUTS.—The A.A.K. Berne, proprietor of these huts, through its President, Mr. Walter Amstutz, has had the courtesy to intimate that members of the A.C. are accorded the same rights in these huts as members of the S.A.C. The other members of Committee of the A.A.K. Berne are MM. Oesterle, Bürgi, v. Schuhmacher, and Dr. Chervet.

THE GAMBA HUT has been moved about 500 yds. to the Brouillard side of the ridge descending from the Innominata. It is hidden by the ridge until one is close upon it. The path to the hut, mentioned by Kurz, on the Brouillard side of the Aiguille du Châtelet is now hard to find. There are no traces and the way over the glaciated rocks is lost.—*A.M.C.-S.* 1925.

THE ARGENTIÈRE HUT has been moved down from the Jardin on to the big lateral moraine below. It has been rebuilt of stone. The interior is still dirty.—*H.R.C.C.* 1925.

THE TRIOLET HUT has no blankets and only a damaged stove, but appears to be structurally sound.—*A.M.C.-S.* 1925.

'THERE is a very good and cheap small inn in the VAL DE RHÊMES in the village next below ($\frac{1}{3}$ mile) Notre Dame de Rhêmes.' (Ball says stop at the curé's.)—*A.C.P.* 1925.

A HUT is projected near the edge of the Vallon de la Pilatte Glacier on the rocks of S.W. Ridge of Pic Coolidge. This will be very useful for the Ecrins.