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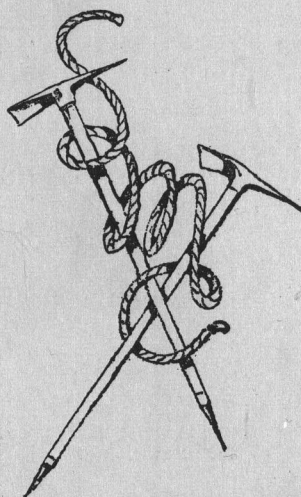
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*April 1935*

BEINN EIGHE, FROM KINLOCHEWE

*P. J. H. Unna*

# THE SCOTTISH Mountaineering Club Journal.

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## DAYS THAT ARE PAST.

By J. GALL INGLIS.

### III.—LOCH ALSH IN 1882.

KYLE AKIN being at the end of an uninteresting moor road, without branch path or road for nearly 2 miles, there was little to do except boating and fishing, and the possibilities of the 2,000-foot peaks rising behind. The ascent of the latter meant a long trudge over broken ground densely covered with long heather and bracken, in which rumour (probably correct) said adders were plentiful: nevertheless, one fine day my brother and I set out for what Black's quarter-inch map called "Cnoc na Coinneach, 2,430 feet" (O.S., "Sgùrr na Coinnich, 2,401 feet"), and, going circumspectly, in due course found ourselves looking down on Kyle Rhea without having encountered any reptiles: the route followed was from the bridge over the Allt Anavig, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Kyle Akin. The view to the east was a wilderness of hills, but westwards, if I remember aright, thick haze veiled the Coolins and the Western islands.

On inquiring for a boat, only the heavy "junior" ferry-boat was available: one of its two oars had been broken across near the blade and mended by wrapping a strip of zinc round it, resulting in an instrument that was apt to give a protesting "wabble" if asked to exert itself unduly. Needless to say we rarely ventured far from land!

One fine calm night we rowed towards Balmacara,

trailing our lines and watching the gleam of the lighthouse which was to guide us back. Suddenly, to our surprise, the white light changed to red: we rowed back a few yards and the white reappeared. Re-entering the red light, we turned outwards across the channel and pretty soon came into the white light again. On inquiry, we were told that there was a submerged rock in the fairway of the Kyle and ships had to keep in the white light to be safe.

Later in the month, when visiting the lighthouse, we saw the apparatus concerned—as I recall it, but the details may not be quite exact, a lidless narrow box some 4 feet long, 18 inches deep, and 3 inches wide, set up on its end, radially, on the railing outside the lantern. Its bottom—nearest the light—was a strip of crimson glass 2 or 3 inches wide, and its sides acted as screens to limit the side visibility.

One very calm sunny day a young Italian friend and I were rod-fishing from the point at the entrance of the bay called Loch na Bèiste. In the clear water we could see everything that approached, and after a while noticed a long whitey-yellow object coming from the loch to the point, swimming only a few feet below the surface. When it arrived nearly abreast of us I stared at it in amazement: it was ribbon-shaped, about 4 feet long,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across the back; it swam with a sinuous motion like that of a snake, but it was neither snake nor eel. Its appearance was quite "uncanny," for a fish skeleton seemed swimming through the water, its flesh being no more than a faint "aura" round the bones, which latter gleamed brightly in the sunshine. My companion got greatly excited and was for flinging his bait in its way, but I restrained him, for our light tackle could not pull it in by main force and there was no line to play it. It was years before I was able to identify it—a "ribbon fish," said to be a deep-water fish of delicate structure, only occasionally found in coastal waters.

The only regular occurrence at Kyle Akin was the daily arrival and dispatch of the mails. There was a steamer twice a week each way, but there was no saying



at what hour it might come, especially from the north. An extreme case occurred when our Italian friend came to leave; he had everything packed up for 11 A.M. (the earliest time for the steamer to arrive), but we arranged for a 12-o'clock dinner, as usually it came after 2 P.M. There was no sign of it, however, at that hour, but word came that it had gone somewhere for herrings and would be about 4. We had early tea, but 5, 6, 7 came and still there was no steamer. Then a message came from Broadford that it would be about 9, so we had early supper, but 9, 10, 11 came, and midnight, when, as it was four hours since our last meal, we thought we had better fortify ourselves with a second supper.

What made the suspense the more irritating was that at frequent intervals one of us had to go out and run some 50 or 60 yards across the village green to see if the steamer, or latterly its lights, were visible. How we "cussed" (mentally!) the Post Office, which—we had been told—refused to install a telegraph until some one would guarantee £20. The nearest telegraphs were at Broadford and Balmacara, both 8 miles away by road.

Fairly "fed up," we consulted our landlord (the steamer ferryman), and he advised going to bed, as there was no saying now when the steamer would come. He promised to waken us in good time, so we went to bed with our clothes on, and were not roused till about 4 A.M. in the early dawning. After seeing our friend off, some sixteen hours late, we again retired to bed and did not waken till midday!

But that is not all the story. A few days later a letter came from our friend saying that he also retired to bed, and wakening about 10 A.M. went on deck, supposing himself well on the way to Oban. For an instant he thought he had gone "dotty"—Kyle Akin was in sight! After six hours he was only 3 miles on his journey, at Balmacara, the steamer having been summoned up Loch Duich.

The explanation was—tremendous catches of herring. In these days the only outlets to the South were by rail

from Strome Ferry, which involved going up Loch Carron, or by the *Clansman* and *Claymore* to Oban. Many fishers preferred the latter, and David Macbrayne made hay while the sun shone, placing his vessels at the beck and call of the fishermen regardless of the dislocation of the communications for the rest of the community. It was this lack of facilities for the fish trade that later led to the construction of the West Highland Railway, and the extension of the Strome Ferry line to Kyle of Loch Alsh.

On several occasions we saw the herring boats passing through the Kyle laden to the water's edge—literally, for I am sure the gunwales were barely 3 inches above the water, if even that, so that one felt quite nervous as they entered the narrow Kyle with its strong currents. I wondered why every boat was being rowed, when there was a fair breeze abaft, but later realised it was from necessity, as the slightest side pressure of a sail would have instantly swamped the boat.

Towards the end of August our landlord told us that on the following Sunday a great open-air Communion Service was to be held at the Free Kirk near Dornie—of which church he was a member. We had often heard of these gatherings, and gladly availed ourselves of his offer to take us to it. It may seem strange that a Kyle Akin man should belong to a church on the mainland, but though by road it was as distant as the one at Broadford, by boat there was only half the distance to walk. In Skye, he had told us, the people were mainly Auld Kirk, contrary to the Free Church preponderance in the Highlands generally.

On Sunday we embarked with others in a large heavy rowing boat for the 3-mile pull. As we drew near Balmacara landing-place we saw other boats on the same errand as ourselves converging to the same point, or disembarking their passengers, who on reaching the road turned eastwards for the kirk, 4 miles away. Presently we joined the stream, and after a while, long before we reached our destination, strains of music in a minor key began to float fitfully on the air. At last we turned a

corner; the music of "Dundee" \* burst on us, full and clear, sung by hundreds of voices, a splendid female voice ringing out gloriously above the rest.

And what a sight met our eyes. On the one side of the road was the low barn-like church: nearly opposite rose a steep grassy knoll simply black with people dressed in their Sunday best—mostly sombre attire, but with a sufficient sprinkling of colour here and there to relieve the monotony. Close to the road stood a tall, slate-coloured wooden box—with a bookboard on one side—by way of pulpit, and in this stood the minister, protected from the weather by three sides of the box continuing to a far-projecting sloping roof. In front of the pulpit were rows on rows of wooden forms, each behind a narrow white-linen-covered bookboard resting on rough-sawn stakes driven into the ground; on the forms sat men and women with bowed heads—the former bareheaded—or passing from hand to hand the bread and the Communion Cup served by the elders at the end of the seats. It was a sight that will never be forgotten. A slight drizzle had begun to fall; mist was trailing on the hill only a few hundred feet above us, and shrouding the hills of Loch Duich in the background. As the slow solemn minor music rose and fell amid such surroundings, it seemed to carry some message that it had never conveyed in the city, and the mind was irresistibly carried back to "the ages of darkness and blood," sung of by one of our minor Scottish poets, when just such gatherings were held among the hills of the Lowlands, but with watchers stationed on every side, and many of the worshippers with arms in their hands. For the second time that month I felt as if I had stepped back into a previous age.

Watching the service (it was in Gaelic) for some time, it appeared that there were so many communicants that they had to be taken in relays: as each finished, the whole company sang the Gaelic psalm we had heard before,

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\* At the time I thought it was "Coleshill," an eighteenth-century adaptation of the older tune, probably more familiar in the Lowlands. But a Highland minister recently told me that "Dundee" was the tune used in Gaelic Communion services.



and to the same tune—the first few verses of Psalm 103, the usual closing of a Presbyterian Communion Service. There must have been well over six or seven hundred people there, possibly a thousand, for the autumn Communion was always a very special occasion. With the almost superstitious reverence for the Lord's Supper then current in the Highlands—and still lingering on—the Communion was only held half-yearly. During the winter those living up the glens far from the church were unable to attend owing to the short day and winter storms, but made a point of coming to the autumn celebration. Even though the parish church might be much nearer and easier of access, the "Frees" regarded it as a sort of "House of Rimmon," and would have nothing to do with the services of the parish minister, for feeling still ran high though nearly forty years had elapsed since the Disruption.\*

In this connection it may be of interest to mention a reminiscence of 1874, when I was a small boy. We arrived at Strome Ferry by the last train on a Saturday night, and had to spend the week-end there. I think there was no church near the hotel, but there were several Free Church ministers among the visitors—one of them the celebrated Dr Kennedy of Dingwall, if I recollect aright—obviously by prearrangement, for a service had been arranged for Sunday forenoon, where? In the railway station! In these days it was a terminus—only recently opened—and therefore roofed over, and suitable for protecting a large audience from the vagaries of the weather.

It was a curious scene, and memory recalls people perched on the iron steps up to the roofs of the carriages, so as to see over the closely packed crowd on the platform. Advantage was taken of that occasion to have several babies baptised, but in one respect the ceremony was unlike any other I have ever seen—many of the "babies" were obviously almost, if not quite, at the speaking stage.

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\* For Sassenach readers: the great split in the Established Church in 1843, when nearly all the ministers and a very large body of the people left it over the question of patronage.

I can recall one animated little maid, waiting her turn on her mother's shoulder, who was crowing and gesticulating to the people behind, and who must have been well on to two years old. My father explained that the parish minister would have performed the ceremony earlier if the parents had so desired, but no! staunch Free Kirkers would rather wait a year or two to have the child christened by one of their own denomination. The churches were at Loch Alsh, 8 miles over the hill.

Resuming our Loch Alsh experiences; after watching the open-air service for some time we went into the church (the service there was in English), which was well filled, and where a Communion Service was also being held. It was 3 or 4 o'clock before we got out, and the open-air service was still going on, I think, though many of the people had departed. My mother and sister prepared to return with our landlord's party, but my brother and I bade them good-bye, for we were to spend the night at Dornie Inn, and start off on Monday into the wilds on a ploy of our own, with nothing but our mackintoshes, a small knapsack, and a couple of flimsy ladies' message bags, the only available means of carrying our kit.

After walking a mile or so, we came to the ferry and were transported across for a halfpenny each, "on account of the Communion," we were afterwards told. Dornie was found to be a long row of very poor, yet picturesque, thatched crofters' cottages stretching along the shore, mostly in bad repair, and with the smallest of windows. As we passed house after house in search of the inn, and saw no signs of anything better, our hearts sank lower and lower at the prospect of such accommodation for the night, but to our great relief we at last came to a two-storied thatched (I think) house of better appearance, and was told this was the inn; the ceilings were very low, and the windows fairly small, but everything was clean and comfortable inside. How different from all this is the Dornie of to-day, with its trim two-storied, slated modern houses—the result, as already mentioned, of the Crofters' Act.

We were shown upstairs into a bedroom crammed with

furniture, a big pedestal table in the centre taking up so much room that there was scarcely room to move about. Presently the landlady appeared with "high tea"—a huge roast of mutton evidently provided against Communion visitors, a pile of delicious scones, bread, butter, and jam—which latter, from its appearance, seemed black currant. We did good justice to the fare, but when we came to the jam found that it was a delicacy hitherto unknown, the king of jams, I thought—blaeberry jam, tasted for the first time.

*(To be continued.)*



## OSSIAN'S CAVE.

By GODFREY A. SOLLY.

IN the *Journal* for November 1930 there is a note by Alex. Anderson of his ascent into the cave, together with a list of the names of climbers since 1896, which was found in the little box which he removed, as it was rusted up. Unless there had been in the intervening years an earlier replacement, which is unlikely, the box was that which I placed there in Easter Week, 1894, when J. N. Collie, Joseph Collier, and I made the ascent, and it was, as far as I remember, a small tin box that I had used for my snow spectacles. This note, awakening old memories of more than forty years ago, has stirred me to make inquiries into the history of the cave, or at least that of the name "Ossian's Cave," and to offer the result for record in the *Journal*.

First, I assume that it is agreed that no such persons as Fingal or Ossian, if either of them ever existed, lived in the cave; and, secondly, although I am unable to vouch for it myself, not being a Gaelic scholar, that it is the fact that there is no mention of the cave in any of the so-called works of Ossian. The nearest approach to such a mention is referred to in "Leyden's Tour, 1800," where, at p. 136, he quotes Ossian when passing through Glencoe as saying: "The sons of the feeble hereafter will lift up the voice of Cona, and, looking up to the rocks, say, 'Here Ossian dwelt.' " I have not been able to see the book, which is rather rare, and am indebted to the Rev. A. E. Robertson for the reference. It is not clear that James Macpherson ever visited the Western Highlands after the publication of his works about 1763, but in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1782 there is a long letter by Mr Thomas F. Hill, who visited the Highlands for the purpose of inquiring into the truth or otherwise of the Ossian story. He speaks of Glenco (*sic*) as famous for the scenery and the massacre, and also for being one

of the habitations assigned by tradition to Ossian, but he makes no mention of the cave or any particular spot as being associated with him.

In 1905 the Highland Society published a report into the whole question of whether or not James Macpherson's book was a fraud, and about that time and later many tourists visited the district and gave glowing descriptions of the scenery (*vide* "Dorothy Worsworth's Tour" and "Cockburn's Circuit Journeys"), but in none of these is there any mention of the cave. In "A Tour through Scotland, 1829," published at Norton Hall in 1830, at p. 307 there is a reference to "the mountainous district of Benediraloch, the supposed summer abode of Fingal and the other heroes of Ossian, who in winter, it is conjectured, dwelt in the savage solitudes of Glencoe," and that is the nearest approach to any reference to a dwelling-place in Glencoe that I have found up to that time.

As regards guide-books, the cave is not mentioned in Anderson's "Guide to the Highlands, 1834," nor in the third edition of "Black's Guide to Scotland," published in 1843, but it is mentioned in the twelfth edition, 1850, and later editions, where it is stated that "his cave is pointed out amongst the rocks." I have not been able to see any edition between 1843 and 1850, but it may be concluded that the first mention was between those years.

I have only heard of two possible ascents prior to 1894. One was by a young shepherd named Neil Marquis, who lived in a cottage on the main road about opposite to Loch Triochatan, and who was reputed in the glen to have made the ascent alone by means of a tree. During the evening after our climb we interviewed him, but he seemed very unwilling to talk, and to be very stupid. However, we understood him to say that he had been up and had been helped by a tree, but we could get no description of the tree or of the position in which it had been, nor of the inside of the cave.

Collie was our spokesman, and it seems probable that Marquis had got up, or at least thought he had.

I was told of the other reputed ascent by a friend who was a member of a shooting party staying at a lodge.

near King's House, and who told me that a member of the party had made the ascent, but, unfortunately, my friend died many years ago, and I never got the name of the climber nor any particulars of his ascent, which must have been made a year or two before 1894.

It was, of course, quite possible for an active man, whether a shepherd or a shooting visitor, to make the climb in the summer, but it seems remarkable that neither of them ever let it be known that there is no cave where Ossian or anyone else could have lived, and that no particulars were given or became known in the valley of what was for those days rather a bold and remarkable feat for a man alone, and probably with little or no experience of rock climbing.

Marquis died a long time ago, but if any member of the shooting party ever sees these notes and can give any particulars, I shall be very much obliged if he will communicate with the Editor of the *Journal* or the Secretary of the S.M.C.

It has been suggested to me that either of the two may have got up an adjacent point from which the cave can be seen, and that not being familiar with the present sense of need for extreme accuracy in descriptions of rock climbs, he may have felt justified in saying he had been to the cave, as he was quite near to and could see the entrance. That may or may not be the case, but the tree remains a mystery, and no one can tell where it grew or when it fell.

The Clachaig Inn in 1894 was kept by the Gourlay family, and their Visitors' Book, which we studied, contained some interesting records of early climbs, but no reference to any ascents to the cave. The book has unfortunately disappeared, and members of the family who have been interviewed are unable to trace it.

In the first edition of "Mountain, Moor, and Loch, 1894," published apparently for the West Highland Railway, the cave is described at p. 158 as "a natural aperture about 8 feet deep, which looks from below like an enormous keyhole cut in the black precipice. It owes its name to the tradition that Ossian was born on



the banks of the Cona, a stream of which he certainly sang with great enthusiasm. According to the folk-lore of Glencoe, the women in the olden time were wont to perambulate the cave and spin when following the goats. If this be so, the women of that time must have been even more nimble than their flock, for the cave is at a giddy height in the side of a sheer precipice. A man of great daring and experience in climbing can, however, reach it; indeed, the old shepherd in the cottage lying in the valley below has been in it in his younger days." This is more accurate than any former description, but it shows no real knowledge of the fact that there is no actual cave with any level floor upon which one can safely move about, and the depth of 8 feet may refer to the apparent height of the cave as seen from below.

We knew nothing of this book at the time of our ascent, but as it was published about the same time, it is doubtless an independent record.

Easter, 1894, was a very snowy season, and when on Ben Nevis three days later after climbing the Tower Ridge, the Observatory record was 111 inches of snow, so the steep pitch below the cave was difficult, and we had to scrape much snow away to find any holds, and those that we found were none too good and very cold. After getting to the cave I wrote our names in pencil on a scrap of paper which I put into the box and left on a little ledge about 4 feet from the ground on the right-hand side as one goes in, and we came down after a very short halt.

The next ascents were by Brown and Tough in the summer of 1895 and by a solitary climber, who in July 1896 descended from above by the rocks at the side of the cave and then came up the last part of the usual route. His expedition is referred to in *S.M.J.*, Vol. IV., p. 178, where it is said that he was an Englishman, and not a member of the S.M.C., but his name is not given, and I have been unable to trace him.

Neither of these parties had seen our box, and as there seemed to be in the minds of some a possible doubt

as to whether it was there, I went again at Easter, 1897, with W. C. Slingsby, J. Maclay, and W. P. Haskett Smith, and on arrival at once found my box where I had placed it, and I think we wrote all four names either on the same or another piece of paper, and that is doubtless the paper with the name of Slingsby which Anderson found in 1929, for Slingsby never repeated the ascent. The other names may have become illegible from damp.

In 1897 there was less snow than in 1894, but it was much wetter and very slippery, and the search for the covered handholds most unpleasant even on the ascent. On looking at the route down, Slingsby, for the only time in his career so far as I know, hesitated and said to me that he thought it was no place for a married man to come down last, so the order on the rope was changed. We had taken it for granted that he would come down last. However, the first man dug out the holds a little more and we all got down safely and thankfully. It is no climb for Easter weather. It may be enjoyable on a hot summer day, but the pages of the *Journal* show that many have disliked it. I have before me a note describing an ascent in June as to "a beastly damp overhanging place," emphatically telling me to "get out" and return to the glen as quickly as possible. Whether it will ever become "an easy day for a lady" I am uncertain, but I gather that one name in Anderson's list appears to be that of a lady, and I hope that she was more favoured by the weather than were many of her predecessors.

## DAYS ON BEN NEVIS.

By G. C. WILLIAMS.

OF the many difficulties with which Macphee has had to contend during his explorations on Ben Nevis in preparation for the new Guide Book to the rock climbing there, those due to adverse weather conditions have probably been the greatest.

When he first outlined his plans to me and announced his intention of going over all the then existing climbing routes on the mountain, I foresaw difficulties due to his misfortune in being domiciled so far away from the base of operations—the C.I.C. Hut. Judged by the frequency of his visits, however, this appears to have been negligible, but when one considers that each week-end at the Hut necessitated a journey of nearly 700 miles, it is astonishing to find these visits following each other at regular intervals of a month or so, and sometimes even less.

It has been my privilege to accompany him on most of these occasions, and, despite the all too frequent foul days, the original programme has almost been carried out, with the addition of at least twelve new routes of a high degree of technical difficulty. Of the few occasions on which I have been unable to join him, Macphee has assured me that I did not miss much, referring, doubtless, to the weather, as the climbs which I did miss included the first ascent of Gardyloo Gully, when free from snow, a new direct route on the Great Tower, and the Observatory Buttress, all under the same conditions, *i.e.*, pouring rain.

Among the outstanding climbs which have been accomplished, the ascent last March of the Tower Gap West Chimney stands out, primarily on account of the magnificence of this route and of Macphee's skilful leadership; and, secondarily, because of the nature of the weather—for once it was fairly good. The party comprised Macphee, Henderson (J.M.C.S.), and myself. For some reason we were rather later than usual in

leaving the Hut and we did not reach the top of the Garadh na Ciste until midday. It was a dull day, though fortunately dry, and the snow was plentiful and in good condition. On the Garadh we roped with a 200-foot line and moved up the snow to the foot of the first pitch, at this time a 120-foot ice-fall, very steep and actually overhanging at one place. After a preliminary reconnaissance, Macphee started cutting up the wall. Owing to the excessive inclination of the pitch, handholds had also to be cut, and all cutting had to be done with one hand, whilst the other preserved the balance. It was obviously extremely exhausting work, and after 40 feet or so the leader descended for a short rest.

Very soon he was again at it, and progressed steadily for a distance of 100 feet. At this point I had to unrope in order to allow Macphee sufficient extra length to reach a safe stance. After two hours' single-handed step-cutting and a run out of 135 feet of line, he gained a stance to which he could bring Henderson and me. Even with good steps it was no easy matter to follow. In order to enter the gully proper it was now necessary to traverse left over ice-sheeted slabby rocks, with a difficult descent into the gully itself. Here soft snow was encountered and we easily progressed together to the next ice-fall. This was much smaller and presented no particular difficulty. Above this more soft snow led to the third ice-fall, which the leader turned on the iced rocks to the right. This pitch was very hard and, on getting it over, we decided to have a belated lunch. Our positions were not too comfortable and the sheet-anchor, who carried the rucksack, had considerable difficulty in extracting the lunches and holding on at the same time. When we found that Macphee's contribution to the repast was a packet of firelighters which he had picked up from the Hut table in mistake for the real sandwiches, the temperature rose appreciably.

After fortifying ourselves with dried bananas and biscuits, we continued the ascent. It was now late in the afternoon and beginning to darken. Snow conditions in the gully had now become very difficult—some 18

inches of loose snow had to be cleared in order to cut steps in the underlying ice. As Macphee advanced he sent down showers of snow and huge lumps of ice which, owing to our positions, Henderson and I could not dodge. This section took  $1\frac{3}{4}$  hours, and the leader reached the foot of the final chimney at 7.30 P.M.

By this time it was nearly dark. The sky was overcast but there appeared to be still a little light; probably diffused moonlight. The condition of the final chimney made it extremely severe. The leader had to clear every hold, and most of them were iced. A chockstone pitch in the chimney nearly proved impossible, but, despite the exhausting ice-work which had gone before, Macphee was quite equal to the situation. I could now but dimly see him as he moved slowly and steadily upwards. Now and then, when in clearing holds of ice his ice-axe struck the bare rock, I could see sparks fly out. Above the chockstone the conditions, instead of easing off, became harder. The entire chimney was sheeted with ice and there was no place where the leader could take a proper rest, much less to which he could bring me up. He had now run out over 100 feet of line, and the situation was very sensational. It was a thrilling experience for the second and third, straining their eyes in the darkness watching the leader's figure dimly silhouetted against the sky as he got nearer to the Tower Gap. By superb climbing he reached the Gap and announced his arrival there in no uncertain manner. Henderson and I were very glad to take advantage of a loop of rope let down from the Gap.

We now felt that the climb was almost over, but the leader had still about a hundred steps to cut, and a nasty icy traverse to make, before he reached the summit plateau. We foregathered here at 10 P.M., and Macphee, with characteristic thoroughness, walked across to bag the summit cairn. Henderson and I, not being purists, coiled the line. No. 3 Gully was descended, not without difficulty, and we reached the Hut at midnight.

Macphee led the climb all the way, and he has put it down on record as one of the most arduous and exacting

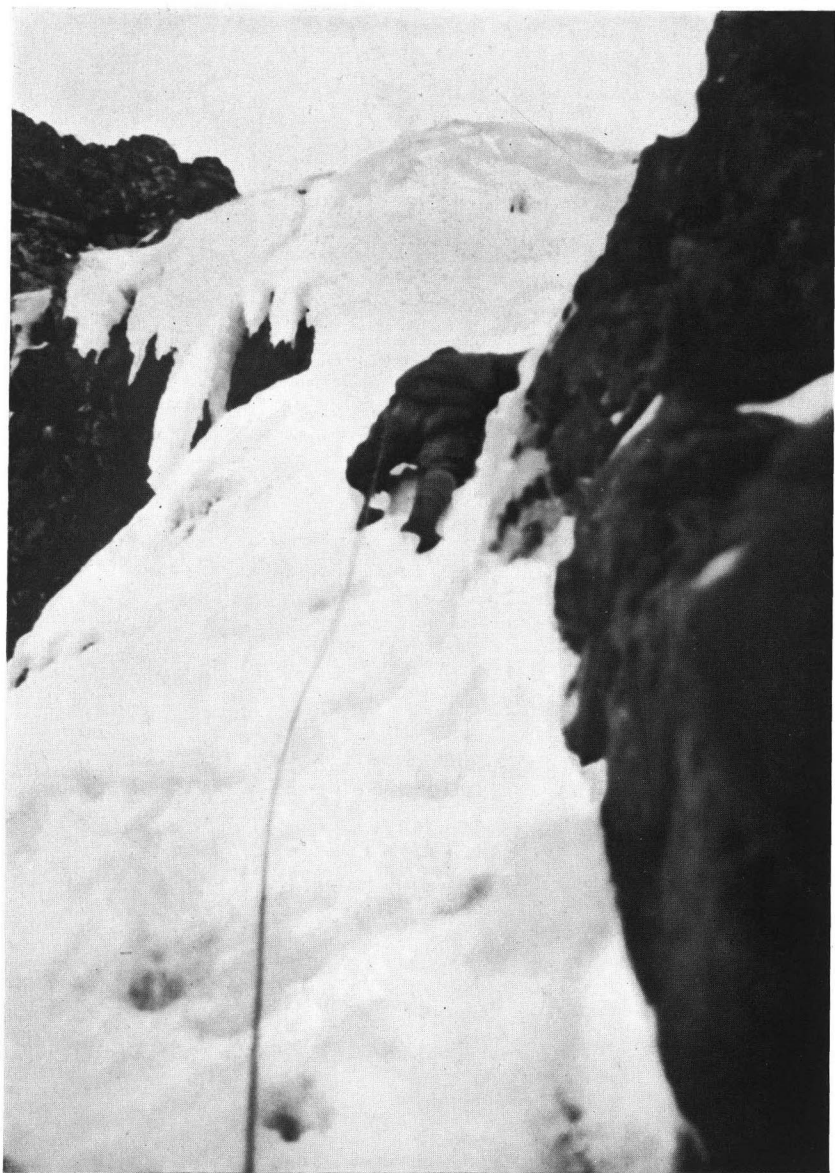


*May 1935*

THE TOWER GAP WEST CHIMNEY FROM THE TRIDENT

*D. Henderson*





*March 1935*

*D. Henderson*

FIRST PITCH OF TOWER GAP WEST CHIMNEY: Macphee on the 120 icefall.  
(Much foreshortened.)

expeditions he has ever undertaken. It was a splendid example of what one well-known mountaineer-author has described as "real" mountaineering, and a refutation of the assertion made by another that "alpine" conditions are not found in Britain.

At Easter, about a month later, we were again at the Hut, which this time was fully occupied. Snow conditions on this occasion were of such a nature as to puzzle the two Alpine Club guests who were staying there. Four separate parties made abortive attempts to climb the Tower Ridge. Two climbers did get up, however, as Macphee and I discovered later when we climbed it. According to the tracks in the snow, they appeared to have ascended on hands and knees! We found little difficulty apart from the Eastern Traverse, and got to the summit fairly early. Descending Tower Gully we traversed across to Gardyloo. Here falling debris had worn a groove down the centre of the gully. This groove, about 2 feet wide, and of the same depth, extended from the tunnel near the top to the foot of Observatory Gully, and a continual stream of snow poured down it. Pieces of ice and incipient snow avalanches bombarded us as we followed steps up the gully. Progress was easy as far as the tunnel, where the steps ended. (These steps, we found later, had been made by the Alpinists, who had mistaken Gardyloo for Tower Gully in the mist.)

The entrance to the tunnel was festooned with icicles and artistic curtains of snow and ice. Unfortunately, the photograph taken did not come out well. The tunnel itself was about 20 feet long and some 30 inches or so in diameter, the whole set at an angle of perhaps 50°. Its floor was of polished hard snow in which steps could only be cut with difficulty. At the farther end the gully opened out again and we were confronted by a perpendicular ice-wall about 30 feet high in its steep section.

Macphee tackled this on the right-hand side and by a severe balancing effort, cutting up with one hand, he gained the less steep section above. The final slope to the double cornice turned out to be less steep than it had appeared from above. The cornice gave a little difficulty

before we stepped out on to the summit. I am now becoming resigned to visiting the cairn on Ben Nevis twice and three times in the same day.

During the same week-end, with Todd, we climbed the Castle Gullies, ascending the south and descending the north, as a preliminary to an attack on the ice-plated Cousin's Buttress. Macphee led up the introductory slabby gully, which was very difficult under the prevailing conditions. Then he made a very difficult traverse across an ice-fall, the middle section of which was disintegrating rapidly on account of the waterfall pouring over it at this point. Meanwhile, I had belayed him from a recess behind an enormous icicle quite 2 feet in diameter, in a most uncomfortable position and subjected to a continual shower-bath. From the encouraging grin on his face I gathered that the leader purposely contrived this position. A farther traverse of about 90 feet was necessary before the leader could find a suitable belay stance. By the time it came to Todd's turn to negotiate the ice-fall, the essential icy step on the wall was in the last stage of disintegration. The prospect of being at the end of a 100-foot pendulum did not appeal to him, and he disappointed the expectant second by stepping delicately across, disdaining to use the "essential" foothold. The remaining section of the climb to the top of Carn Dearg was quite hard on account of iced rock. Macphee and Todd conscientiously continued to the summit of Nevis, while I, in revolt, glissaded No. 3 Gully.

Two weeks later Macphee and I were once again in residence at the Hut; this time with a party of Glasgow Juniors in attendance. This week-end (Jubilee) was by far the best we have had from the point of view of weather, which was excellent. The lower rocks were in splendid condition. On 4th May the "meet" was auspiciously opened with the ascent of Observatory Ridge by the whole party, on three ropes. Snow was encountered at a height of 3,500 feet; a vast difference from the Easter conditions a fortnight before. On the Sunday Macphee led Henderson and me up a new climb, starting to the right of the Central Trident Buttress Route and finishing

on a steep face between that climb and the North Trident Buttress. It was named "Jubilee Climb." The standard of difficulty was high, though not so great as the lower South Trident Buttress. After lunch we came down No. 4 Gully and ascended the Central Trident Buttress, up which Macphee forced a new direct finish of some considerable severity. On the following day, with some of the other members of the party, he made another new route on the North Trident face, while Coats and I were ascending Route 1 of Carn Dearg Buttress.

Our next visit to the Hut was planned for June, when we intended to have a week's stay, hoping, naturally, for a spell of reasonably good weather in order to accomplish the remaining super routes, such as Rubicon Wall and Dr Luscher's climb; the former we knew at least would require perfect conditions and rubbers. Actually, we spent ten days at the Hut, only three of which could be called even fair. The state of the weather, however, is no deterrent to Macphee, and among other climbs we did Ruddy Rocks Route (new) on the North-East Buttress, Newbigging's eighty-minute route to the first platform, the east face of the North-East Buttress (the ultimate pitch of which, though avoidable, proved very severe), and the Slav Route. This latter expedition, undertaken in foul weather conditions, deserves special mention.

It was dry but dull when we set out to do this climb, though Macphee had hardly completed the first pitch when it began to rain heavily. There are some very hard bits on this route, and on the first ascent, owing to the paucity of natural belays, two pitons were inserted at critical places as belaying pins. The higher we progressed the worse the conditions became. At the only place possible (a small cave) we took inadequate shelter, hoping that the rain would stop. Instead, the weather became worse and turned very cold, obliging us to climb in order to maintain our circulation. As we progressed the rain turned to chilling hail and soon the rocks, where it could lie, were covered to a depth of about 3 inches. Undaunted, Macphee pressed on and forced an exceedingly severe pitch which the pioneers of the climb had avoided

by climbing up the gully on the right. We had not expected conditions of this sort during the middle of June, and consequently were insufficiently clad. We had no helmets and but little extra clothing. About half-way up the angle eased a little and the climbing, though still very hard on account of conditions, allowed us to make quicker progress and to move together. Just below the summit a fearsome-looking crack pitch confronted us. During a slight lull in the storm Macphee raced up this pitch with apparent ease. It was very hard, and I had just reached the middle section when the hail battered down fiercer than ever. The hailstones on the holds acted like ball-bearings, and I had three attempts before I could get my knee to stay on a small ledge in the crack.

We were thankful to get out at the summit. Wasting no time, we raced down Tower Gully to the Hut, gradually thawing out on the way.

There is a peculiar satisfaction in doing a hard climb under bad conditions (and we have done many such), but this one was the limit!

Though the exploratory work has, of necessity, been carried out under such difficult conditions, the results have been eminently satisfactory. The possibility of making new routes here is still by no means exhausted, and from my experience of Macphee it seems, in fact, as if he could go on adding to the list indefinitely.

## THE HEIGHT OF SLIOCH.

By J. A. PARKER.

THERE has always been some uncertainty as to whether the correct height of Slioch is 3,217 feet, as given on the 6-inch map, or 3,260 feet approximate, as given in Munro's Tables. With the object of settling the question, if possible, I climbed the hill last Easter and made a careful examination of the summit. My equipment included a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch surveyor's aneroid, a 2-inch aneroid, an Abney reflecting level, and a tracing of the 6-inch ordnance map. The aneroids were carefully tested three days later, near Aberdeen, and were found to be working well; the  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch one being never more than 10 feet out on an ascent and descent of about 500 feet, with intermediate readings on three ordnance bench marks.

Slioch has two tops of almost equal height. The N.N.W. top has a 6-foot cairn which stands almost at the edge of the steep, rocky north-west face of the hill. The second top, which bears about S.S.E. from the other, is a rounded top and has a 3-foot cairn distant about 250 yards from the N.N.W. cairn.

The 6-inch map shows a cairn, with the level 3216.6 feet, near the edge of the rock-marking indicating the steep N.W. face of the hill. No other levels are given on the upper part of the hill, the nearest being that of 3058.4 feet on the summit of Sgùrr an Tuill Bhàin, about 1 mile to the east.

The 1-inch map also shows the cairn and 3,217-foot level at the edge of the N.W. slope, but, in addition, shows a small circular 3,250-foot contour about 250 yards E.S.E. from the 3,217-foot cairn.

When Munro prepared his Tables in 1891 he adopted the height of "3,260 feet approximate" as being the height of the hill, giving as his reasons the 3,250-foot contour and a note by a Capt. Kirkwood, R.E., in the Visitors' Book at Kinlochewe, stating that the height



of the hill was 3,260 feet. That book is not now in the hotel at Kinlochewe and I have therefore not been able to examine the entry.

Every one who has climbed the hill must have noticed that the two tops were of almost equal height, but apparently the only entry in the *Journal* is that by Mr Vandeleur (Vol. XVIII., p. 97), stating that to him the two tops "appeared to be much of the same height." In the *Cairngorm Club Journal* for January 1906, Mr E. A. Baker stated that the 3,217-foot point was the "better point for the view," which could hardly have been the case were the other top 43 feet higher.

When I climbed the hill in 1918 I noticed that the two tops were of almost equal height and I therefore assumed that the 3,217-foot cairn must be some way down the steep north-west face, although that was a most unlikely position. My next ascent was in 1933 and I then noticed that from the N.N.W. top I could see the horizon (the West Monar Hills) slightly above the skyline of the S.S.E. top, which proved that the N.N.W. top was the higher. The doubtful point was, of course, whether or not the N.N.W. top was actually the 3,217-foot point marked on the maps. This was the problem that I set out to solve last Easter.

I climbed the hill via the top of Sgùrr an Tuill Bhàin and descended by the same route. The aneroids were read in both directions, *i.e.*, from the Sgùrr to the N.N.W. top and back again. The 4½-inch aneroid gave differences of level of 150 feet (going up) and 160 feet (coming down), the mean of which added to the height of the Sgùrr (3,058 feet) gave the height of the N.N.W. top as being 3,213 feet. The smaller aneroid made it 3,228 feet. These readings proved that the N.N.W. top was actually the 3,217-foot Ordnance Survey point, and this was confirmed by comparing the position of the cairn with the features shown on the 6-inch map.

From the N.N.W. cairn I again saw the distant horizon slightly above the profile of the S.S.E. top (by about 6 feet), and the line of sight through the Abney level passed above the S.S.E. top by about the same

amount, my note being "by about twice the height of the cairn." The  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch aneroid showed that the S.S.E. top was just a little lower than the N.N.W. one. Looking back from the S.S.E. top the line of sight through the Abney level struck the solid of the N.N.E. top about 9 feet (one and a half times the height of the cairn) below its profile, thus proving that the N.N.W. top was distinctly higher. The  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch aneroid again confirmed, but no horizon observation was possible as the distant hills were clouded over.

My operations from and to the Sgùrr occupied almost two hours, during which the barometer was steady. The air temperature would not affect the aneroid readings as the vertical height measured was only 159 feet. The Abney level had been carefully set for the horizontal position on the shore of Loch Maree and was verified after the descent.

The only possible conclusions to be drawn from the above are: that the N.N.W. top is the 3,217-foot ordnance point, that it is the highest summit of Slioch, that the S.S.E. top is distinctly lower (probably by as much as 5 feet), and that the 3,250-foot contour and 3,260-foot height are not justified by the facts.

In view of the above, I sent a fully detailed report to the Director-General of the Ordnance Survey, and suggested that the 3,250-foot contour should be deleted from future reprints of the 1-inch map. In reply he stated that the whole matter had been investigated and that the contour would be deleted.

## LOUDOUN HILL.

## AN AYRSHIRE SUB-MUNRO.

By DOUGLAS SCOTT.

YOU can leave Glasgow at 6 o'clock on a summer evening and in an hour or less, depending on the means of transport, be disporting on first-rate climbing rock in full view of Arran and the Firth.

In general description, Loudoun Hill, 1,097 feet, rises 500 feet above the high ground between Strathaven and Darvel. A road passes within about a quarter of a mile to the east, facing the rocks. The climbs are short, but clean and firm, averaging about 40 feet.

The view from the top is typically Ayrshire, a soft hill skyline to the east and south with occasional scattered farms and the smoke of small towns lower down the valley. Arran is very prominent, and farther out across Kintyre I think Jura can be seen, then the Cowal hills. The high ground about Fenwick and Ballageich shuts out the north, but every now and then a peak looks over to remind one of the Highlands.

R. Anderson and I., J.M.C.S., made our first visit of exploration one evening in July. After the first burst of energy we lay at the top in the afterglow of a fine sunset, and spent a delightfully idle half hour naming "our" various arêtes and cracks. There was a wealth of historical association to choose from, and the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch map gives the dates of two battles fought in the vicinity. Wallace and the Covenanters seem to have been particularly active about here.

One can pass the time very profitably while waiting at belays watching the teeming bird life, while one's trusting partner does battle with a new climb. Colonies of jackdaws and starlings use some of the best routes for nesting-places.

There are, roughly, three groups of rock—West, Central,



THE ARÊTE FROM THE EAST. CAIRN AT FOOT OF FORGLOVE GULLY.

THE LEADER IS STANDING ON TOP OF THE FLAKE WHICH IS SEEN  
IN PROFILE. X Y Z SHOWS THE  
TRAVERSE FROM THE RT. CRACK.

and East. The chief object of interest in the West group is a big pillar separated from the main wall by a 10-foot gap. It is smooth on one side and overhanging on the other, but the front arête, which is nail-marked, gives a good exposed climb of about 50 feet. Another 15 feet up from the gap lands one on the top above. This part is rather difficult to photograph, as trees grow right up to the foot of the pillar, rather spoiling the effect. There are one or two other shorter problems here.

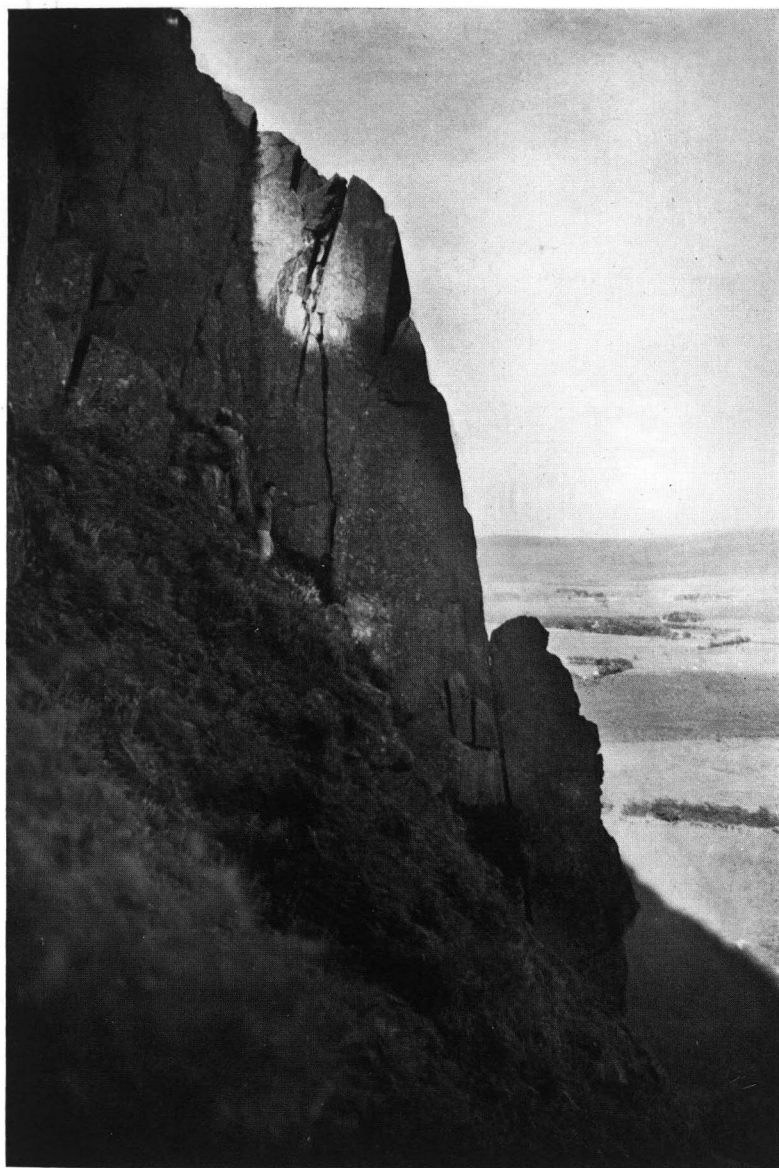
The Central "buttress" is by far the finest part, and the great feature is an impossible-looking flake lying at right angles against the steep face behind. There are three notable routes here, two are nearly vertical cracks, one up each angle; the third route, as yet undone, would lie up the knife-edge; it is worth while traversing out to look up.

The holds in the west crack improve after the first section is passed. The crack itself is wide enough to admit an arm, which clutches eagerly at a jammed stone, but the left wall offers most help. The rope can be threaded behind the stone if one feels so inclined. When the first man was about half-way up a pigeon flew out revealing two white eggs. There is a good belay at the top of this pitch (25 feet). The next is a little shorter, up an exposed chimney to easy rocks above.

The east crack (30 feet) is rather finer. But one should start from the foot of the buttress to get the whole height, about 120 feet. The first section is interesting, if a bit turfy, and always serves to increase the sense of height to a person in the crack.

It is rather steeper on this side, overhanging slightly in the middle, but there are several jammed stones on this side too. Near the top a big chockstone leans out, which proves to be secure as one abandons other handholds and edges gingerly over. The same finish can be made from the top of the flake as before.

We made two attempts, the second time in rubbers. During his struggles in the crack the leader nearly fell out as the pigeon on the other side left in a hurry, leaving two fledglings this time.

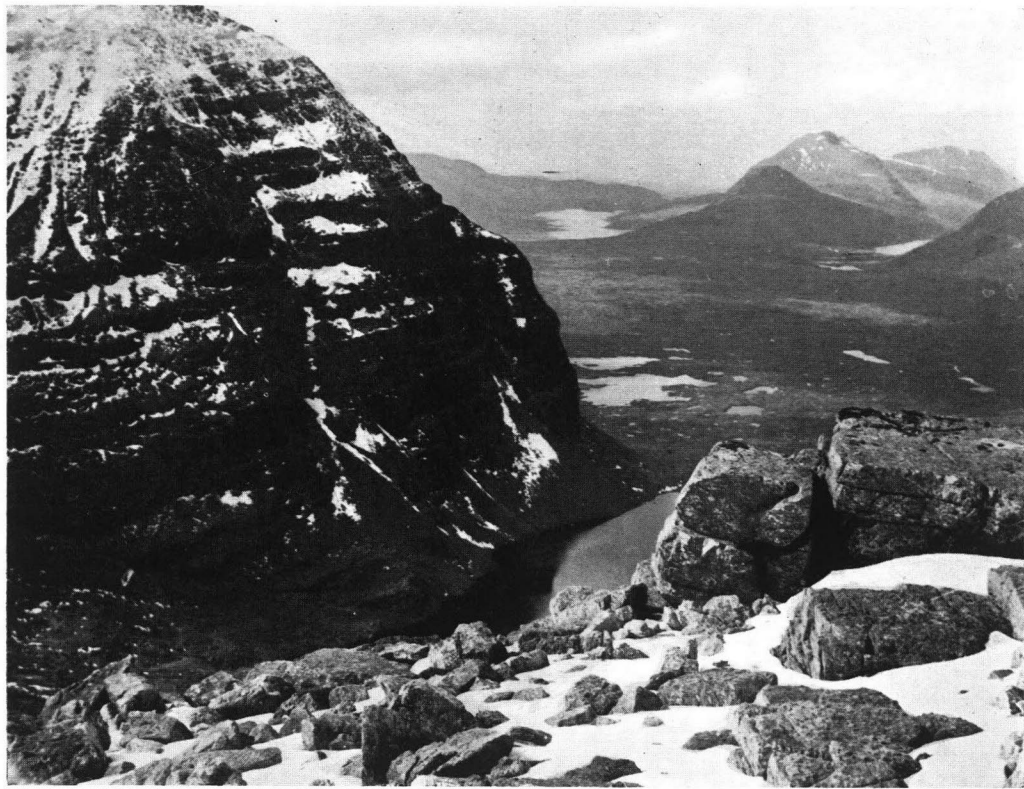


*July 1935*

LOUDOUN HILL—THE ARÊTE, CENTRAL BUTTRESS

*D. Scott*





*April 1935*

COIRE MHIC FHEARCHAIR—BEINN EIGHE

*Hugh Gardner*

A good route leads up a vertical chimney to the right of the east crack. The top section overhangs, but an escape can be made round a most sensational corner to the right, then up a short steep bit to easier ground.

Approaching the East group one sees a prominent overhang with a little tooth sticking up in the far corner. Several variations can be made about here; a route was made up a small face and mossy slabs to the right of the tooth.

One good climb might be made about the middle of the biggest face. Twenty feet above the start (cairn) is a joyous bulge over which one heaves on big holds to a grass ledge above. The next pitch (60 feet) was abandoned a little later, it is a steep face climb on small holds.

We are very much indebted to the curator of the Natural History Department of the Kelvingrove Museum for information of geological interest.

Loudoun Hill is an old volcanic plug and consists of trachytic rock rising through beds of volcanic trachytic ash. There are about twenty-two of these plugs and vents filled with agglomerate which pierce the calciferous sandstone volcanic rocks and the underlying upper Old Red Sandstone in that area, and they are roughly grouped about a line extending from Irish Law E.S.E. to Loudoun Hill. Seventeen are trachytic and five are basaltic, they are surrounded by trachytic lavas and surface ashes.

## BEN NEVIS.

## NORTH-EAST BUTTRESS WEST FACE.

By J. H. B. BELL.

THIS affords a difficult and, in parts, severe climb of the slab variety, of total height 1,000 to 1,200 feet. It is probably not suited for any but the best rock conditions, as it was found to be necessary to climb in stocking-soles for a good part of the way. Rubbers are of little use on the steep porphyry slabs on this route.

The climb starts on a level with the foot of the lowest steep pitch of the narrow gully in the angle between the Observatory Ridge and the face of the North-East Buttress, but a little way to the left of this, in fact on the second prominent slabby rock rib to the left of the gully proper. It then proceeds on the line of this rib straight up the face in the direction of a prominent rock tower on the skyline. As seen from a distance, *e.g.*, from the Clark Hut, it therefore slopes upwards somewhat to the left, as this is the general line of the rock ribs on this face.

A close inspection of this face will reveal, rather less than half-way up, a sort of basin-shaped depression where snow tends to lie late in the season. This is a landmark of the route, and will be called the Basin. On the date of the climb, 7th July 1935, it was clear of snow and fairly dry. At the end of June 1932 it still contained snow. The lower and harder section of the climb leads towards the lower left-hand corner of the Basin. The last section approaching the Basin is easy.

From the Basin two well-defined routes are possible. One of these, by the right-hand bounding rim, seems to be well broken up and easy for a long way, in fact it probably affords access fairly easily to the rocks at the top of the North-East Buttress. The back of the Basin promises to be difficult and full of wet, slabby chimneys. The left-hand rim of the Basin develops into a true arête

terminating in a very short ridge abutting on the crest of the North-East Buttress, in the true line of the climb and near the apparent rock tower visible from the foot of the climb. This is the upper part of the route. It joins the crest of the Buttress at a level of about 4,000 feet. This was judged from the fact that the lower Carn Mor Dearg cairn was definitely lower than this point, and the upper or nearer cairn was very slightly higher. From this point the summit of the Ben can be reached in twenty minutes or so, as it is not far below the Mantrap.

Cairns have been left on the new climb below the lowest difficulty, below the long slab pitch, near the Basin, on the upper arête, and on the little projecting ridge at the top of the climb just before the standard North-East Buttress route is joined.

The lower section of the climb is the hardest. There is a general paucity of belays. The start is up a steep slab overhung by the slab rib previously mentioned. A difficult movement, some distance higher, is made to the left on to this rib. A further traverse goes to the left, and then upward progress is possible on difficult slabs to a poor stance and a good belay about 60 feet above the start. The next pitch is again difficult, probably too difficult for boots. Fifty feet or so leads to a good grassy recess with a huge bollard belay on the left. A traverse must now be made to the right to the foot of an exceedingly steep slabby rib. The next pitch goes straight up this rib of splendid rock. The holds are small but sufficient. It is a little reminiscent of the crest of the Eagle's Nest Ridge in Lakeland. There is a wonderful stance at the top, but no belay. About 90 feet of rope is run out on this pitch. A little difficult pitch follows, going slightly up towards the right. Thereafter the climbing becomes easier, boots can be worn, and the party move all together as the Basin is approached. At this point it is fairly obvious that the route has had the merit of being strictly delimited. There are bad slab overhangs on the side of the Observatory Ridge and impossibly steep smooth slab ribs on the other side.

The rocks above the Basin are fairly easy until one

approaches the upper left-hand arête. Then the difficulties start at once. One is soon faced with a slightly overhanging nose. It does not seem possible to get up on the left of this. The upper slabs are so smooth that things will not go direct. A delicate traverse to the right, fairly exposed, followed by an oblique ascent back towards the crest of the ridge, solves the problem. There is a good belay above. The rocks straight above are now splintered into huge blocks. It is necessary to avoid dislodging loose stones. A somewhat strenuous wedging progress up a corner between two huge blocks leads directly upwards. There is a good belay above this. The climbing now tends to become easier, and the rocks to acquire the characteristic features of those on the crest of the North-East Buttress. Soon an upper platform is reached, connected to the crest of the Buttress by a short ridge, and the climb terminates.

Under good conditions an allowance of from three to four hours should be sufficient for a capable party of two climbers.

### **In Memoriam.**

#### **WILLIAM WILSON NAISMITH.**

WE deeply regret to announce the death of William Wilson Naismith, one of our original members and probably the man most responsible for the founding of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, at Strathpeffer on 27th September. There has not been sufficient time to prepare a Memoriam notice for this Issue (having regard to the very great extent of Naismith's work for the Club), but one will be printed in the April number.

#### **WALTER A. SMITH.**

THE Scottish Mountaineering Club has lost one of its oldest members and a true friend by the passing of Walter A. Smith, F.F.A., who died on 25th October 1934.

Mr Smith was one of the few remaining original members (there are now only some fifteen left), and he always took a very great interest in Club affairs. I first met him at the Easter Meet at Fort William in 1895, and I well remember his kindness to me, then a very young member, for I had just joined the Club in 1893, and what splendid company he was on the high-tops.

He excelled in hill-walking and hill-craft. No one knew the cross-country routes and hill paths in the Highlands better than he did. His two books, "The Pentland Hills, their Paths and Passes," and "Hill Paths in Scotland," had, and still have, a very wide circulation, and were the means of introducing to thousands of the wayfaring public the knowledge of those old drove roads which are such a precious heritage to all who desire to get off the hard, straight motor roads and to feel the heather under their heels.

Although it is, I think, some time since he was present at any of our Meets, he regularly attended till within the last year or two our Annual Dinner and our meetings in the club-room.



He continued to the end to take a deep interest in our Club, and his love for the hills was strong to the last.

His great work lay with the Scottish Rights of Way Society. He was one of its oldest and staunchest members, and for many years he acted as Chairman to its Board of Directors.

Scotland and the Scottish Mountaineering Club owe him a deep debt of gratitude for the various rights of way which he helped to establish some fifty years ago.

Mr Smith filled a very high place in the Edinburgh Insurance world and rose to the responsible post of Manager in the English and Scottish Law Life Assurance Company.

Those of us who were privileged to know him and to work with him will ever remember his quiet, steady influence and help. He was a genuine and unselfish friend and a true comrade on the hills. *Frater, ave atque vale.*

A. E. R.

JOHN CLIFFORD SPENCE EWEN, 1903-35.

KILLED ON THE ALPS ON SUNDAY, 21ST JULY 1935.

THE news of the tragic death of John Ewen, through a climbing accident on Le Brevent, Chamonix, was received with very deep regret. He was leading the climb, and when two-thirds of the way up the accident occurred which resulted in his death.

The correct report of the accident is that the ascent had been easy, and when the two climbers had arrived at a ledge, Ewen wanted to adjust the straps of his rucksack. First he wound the rope (between him and Owen, his companion) round a rock, then stepped out on to the scree to adjust the straps. He stood there, with his back to the scree slope, joking with Owen. In setting his foot on the scree, however, a boulder above must have been disturbed. It came crashing down accompanied by an avalanche of smaller stones, and before he had even time to cry out was swept off his feet and fell headlong

into a deep ravine—and so died an able and gifted personality, one whom Nature had endowed with a brilliant intellect and fine physique.

John Ewen, a native of Lonmay, Aberdeenshire, was educated at Cullen, Banff Academy, Aberdeen University, and Trinity College, Cambridge. He had a particularly brilliant scholastic career—was first bursar at Aberdeen University Entrance Examination, where later he took First Class Honours in Mathematics. At Cambridge he took a high place in the Mathematical Tripos and thereafter gained experience in the direction of educational studies. He came to Elgin as principal teacher of mathematics in the Academy and left in October 1933, when he was selected from a large number of candidates from all over Scotland for the very responsible post of Secretary to the Scottish Council for School Broadcasting.

During the period of two years that he resided in Elgin he took an active interest in the Moray Mountaineering Club, and much of the success of the Club was due to his leadership and valuable suggestions.

In 1933 he became a member of the Club, when John Geddes (President of the Moray Mountaineering Club) and myself were his sponsors, and later he undertook the duties of Assistant Editor.

I climbed with Ewen on many occasions and thereby came to know him intimately. Although naturally reserved and, at times, aloof, he was also genial, generous, and lovable to those who knew him. He possessed a natural aptitude for climbing. His alertness, coolness, and sound judgment when leading a climb were fine to behold, and his was the finished style of the balance climber.

Ewen was a very delightful companion, with rare personal charm, and when the beauty and grandeur of the mountains moved him to expressions in words, they revealed a fine cultured mind and deep love for the high places.

We climbed frequently in the Cairngorms and occasionally in the North-West Highlands. He had done a considerable amount of climbing in Skye, and on one

occasion did, alone, a traverse of the main Cuillin Ridge under very adverse weather conditions. My last climb with him was in July 1934, when, accompanied by Mr Crowley, of Forres, I met him at the Clachaig Inn. Later, Ewen led us on the climb of the Crowberry. The following day we were on the Aonach Eagach, but the weather was so bad, and as Ewen had to return early in the evening to Edinburgh, we did not complete the climb.

In writing these lines many memories of his fine companionship on the days we spent together crowd over me. It is inexpressibly sad to realise that this young life so rich in promise is now ended.

I recall the words of Guido Rey, written when looking towards the picturesque little churchyard of Zermatt :

“ That little plot of soil which contains, together with other victims of the mountains, the first victims of the Matterhorn, fills me with deep emotion every time I visit it ; I think of the eternal peace which has followed upon the hours of fierce struggle ; I grieve for these young men torn so early in their lives from the enjoyment of their noble pleasures, and then I wonder whether it were not a blessed thing to die as they died, quickly, unexpectedly, painlessly, in a moment of perfect peace, when life seemed full of beauty, and the mind was purified by passion and by joy.”

“ For all of beauty that this life can give  
Lives only while I live,  
And with the light my hurried vision lends,  
All beauty ends.”

Ewen sleeps in Chamonix under the shadow of the mountains.

EDWIN M. DAVIDSON.

TABLES GIVING ALL HILLS IN THE SCOTTISH  
LOWLANDS 2,000 FEET IN HEIGHT AND  
ABOVE.

By PERCY DONALD, B.Sc.

INTRODUCTION.

IN the preparation of the following tables, free use has been made of both the popular and hill-shaded editions of the 1-inch O.S. map and of the 6-inch O.S. map. In addition, every elevation of 2,000 feet or over has been visited at least once, and many of the points examined were discarded as unworthy of inclusion as "tops." The method of determining "hills" and "tops" is described later, but it may be mentioned here that the definite policy was adopted of excluding from the list of "tops" all points of doubtful merit.

The total number of hills is 86 and of tops 133. The most northerly hill is Innerdownie in the Ochils, the most easterly Windy Gyle in the Cheviots (or Auchope Cairn on The Cheviot if tops are considered),\* the most southerly Cairnsmore of Fleet, and the most westerly Shalloch on Minnoch, both in Galloway. (Extreme points in the last two cases are actually tops, *i.e.*, Knee of Cairnsmore and Shalloch on Minnoch, North Top.)

The highest hills and elevations in each county are given in the following list:—

	Feet.
Kirkcudbright . . . . .	Merrick . . . . . 2,764
Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	Broad Law . . . . . 2,754
Dumfries . . . . .	White Coomb . . . . . 2,695
Peebles . . . . .	Dollar Law . . . . . 2,680
Ayr and Kirkcudbright . . . . .	Ord. Pt. on Kirriereoch Hill 2,565
Ayr . . . . .	Shalloch on Minnoch . . . . . 2,528
Lanark and Peebles . . . . .	Culter Fell . . . . . 2,454

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\* Cauldcleuch Head in Roxburgh is the most easterly hill wholly in Scotland.

Roxburgh and Northumber- land	Highest ground on Union Boundary	Feet 2,422
Lanark	Green Lowther	2,403
Roxburgh and Northumber- land	Top—Auchope Cairn	2,382
Clackmannan	Bencleuch	2,363
Midlothian	Blackhope Scar	2,137
Selkirk	Top—Clockmore	2,105 ap.
Roxburgh and Northumber- land	Windy Gyle	2,034
Roxburgh	Cauldcleuch Head	2,028

The allocation of hills and tops to counties is as follows:—

	Hills.	Tops.
Perth	1	1
Perth and Clackmannan	2	2
Clackmannan	2	6
Midlothian	1	1
Midlothian and Peebles	1	1
Peebles	15	26
Lanark and Peebles	3	4
Lanark	7	8
Peebles and Selkirk	7	9
Selkirk	...	2
Peebles and Dumfries	2	3
Dumfries	8	15
Dumfries and Selkirk	6	10
Dumfries and Lanark	5	6
Ayr and Dumfries	1	1
Ayr	4	6
Ayr and Kirkcudbright	1	2
Kirkcudbright	18	27
Roxburgh	1	1
Roxburgh and Northumberland	1	2
	<u>86</u>	<u>133</u>

Grouping by heights gives the following result:—

	Hills.	Tops.
From 2,764 to 2,700 inclusive	3	3
„ 2,699 „ 2,600 „	6	9
„ 2,599 „ 2,500 „	3	4
„ 2,499 „ 2,400 „	7	10
„ 2,399 „ 2,300 „	9	17
„ 2,299 „ 2,200 „	23	28
„ 2,199 „ 2,100 „	18	27
„ 2,099 „ 2,000 „	17	35
	<u>86</u>	<u>133</u>

## EXPLANATION OF TABLES.

Table I.

In this Table the following natural grouping has been adopted :—

Section.	Area.	Hills.	Tops.
1	Ochil Hills . . . . .	5	9
2	Moorfoot Hills . . . . .	5	5
3	Tinto . . . . .	1	1
4	Enclosed by the Biggar-Broughton-Moffat roads	5	8
5	Enclosed by the Broughton-Innerleithen-St Mary's Loch-Tweedsmuir roads	13	20
6	Enclosed by the Tweedsmuir St Mary's Loch-Moffat roads	10	21
7	Enclosed by the Moffat-St Mary's Loch - Tushielaw - Eskdalemuir roads	9	15
8	Between the Abington-Moffat and New Cumnock-Thornhill roads	12	15
9	Between the New Cumnock-Thornhill and Dalmellington-New Galloway roads	6	10
10	Between the Dalmellington-New Galloway Station and Girvan-Creetown roads	18	26
11	Cauldcleuch Head . . . . .	1	1
12	Cheviot Hills (on Union Boundary)	1	2
		<u>86</u>	<u>133</u>

Section 12 includes also five hills wholly in England.

An Appendix gives particulars of fifteen additional elevations not meriting inclusion as tops, but all enclosed by an isolated 2,000-feet contour. These have been included in order that the table may be a complete record of every separate area of ground reaching the 2,000-feet level.

*Column 1—Name.*—The Ordnance Survey spelling is always followed, a \* implying that the name appears only on the 6-inch map. Where no name appears on either map the top has been given the name of its hill with N., S., etc., Top added. In all other cases the name is to be found on both the 6-inch and 1-inch maps. The number in this column is merely for convenience of reference from Tables II. and III.

*Column 2—Height.*—The heights given fall into three main categories. (1) Heights given without qualification are the same on both the 6-inch and 1-inch O.S. maps. (2) Heights marked thus ° are from the 1-inch O.S. map, but there is close agreement with the values given on the 6-inch O.S. map. This category comprises cases where the 6-inch O.S. surface level is 1 foot higher or lower than the corresponding 1-inch O.S. height, where a Cr. level lies within the limits of 2 feet below and 1 foot above the 1-inch O.S. height, or where a B.M. level lies within the limits of 1 foot below or 2 feet above the 1-inch O.S. height. (3) Heights not shown on the 1-inch O.S. map are in every case preceded by the 1-inch O.S. height or contour height in parentheses. If there is no further qualification the height is a surface level from the 6-inch O.S. map. If based on a level other than a surface level on the 6-inch O.S. map a footnote gives particulars. If no level is given on any map the height is marked "ap." and is an approximate aneroid observation or an estimate made by the compiler. (An estimate is only used where the height difference required is too small to be accurately measured by aneroid.)

The following points are of interest in connection with the determination of hill heights and indicate the difficulties in the way of obtaining precise values.

The popular edition of the 1-inch O.S. gives heights in relation to assumed mean sea-level, while the 6-inch O.S. is still based on the assumed mean sea-level at Liverpool, which is 0.65 foot below mean sea-level.

Heights of hills on the O.S. maps are, in general, surface heights at triangulation points. Where such point is some distance from the top an approximate aneroid or estimated allowance can be made if no top height is given on the 6-inch O.S. Where such height is apparently at the top it would usually be impossible to locate its exact position relative to the top without information and possibly personal assistance from the Ordnance Survey Department. Consequently such heights may be a foot or two lower than the true top level.



In those cases where the 6-inch O.S. gives no surface level the First Edition Cr. level can be used as a rough guide. This level may be anything down to 18 inches below ground-level. Failing both surface and Cr. levels a B.M. level can be used. Such a level is often on the side of a fence-post about 2 feet above ground-level, but may be cut on a large boulder or on native rock surface. Many of these B.M. marks have disappeared.

*Column 3—County.*—Tops less than  $\frac{1}{16}$  mile from the county boundary are regarded as being in both counties. In this column is also given the sheet-number of the 1-inch Popular Edition O.S. map in which the top will be found.

*Columns 4 and 5—Hill No. and Top No.*—These give the number in order of altitude of such tops as may be considered separate hills and their subsidiary tops respectively.

“Tops” and “Hills” were determined by the following rules:—

“Tops.”—All elevations with a drop of 100 feet on all sides and elevations of sufficient topographical merit with a drop of between 100 feet and 50 feet on all sides.

“Hills.”—Grouping of “tops” into “hills,” except where inapplicable on topographical grounds, is on the basis that “tops” are not more than 17 units from the main top of the “hill” to which they belong, where a unit is either  $\frac{1}{12}$  mile measured along the connecting ridge or one 50-feet contour between the lower “top” and its connecting col.

While the rules as they stand rather lack mathematical precision, the actual result of their application is that, with but few exceptions, an 80-feet drop determines a “top” and the 17-unit rule a “hill.”

*Bearings and Distances.*—Bearings are in all cases to the top from the reference point, whether a railway station, another top, a fence, etc. Such bearings are: in column 6 to the nearest compass point; in column 7 to the nearest 45°, except as regards bearings from ordnance points, which are usually to the nearest compass point; and in column 8 to the nearest 45°.

In column 7 "Top on N. side fence" implies that it is within 20 yards of the fence. Such descriptions as "Top N. of fence" in column 7, or "Three fences meet S. of top" in column 8 imply that the distance is less than 100 yards. Distances in excess of this are given to the nearest  $\frac{1}{8}$  mile up to  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile, and to the nearest  $\frac{1}{8}$  mile thereafter.

*Column 6—Position.*—All the principal hills and many others are located from easily found points on roads or railways. Hills far from roads are located from a neighbouring principal hill. Tops are located from the hill to which they belong. The reference point on road or railway is usually one of the very many points from which the hill may be conveniently approached.

*Column 7—Summit.*—The information given in this column and in column 8 is intended to be of assistance in misty weather. In this column are given, therefore, any distinguishing features by which the top may be recognised. "No cairn" implies complete absence of any mark. Figures thus, "3×2," indicate the existence of a cairn 3 feet diameter by 2 feet height. If the cairn is properly built with vertical sides it is described as "Stone man" and the size given as before. Where the top has some distinguishing mark other than a cairn, this is described, *e.g.*, "Top at fence jct." or "Grassy flat 25 ft. diam." A top not at the ordnance point is located from this by approximate distance and bearing. "Top at fence" means either that the fence passes over the top, or that the summit is so flat that the top cannot be precisely located. Tops  $\frac{1}{8}$  mile or more from a fence are regarded as having no fence, but for distances from  $\frac{1}{8}$  mile to  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile particulars are given in column 8.

*Column 8—Fences.*—Particulars are given of every main ridge fence and dike and of most junctions and subsidiary fences and dikes. Fence means a wire fence with wood or metal posts. Dike means a dry stone wall. Parenthetical qualifications of fences have the following meanings: "broken"—damaged condition but most of the material is present; "remains"—very dilapidated condition and most of the material is absent;

“obliterated”—the original location can only be discerned by very close examination. In order to follow this column a map showing county boundaries is necessary, and if it also shows parish boundaries, as do the 1-inch O.S. and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch Bartholomew maps, so much the better, but this is not essential, as all parish boundary fences and dikes are also located by a bearing or direction.

*Table II.*

This Table gives the Scottish “hills” and “tops” only (including the two on the Union Boundary), arranged in order of height.

*Columns 1 and 2* give the hill and top numbers, as given in columns 4 and 5 of Table I.

*Column 3* gives the finally adjusted height only.

*Column 4* gives the name, as given in column 1 of Table I.

*Column 5* gives a reference to the Section number and the number of the top in that section so as to enable it to be readily found in Table I.

*Table III.*

This is an alphabetical index to Table I. and contains the name of every “hill,” “top,” and other elevation listed therein, and also includes names referred to in footnotes where these are likely to assist identification from tourist maps.

ABBREVIATIONS.

*Abbreviations.*—b., by; B.M., Bench Mark; c., contour; C.B., County Boundary; Cr., Crown Tile; diam., diameter; fr., from; ft., feet; in., inches; jct., junction; m., mile; O.S., Ordnance Survey; P.B., Parish Boundary; Sta., Station; yds., yards.

TABLE I.  
THE 2,000-FOOT TOPS ARRANGED

NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.	HILL No.	TOP No.
<b>SECTION 1.—OCHIL HILLS.</b>				
1. Blairdenon Hill . . . . .	2,073	Perth and Clackmannan	67	72 107
2. Bencleuch <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	2,363	Clackmannan . . .	67	24 35
3. Ben Ever . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,010 ap.	do. . . . .	67	... 127
4. The Law . . . . .	2,094	do. . . . .	67	... 100
5. Andrew Gannel Hill * . . . . . (2,150 c.)	2,196	do. . . . .	67	... 72
6. King's Seat Hill . . . . . (2,111)	2,125 ap.	do. . . . .	67	64 89
7. Tarmangie Hill . . . . .	2,117	Perth and Clackmannan	67	66 91
8. Whitewisp Hill . . . . .	2,110	Clackmannan . . .	67	... 94
9. Innerdownie . . . . .	2,004	Perth . . . . .	67	85 128
<sup>1</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives name as Ben Clach.				
<b>SECTION 2.—MOORFOOT HILLS.</b>				
1. Jeffries Corse . . . . .	2,040	Peebles . . . . .	74	78 118
2. Bowbeat Hill . . . . .	2,050 °	Midlothian and Peebles .	74	75 114
3. Blackhope Scar . . . . .	2,137 °	Midlothian . . . . .	74	62 87
4. Whitehope Law . . . . .	2,038	Peebles . . . . .	80	79 119
5. Windlestraw Law . . . . .	2,162	Peebles and Selkirk . .	80	58 81
<b>SECTION 3.—TINTO HILLS.</b>				
Tinto . . . . .	2,335	Lanark . . . . .	79	27 41
<b>SECTION 4.—CULTER HILLS.</b>				
1. Chapelgill Hill . . . . .	2,282	Peebles . . . . .	79	33 48
2. Cardon Hill . . . . .	2,218	do. . . . .	79	... 65
3. Culter Fell . . . . .	2,454	Lanark and Peebles . .	79	14 19
4. Heatherstane Law . . . . .	2,055	Lanark . . . . .	79	74 113
5. Gathersnow Hill <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	2,262	Lanark and Peebles . .	79	41 56
6. Coomb Hill . . . . .	2,096	Peebles . . . . .	79	... 99
7. Hillshaw Head . . . . .	2,141	Lanark and Peebles . .	79	61 86
8. Coomb Dod . . . . .	2,082	do. . . . .	79	... 105

<sup>1</sup> Named only Glenwhappen Rig on many maps.

TABLE I.  
ACCORDING TO DISTRICTS.

TOP No.	POSITION.	SUMMIT.	FENCES.
SECTION 1.—OCHIL HILLS.			
107	3½ m. N. b. E. fr. Menstrie Sta.	2 × 2 in N.W. fence angle	Three fences meet; W. on P.B.; N.E. on C.B.; and S.E. slightly E. of C.B.
35	2½ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Alva Sta.	Two cairns 12 × 4 and indicator on S.W. side fence	
127	¾ m. S.W. b. W. fr. Bencleuch	Grassy flat 5 ft. diam. ⅓ m. W. of fence	Fence on Bencleuch ridge to Ben Ever (jcts. N. to Ben Buck; and W. to Glenwinnel Burn); and to Andrew Gannel Hill * and stile on Right of Way at C.B. (jct. S. to The Law).
100	¾ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Bencleuch	6 × 3 on E. side fence	
72	1 m. E. fr. Bencleuch	Top on S.E. side fence <sup>2</sup>	No fence.
89	2½ m. N.W. b. W. fr. Dollar Sta.	3 × 1, ½ m. N.W. fr. cairn; 30 × 7 at 2,111 point	
91	2½ m. N.W. b. N. fr. Dollar Sta.	Top on N. side dike	Dike on Tarmangie Hill on C.B., thence on ridge to Innerdownie (jct. fence S.E. on C.B., ½ m. N.E. of Whitewisp, to Maiden's Well).
94	¾ m. E. fr. Tarmangie Hill	6 × 3	
128	3½ m. N. fr. Dollar Sta.	6 × 4 on N.W. side dike	
<sup>2</sup> The top of rocky outcrop ⅓ m. S.E. fr. top is nearly the same height.			
SECTION 2.—MOORFOOT HILLS.			
118	2½ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Eddleston Sta.	Hollow grassy circle 6 ft. diam. containing stones S.W. of dike-fence angle	Dike to N.W.; fence to N.E. and 2,004 point (jct. S.E. to C.B.).
114	3½ m. E. fr. Eddleston Sta.	Top in N.W. fence angle	Four fences meet on Blackhope Scar; S.W. joining C.B. to Bowbeat Hill and Jeffries Corse (jct. W. at Leithen Water to Hog Knowes); N.W. on P.B.; to E.; and S. joining C.B. thence to Whitehope Law (jcts. N.E. at 1,965 point; E. on C.B. at 1,921 point; and E., ½ m. N. fr. Whitehope Law).
87	4½ m. E. b. N. fr. Eddleston Sta.	6 × 4 of old fence posts on N. side fence jct.	
119	5½ m. N. fr. Innerleithen Sta.	Top at fence	Four fences meet; to N.W.; N. and E. on C.B.; and S.W. to 2,147 point (jct. S.E. down Seathope Rig).
81	4 m. N. b. E. fr. Walkerburn Sta.	Top at fence jct.	
SECTION 3.—TINTO HILLS.			
41	2½ m. S.W. b. S. fr. Thankerton Sta.	100 × 15 with cairns 12 × 4 and 9 × 3 on top at fence jct.	Two fences and two dikes meet; fences N. and N.E. on P.Bs.; dikes W. on P.B. to Howgate Mouth; and to S.E.
SECTION 4.—CULTER HILLS.			
48	3½ m. S.E. fr. Culter	No cairn	No fence.
65	¾ m. N. b. W. fr. Chapelgill Hill	3 × 2 in N. fence angle	Fences on Cardon Hill down N. and N.E. ridges; and (remains) to angle in C.B. fence to Culter Fell and Glenwhappen Rig.
19	3½ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Culter	5 × 3 on W. side fence	
113	4½ m. S. fr. Culter	1 × ½ on W. side fence	Three fences on P.Bs. meet S. of top; N. to Shankou Burn; S.E. to Hillshaw Burn only; and S.W. to Windgill Bank.
56	2½ m. W.N.W. fr. Tweedsmuir	3 × 1 on N. side fence	
99	¾ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Gathersnow Hill	6 × 4 on E. side fence	Fence on Gathersnow Hill on C.B. to Culter Fell (jct. N.E. on P.B. to Coomb Hill); and to Hillshaw Head and Coomb Dod.
86	3 m. W. fr. Tweedsmuir	Top at fence	
105	½ m. S.S.W. fr. Hillshaw Head	Grassy flat 20 ft. diam. at fence	

NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.	HILL No.	TOP No.
<b>SECTION 5.—MANOR HILLS.</b>				
1. Birkscairn Hill . . . . .	2,169	Peebles . . . . .	80 57	80
2. Dun Rig or Blackcleuch Head * . . . .	2,433	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 16	22
3. Glenrath Heights (Middle Hill *) . . . .	2,382	Peebles . . . . .	80 21	29
4. Stob Law . . . . .	2,218	do. . . . .	80 47	66
5. Black Law . . . . .	2,285	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 31	46
6. Blackhouse Heights (Black Cleuch Hill *)	2,214	do. . . . .	80 ...	69
7. Deer Law . . . . . (2,065)	2,067 <sup>2</sup>	Selkirk . . . . .	80 ...	109
8. Greenside Law . . . . .	2,110	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 68	95
9. Pykestone Hill . . . . .	2,414	Peebles . . . . .	80 17	23
10. The Scrape . . . . .	2,347	do. . . . .	80 ...	39
11. Middle Hill * <sup>3</sup> . . . . . (2,400 c.)	2,340 ap.	do. . . . .	80 26	40
12. Taberon Law . . . . .	2,088	do. . . . .	80 ...	103
13. Drumelzier Law . . . . .	2,191	do. . . . .	80 52	74
14. Dollar Law . . . . .	2,680	do. . . . .	80 5	5
15. Fifescar Knowe . . . . .	2,650	do. . . . .	80 ...	8
16. Cramalt Craig . . . . .	2,723	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 3	3
17. Hunt Law . . . . .	2,094	Peebles . . . . .	80 ...	101
18. Clockmore . . . . . (2,100)	2,105 ap.	Selkirk . . . . .	80 ...	96
19. Broad Law . . . . .	2,754	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 2	2
20. Talla Cleuch Head * <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	2,264	Peebles . . . . .	80 39	54

<sup>1</sup> At N.W. corner of St Mary's Loch.

<sup>2</sup> B.M. (from 6-inch O.S.) on surface rock.

<sup>3</sup> O.S. contours are very inaccurate here. Grey Weather Law\* (2,300 c.) 2,335,  $\frac{3}{8}$  m. N. b. E. fr. Long Grain Knowe is nearly the same height.

#### SECTION 6.—MOFFAT HILLS.

1. Erie Hill . . . . .	2,259	Peebles . . . . .	80 42	57
2. Garelet Hill . . . . .	2,231	do. . . . .	80 ...	61
3. Laird's Cleuch Rig * ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . .	2,237	do. . . . .	80 ...	60
4. Garelet Dod . . . . .	2,263	do. . . . .	80 40	55
5. Molls Cleuch Dod . . . . .	2,571	do. . . . .	80 11	14
6. Carlavin Hill . . . . .	2,383	do. . . . .	80 ...	28
7. Locheraig Head . . . . .	2,625	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80 8	11
8. Nickies Knowe . . . . .	2,492	do. . . . .	80 ...	17
9. White Coomb . . . . .	2,695	Dumfries . . . . .	85 4	4

<sup>1</sup> At S.E. end of Talla Reservoir.

# The 2,000-Feet Tops Arranged According to Districts. 425

TOP No.	POSITION.	SUMMIT.	FENCES.
<b>SECTION 5.—MANOR HILLS.</b>			
			C.B. fence is continuous Dun Rig to Locheraig Head ( <i>Section 6</i> ).
80	1½ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Dun Rig	9 × 5 in W. fence angle . . .	Three fences meet; to N.W.; to N.E.; and S.W. on P.B. to Dun Rig.
22	5½ m. S. fr. Peebles L.N.E.R. Sta.	Top at fence jct. . . .	Three fences meet on C.B. and P.B.
29	¾ m. W.N.W. fr. Dun Rig	3 × 1 . . . .	No fence.
66	1½ m. N.W. b. W. fr. Dun Rig	No cairn . . . .	do.
46	3½ m. N.W. b. N. fr. Cappercleuch <sup>1</sup>	Top at fence jct. . . .	Three fences meet; S. to Deer Law; and on C.B. (jct. E. near 2,283 point).
69	1 m. N. b. E. fr. Black Law	Top at fence . . . .	Fence on C.B. (remains only for 1¼ m. N.E.).
109	1½ m. S. b. E. fr. Black Law	Standing stone 3 ft. 6 in. height, ¾ m. W. of fence	Fence N. to Black Law; and E. down ridge.
95	1½ m. S.E. fr. Dollar Law	Top N.W. of fence . . .	Fence on C.B.
23	3 m. S.E. b. E. fr. Drumelzier	6 × 2 some yds. S.E. . .	No fence.
39	¾ m. N. b. E. fr. Pykestone Hill	2 × 1 with post on grassy flat 15 ft. diam. on S.E. side fence jct.	Two fences meet; N.W. to Scawd Law; and N.E. (broken) on P.B. (jct. E. down ridge).
40	1½ m. S.W. b. S. fr. Pykestone Hill	No cairn . . . .	No fence.
103	¾ m. W.S.W. fr. Middle Hill	do. . . . .	do.
74	1½ m. W. fr. Pykestone Hill	6 × 2 . . . . .	do.
5	4½ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Drumelzier	6 × 3 on grassy patch 20 ft. diam. on W. side dike	Two dikes and fence meet N. of Dollar Law; fence N.W. on P.B. ending at Long Grain Knowe; dikes E. down ridge; and S. on P.B. to C.B. fence angle.
8	¼ m. S. b. W. fr. Dollar Law	Top at dike . . . . .	
3	3½ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>4</sup>	6 × 4 on S.E. side fence .	Three fences meet; W. to Hunt Law; and on C.B.
101	1½ m. N.W. fr. Cramalt Craig	Top on S.W. side fence .	Fence on ridge S.E. to Cramalt Craig.
96	1½ m. S.E. fr. Cramalt Craig	Top ¼ m. W. fr. 2,100 point	No fence.
2	2 m. N.N.E. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>4</sup>	4 × 3 on W. side fence .	Fence on C.B. Dike fr. Polmood Burn to Wyllies Burn crosses half-way to 2,723 point (4 × 3 on S. side fence).
54	¾ m. N. b. W. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>4</sup>	Top at fence . . . .	Fence on ridge to Cairn Law on C.B. fence.

<sup>4</sup> At S.E. end of Talla Reservoir.

<sup>5</sup> One-inch O.S. gives name Muckle Side only.

## SECTION 6.—MOFFAT HILLS.

			C.B. dike or fence is continuous Locheraig Head to Hart Fell.
57	1¼ m. S.W. b. S. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>1</sup>	3 × 1 on N. side dike . .	Dike W. down ridge; and E. to main N. to S. dike.
61	¾ m. N. fr. Erie Hill	Two posts N.E. of dike .	Fence N.W. down ridge; dike S.E. to Laird's Cleuch Rig.*
60	¾ m. N. fr. Erie Hill	Top W. of dike . . . .	Dike N. to Garelet Hill; and S. to Din Law.
55	2 m. S. b. W. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>1</sup>	No cairn . . . . .	Dike ⅞ m. E. fr. top.
14	1½ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Talla Linnfoots <sup>1</sup>	Top at dike . . . . .	Dike runs Gameshope Burn (fence at first), Carlvain Hill, Molls Cleuch Dod, Firthybrig Head (joining C.B. dike).
28	¾ m. N.W. fr. Molls Cleuch Dod	do. . . . .	
11	1½ m. N. b. E. fr. White Coomb	Two turf circles, one with post, one with rain gauge, on W. side fence . . .	Fence on C.B. (jct. to N.E. at Talla East Side) joining Dumfries C.B. dike
17	1 m. N. b. W. fr. Locheraig Head	Top at fence . . . . .	Fence on C.B.
4	2½ m. W. b. S. fr. Birkhill <sup>2</sup>	3 × 1 on grassy flat 20 ft. diam. ⅞ m. S. of dike	Dike W. to C.B. dike at Firthhope Rig; and E. down ridge.

<sup>2</sup> Birkhill is near the Dumfries-Selkirk C.B. at the summit of the Moffat-Yarrow road.



NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.	HILL No.	TOP No.
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SECTION 6.—MOFFAT HILLS—*Continued.*

10. Great Hill . . . . .	2,540	Peebles . . . . .	85	...	15
11. Firthhope Rig . . . . .	2,627 <sup>1</sup>	Peebles and Dumfries . . . . .	85	...	10
12. Carrifran Gans . . . . .	2,452	Dumfries . . . . .	85	...	20
13. Cape Law . . . . .	2,364	Peebles . . . . .	85	23	34
14. Din Law . . . . .	2,182	do. . . . .	85	...	76
15. Under Saddle Yoke * . . . (2,400 c.)	2,445 ap.	Dumfries . . . . .	85	15	21
16. Saddle Yoke . . . . .	2,412	do. . . . .	85	...	24
17. Whitehope Heights * . . . (2,050 c.)	2,090 ap.	Peebles and Dumfries . . . . .	84	70	102
18. Hart Fell . . . . .	2,651	do. . . . .	84	7	7
19. Swatte Fell . . . . . (2,388)	2,390	Dumfries . . . . .	84	20	27
20. Falcon Craig * ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	2,373	do. . . . .	84	...	32
21. Nether Coomb Craig ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	2,373	do. . . . .	84	...	33

<sup>1</sup> The 2,627 point is shown only on the overlap of Sheet 80.

## SECTION 7.—ETTRICK HILLS.

1. Herman Law . . . . .	2,014 °	Dumfries and Selkirk . . . . .	85	84	126
2. Andrewhinney Hill . . . . .	2,220	do. . . . .	85	46	64
3. Trowgrain Middle . . . . .	2,058 °	Dumfries . . . . .	85	...	112
4. Bell Craig . . . . .	2,046	Dumfries and Selkirk . . . . .	85	76	116
5. Mid Rig * . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,018 <sup>2</sup>	do. . . . .	85	...	125
6. Bodesbeck Law . . . . .	2,173	Dumfries . . . . .	85	56	79
7. Capel Fell . . . . .	2,223	Dumfries and Selkirk . . . . .	85	45	63
8. Smidhope Hill * . . . . . (2,100 c.)	2,111	do. . . . .	85	...	93
9 White Shank . . . . .	2,035 °	do. . . . .	85	...	120
10. Ettrick Pen . . . . .	2,270	do. . . . .	85	36	51
11. Wind Fell . . . . .	2,180	do. . . . .	85	54	77
12. Hopetoun Craig . . . . .	2,075	do. . . . .	85	...	106
13. Loch Fell (East Knowe *) . . . . .	2,256	Dumfries . . . . .	85	43	59
14. Loch Fell (West Knowe *) . . . (2,150 c.)	2,196 <sup>3</sup>	do. . . . .	85	...	73
15. Croft Head . . . . .	2,085	do. . . . .	85	71	104

<sup>1</sup> Birkhill is near the Dumfries-Selkirk C.B. at the summit of the Moffat-Yarrow road.

<sup>2</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives B.M. 2018-1.

<sup>3</sup> A second point to N. and nearer the dike is nearly the same height.

# The 2,000-Feet Tops Arranged According to Districts. 427

TOP No.	POSITION.	SUMMIT.	FENCES.
<b>SECTION 6.—MOFFAT HILLS—Continued.</b>			
15	1½ m. N.W. b. W. fr. White Coomb	No cairn . . . .	No fence.
10	⅝ m. W.N.W. fr. White Coomb	Top at dike . . . .	Dike on C.B. (jct. N. fr. top, E. to White Coomb) (fence across Rotten Bottom).
20	1 m. S.S.W. fr. White Coomb	2×1 . . . .	No fence.
34	2 m. W. fr. White Coomb	Top S.W. of dike . .	Dike N.W. to Din Law; and S.E. to C.B. fence-dike angle.
76	⅝ m. N.W. fr. Cape Law	Top ⅓ m. S.W. of dike .	Dike N. to Laird's Cleuch Rig,* and S.E. to Cape Law.
21	2 m. S.W. fr. White Coomb	No cairn . . . .	No fence.
24	⅓ m. S.E. fr. Under Saddle Yoke	6×3 some yds. S.W.	do.
102	1½ m. W. b. N. fr. Hart Fell	No cairn . . . .	do.
7	5½ m. N.N.E. fr. Moffat Sta.	15×4, crescent shaped, on S.W. side fence angle	Fence on C.B.N. down ridge; and N.E. to Cape Law ridge dike. Fence (obliterated) S. to Auchencat Burn col.
27	1½ m. S. b. E. fr. Hart Fell	Top at dike, ⅓ m. N.E. fr. 2,388 point <sup>2</sup>	Dike on Swatte Fell N.E. to Auchencat Burn col thence down burn; and S.W. down ridge.
32	¾ m. N.N.E. fr. Swatte Fell	Top W. of dike	
33	¾ m. E.S.E. fr. Swatte Fell	No cairn . . . .	No fence.

<sup>2</sup> A cairn 2×1, ⅓ m. E. fr. top, is nearly the same height.

## SECTION 7.—ETTRICK HILLS.

			C.B. fence (or dike) is continuous Herman Law to Ettrick Pen.
126	¾ m. E. b. S. fr. Birkhill <sup>1</sup>	Top at fence jct.	Three fences meet on Herman Law; W. on C.B.; E. down face; and S. on C.B.
64	1½ m. S. b. W. fr. Birkhill <sup>1</sup>	10×2 with three posts on N. side fence	
112	⅝ m. N.E. fr. Andrew-hinney Hill	Top ⅓ m. N.W. of fence and stone man 3 ft. square by 5 ft. height on E. side fence	
116	⅝ m. S.W. fr. Andrew-hinney Hill	Top at fence jct. . . .	Three fences meet; two on C.B.; and (broken) S.E. down ridge.
125	½ m. S.W. fr. Bell Craig	Top at fence	At 1,991 point meet; fence on C.B. fr. Mid Rig*; dike fr. S.E.; and dike on C.B. fr. Bodesbeck Law.
79	6 m. N.E. b. E. fr. Moffat Sta.	Grassy flat 10 ft. diam. with stones in central hole W. of dike <sup>3</sup>	
63	2½ m. S. b. W. fr. Bodesbeck Law	Top at fence (broken)	Fence (broken) on C.B. for ⅓ m. on Capel Fell, thence dike on C.B. to Bodesbeck Law (jct. N.W. down Sailfoot Linn); and fence on C.B. to Wind Fell (jct. S.W. down Capel Fell ridge).
93	½ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Capel Fell	Top at dike <sup>4</sup>	
120	⅝ m. N.N.E. fr. Capel Fell	Top N.E. of dike	Three fences meet on Ettrick Pen; N.W. on C.B.; E. down ridge; and S.E. on C.B. to Wind Fell.
51	7½ m. E. b. N. fr. Moffat Sta.	5×4 in S.E. fence angle	
77	1½ m. S.W. b. S. fr. Ettrick Pen	Top at fence	
106	⅝ m. N.E. fr. Wind Fell	5×2 on E. side fence	Four fences on P.Bs. meet; N. to C.B. fence at Wind Fell (jct. E. to Cauld Law); S. to Dun Moss; S.W. to Cowan Fell; and (remains) N.W. to West Knowe* and Croft Head.
59	2½ m. S.W. fr. Ettrick Pen	Top at fence jct.	
73	½ m. N.W. fr. Loch Fell	Top at fence (remains)	
104	3½ m. W.S.W. fr. Ettrick Pen	Top at fence jct. . . .	Three fences meet; to N.W.; S. on P.B.; and (broken) S.E. on P.B. to Loch Fell.

<sup>4</sup> Two other points to N. and S. are nearly the same height.

<sup>3</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives B.M. 2196.3.

NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.	HILL No.	TOP No.
<b>SECTION 8.—LOWTHER HILLS.</b>				
1. Lousie Wood Law . . . . .	2,028	Lanark . . . . .	84 81	122
2. Dun Law . . . . .	2,216	do. . . . .	84 48	67
3. Green Lowther . . . . .	2,403	do. . . . .	84 19	26
4. Lowther Hill . . . . .	2,377	Dumfries and Lanark . . . . .	84 22	31
5. Comb Head . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,060 ap.	do. . . . .	84 ...	111
6. East Mount Lowther . . . . .	2,068	Dumfries . . . . .	84 73	108
7. Comb Law . . . . . (2,107)	2,120 ap.	Lanark . . . . .	84 65	90
8. Ballencleuch Law . . . . .	2,267	do. . . . .	84 38	53
9. Rodger Law . . . . .	2,257	do. . . . .	84 ...	58
10. Scaw'd Law . . . . . (2,166)	2,180 <sup>1</sup>	Dumfries and Lanark . . . . .	84 55	78
11. Glenleith Fell . . . . .	2,003 °	Dumfries . . . . .	84 ...	129
12. Wedder Law . . . . . (2,200 c.)	2,206 <sup>2</sup>	Dumfries and Lanark . . . . .	84 51	71
13. Gana Hill . . . . .	2,190 °	do. . . . .	84 53	75
14. Earncraig Hill . . . . .	2,000	do. . . . .	84 86	132
15. Queensberry . . . . .	2,285	Dumfries . . . . .	84 32	47

<sup>1</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives nearly B.M. 2179-6.

<b>SECTION 9.—CARSPHAIRN HILLS.</b>				
1. Blackeraig Hill . . . . .	2,298	Ayr . . . . .	83 29	44
2. Blacklorg . . . . .	2,231	Ayr and Dumfries . . . . .	83 44	62
3. Meikledodd Hill . . . . . (2,100 c.)	2,100 ap.	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	83 ...	97
4. Alhang . . . . . (2,100 c.)	2,100 ap.	Ayr and Kirkcudbright . . . . .	83 69	98
5. Alwhat . . . . .	2,063	do. . . . .	83 ...	110
6. Windy Standard . . . . . (2,287)	2,288	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	83 30	45
7. Dugland . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,000 <sup>1</sup>	do. . . . .	83 ...	133
8. Moorbrock Hill . . . . .	2,136 °	do. . . . .	83 63	88
9. Cairnsmore of Carsphairn . . . . .	2,612 °	do. . . . .	83 9	12
10. Beninner . . . . .	2,328 °	do. . . . .	83 ...	43

<sup>1</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives very small 2,000-ft. contour.

<b>SECTION 10.—GALLOWAY HILLS.</b>				
1. Coran of Portmark . . . . .	2,042 °	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	83 77	117
2. Bow . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,002 ap.	do. . . . .	83 ...	130
3. Meaul . . . . .	2,280 °	do. . . . .	83 35	50
4. Cairnsgarroch . . . . .	2,155 °	do. . . . .	83 59	83
5. Corserine . . . . .	2,668	do. . . . .	83, 87 6	6
6. Carlin's Cairn . . . . . (2,650 c.)	2,650 °	do. . . . .	83 ...	9
7. Milldown . . . . . (2,400 c.)	2,410 ap.	do. . . . .	87 18	25

# The 2,000-Feet Tops Arranged According to Districts. 429

TOP No.	POSITION.	SUMMIT.	FENCES.
<b>SECTION 8.—LOWTHER HILLS.</b>			
122	1½ m. S.W. fr. Elvan-foot Sta.	6×3 N.W. of fence-dike jct.	Three fences meet on Lousie Wood Law; fences and dikes down N.E. and W. ridges; fence S.W. to Dun Law and Peden Head* (¾ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Green Lowther) thence S.E. to Riccart Law Rig.
67	2 m. E. b. S. fr. Lead-hills Sta.	Top at fence	
26	1½ m. E. b. S. fr. Wanlockhead Sta.	6×3 . . . . .	No fence.
31	1½ m. S.E. fr. Wanlockhead Sta.	6×4 . . . . .	do.
111	¾ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Lowther Hill	No cairn . . . . .	do.
108	1½ m. S. b. E. fr. Wanlockhead Sta.	Grassy flat 25 ft. diam. .	do.
90	1½ m. N.N.E. fr. Ballencleuch Law	Top on S.E. side fence ½ m. S. fr. 2,107 point	Two dikes and fence meet N. of top; dikes N.W. and N.E. down ridges; fence (broken) S.W. to Ballencleuch Law.
53	2½ m. E.N.E. fr. Durisdeer	Top at fence . . . . .	Fence (broken) N.E. to Comb Law; and S.W. to C.B. dike on Scaw'd Law.
58	¾ m. N.E. fr. Ballencleuch Law	No cairn . . . . .	No fence.
78	1½ m. S.W. fr. Ballencleuch Law	Top at dike ¼ m. N. fr. 2,166 point	Dike on C.B.
129	¾ m. S. fr. Scaw'd Law	Top E. of fence . . . . .	Fence on P.B. to C.B. dike on Scaw'd Law at 2,166 point.
71	1½ m. S. b. E. fr. Ballencleuch Law	Top at fence (remains) ½ m. N. fr. 2,185 point	Fence (remains) on C.B. N.W. to Scaw'd Law (becomes dike in col); and S. to Berry Grain only.
75	2½ m. W.N.W. fr. Queensberry	6×4 some yds. N.E. . . .	No fence.
132	1½ m. S.W. fr. Queensberry	Top at dike . . . . .	Two fences and dike meet N.E. of top; dike S.W. on C.B. to col only; fences N. on C.B.; and N.E. on P.B. to shoulder of Queensberry.
47	5½ m. W.S.W. fr. Beattock Sta.	20×8 . . . . .	Fence on P.B. ¼ m. N.E. fr. top.

\* Six-inch O.S. gives nearly B.M. 2206-2.

<b>SECTION 9.—CARSPHAIRN HILLS.</b>			
44	5½ m. S.S.E. fr. New Cunnock Sta.	12×6 with two posts . . .	Fence (obliterated) N. to S.
62	1½ m. S. b. E. fr. Blackeraig Hill	Top at dike-fence jct. . . .	Dike to Cannock Hill; fence on C.B. to Meikledodd Hill.
97	1 m. S.S.E. fr. Blacklorg	Top N.E. of fence . . . . .	Fence N.W. to C.B. fence; and S. down ridge.
98	3½ m. S. b. W. fr. Black-craig Hill	3×1, 1/16 m. S.E. of fence .	Fence N.W. of C.B. to Alwhat; and on C.B. down N.W. ridge to col.
110	¾ m. N.N.E. fr. Alhang	Top at fence jct. . . . .	Three fences meet; (remains) on C.B. to Meikledodd Hill; S.E. on P.B. to Ewe Hill; and N.W. of C.B. to Alhang.
45	2½ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Cairnsmore	3×2 . . . . .	No fence.
133	1½ m. W.S.W. fr. Windy Standard	3×1 . . . . .	do.
88	1½ m. E. b. N. fr. Cairnsmore	No cairn . . . . .	do.
12	3½ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Carsphairn	20×8 at dike end . . . . .	Dike S.W. to Gold Wells.
43	¾ m. S.E. b. E. fr. Cairnsmore.	4×3 . . . . .	No fence.

<b>SECTION 10.—GALLOWAY HILLS.</b>			
117	3½ m. E. fr. Carsphairn	9×2 . . . . .	No fence.
130	½ m. S. b. W. fr. Coran of Portmark	2×2 <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	do.
50	4 m. W.S.W. fr. Carsphairn	4×3 S.E. of dike-fence jct.	Fence (remains) N. to dike down Garryhorn Burn; and dike E. to Cairnsgarroch.
83	3 m. W.S.W. fr. Carsphairn	Top on S. side dike . . . .	Dike W. to Meaul; and N.E. down ridge.
6	5½ m. S.W. fr. Carsphairn	3×2 . . . . .	No fence.
9	¾ m. N. fr. Corserine	40×6 with cairn 6×6 on top	do.
25	2½ m. S.S.E. fr. Corserine	Top at dike . . . . .	Dike N.W. to cross dike in Milldown-Millfere col; and S.E. to Meikle Millyea.

<sup>1</sup> The top is the northmost of the three 2,000-ft. contours shown on the 1-inch O.S.

NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.	HILL No.	TOP No.
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**SECTION 10.—GALLOWAY HILLS—Continued.**

8. Millfire . . . . .	2,350	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	87	...	37
9. Meikle Millyea . . . . . (2,450 c.)	2,455	do. . . . .	87	13	18
10. Mullwharcher . . . . .	2,270 °	Ayr . . . . .	87	37	52
11. Dungeon Hill . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,020 ap.	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	87	83	124
12. Craignaw . . . . .	2,115 °	do. . . . .	87	67	92
13. Shalloch on Minnoch . . . . . (2,520)	2,528	Ayr . . . . .	83	12	16
14. do. (N. Top) . . . . .	2,162	do. . . . .	83	...	82
15. Tarfessock . . . . .	2,282 °	do. . . . .	83	34	49
16. do. (S. Top) . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,050 ap.	do. . . . .	83	...	115
17. Kirrieroch Hill . . . . . (2,565)	2,575 ap.	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	87	10	13
18. Merrick . . . . .	2,764 °	do. . . . .	87	1	1
19. Benyellary . . . . .	2,360 °	do. . . . .	87	...	36
20. Lamachan Hill . . . . . (2,350 c.)	2,350 <sup>2</sup>	do. . . . .	87	25	38
21. Larg Hill . . . . .	2,216 °	do. . . . .	87	49	68
22. Curleywee . . . . .	2,212 °	do. . . . .	87	50	70
23. Millfore . . . . . (2,150 c.)	2,151 <sup>4</sup>	do. . . . .	87	60	85
24. Cairnsmore of Fleet . . . . . (2,329)	2,331	do. . . . .	87	28	42
25. Meikle Multaggart . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,000 ap.	do. . . . .	87	...	131
26. Knee of Cairnsmore . . . . . (2,152)	2,154 <sup>6</sup>	do. . . . .	87	...	84

<sup>1</sup> The westmost of two small cairns beside the C.B. dike may be the 2,565 point.<sup>2</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives very small 2,350-ft. contour.<sup>3</sup> Cairn 2×2 on S.E. side dike-fence jct. Six-inch O.S. shows top  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. fr. dike-fence jct., but there is no cairn and the summit plateau is practically level.**SECTION 11.—ROXBURGH HILLS.**

Cauldcleuch Head . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,028	Roxburgh . . . . .	85	82	123
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**SECTION 12.—CHEVIOT HILLS.****SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND.**

1. Windy Gyle . . . . .	2,034	Roxburgh and Northum-berland	81	80	121
2. Auchope Cairn . . . . .	2,382 <sup>1</sup>	do.	81	...	30

**ENGLAND.**

3. The Cheviot . . . . .	2,676	Northumberland . . . . .	81	...	...
4. Hedgehope Hill . . . . .	2,348	do. . . . .	81	...	...
5. Comb Fell . . . . . (2,132)	2,160 ap.	do. . . . .	81	...	...
6. Bloodybush Edge . . . . .	2,001	do. . . . .	86	...	...
7. Cushat Law . . . . .	2,020	do. . . . .	86	...	...

<sup>1</sup> The highest point on the Union Boundary is (2,419) 2,422.

TOP No.	POSITION.	SUMMIT.	FENCES.
<b>SECTION 10.—GALLOWAY HILLS—Continued.</b>			
37	$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. b. W. fr. Mill-down	3 × 3 . . . .	No fence.
18	3 m. S.S.E. fr. Cor-serine	4 × 4 W. of dike $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.W. fr. 2,446 point	Dike to Milldown; and S. down ridge.
52	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.N.E. fr. Mer- rick	2 × 1 with vertical stone .	No fence.
124	2 m. E. b. S. fr. Mer- rick	Stone man 2 × 3 . . .	do.
92	$2\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.E. b. E. fr. Merrick	4 × 4 . . . .	do.
16	$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.W. fr. Kirriereoch Hill	Top $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. b. E. fr. cairn 15 × 5 at 2,520 point	do.
82	1 m. N.N.W. fr. Shal-loch on Minnoch	Hole 4 ft. diam. with stones	do.
49	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.W. fr. Kirriereoch Hill	3 × 3 . . . .	do.
115	$\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Tarfessock	2 × 1 . . . .	do.
13	1 m. N.N.W. fr. Mer- rick	Top $\frac{1}{8}$ m. S. of dike and $\frac{1}{16}$ m. S.E. fr. 2,565 point <sup>4</sup>	Dike on C.B.
1	$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. fr. E. end Loch Trool	15 × 7 . . . .	No fence.
36	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. b. S. fr. Merrick	6 × 3 E. of dike . . .	Dike to W. shoulder of Merrick; and S.W. down ridge.
38	2 m. S.S.E. fr. E. end Loch Trool	Top at dike-fence jct. or $\frac{1}{8}$ m. N. <sup>5</sup>	Fence and two dikes meet; fence N.E. to cross dike in Nick of Curleywee; dikes down W. face; and to Larg Hill (jct. W. in col).
68	1 m. S.W. b. S. fr. Lamachan Hill	2 × $\frac{1}{2}$ N.W. of dike jct. .	Three dikes meet; N.E. to Lamachan Hill; S. and S.W. down ridges.
70	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. fr. Lamachan Hill	6 × 3 . . . .	No fence.
85	$2\frac{3}{4}$ m. E.S.E. fr. Lamachan Hill	6 × 2 <sup>6</sup> . . . .	do.
42	6 m. E. b. N. fr. New-ton Stewart Sta.	9 × 7 Stone hut and flat cairn E. fr. top	do.
131	$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Cairnsmore	No cairn . . . .	do.
84	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. fr. Cairnsmore	9 × 7 . . . .	do.

<sup>4</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives nearby Cr. 2151·0.

<sup>5</sup> Similar cairn farther to N.E.

<sup>6</sup> Six-inch O.S. gives nearby Cr. 2154·7.

#### SECTION 11.—ROXBURGH HILLS.

123	$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. b. N. fr. Moss-paul Inn	Top at right-angle bend in fence above S. ridge $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.S.W. fr. 1,996 point	Fence down E. ridge on P.B.; and down S. ridge.
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#### SECTION 12.—CHEVIOT HILLS.

##### SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND.

121	$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. fr. The Cheviot	50 × 7 with cairns 12 × 7 and 6 × 4 on top	No fence.
30	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.S.W. fr. The Cheviot	4 × 3 . . . .	do.

##### ENGLAND.

...	7 m. S.W. fr. Wooler	Top marked by wood posts and broken bottles	No fence.
...	$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. b. S. fr. The Cheviot	40 × 5 with cairn 12 × 5 on top at fence jct.	Three fences meet; to Comb Fell; to E.; and to S.E.
...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. fr. The Cheviot	Top at fence $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. b. N. fr. 2,132 point	Fence to W.; and to Hedgehope Hill.
...	$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. fr. The Cheviot	Top at end of fence . . .	Fence to W.
...	$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. b. E. fr. The Cheviot	30 × 6 some yds. N. . . .	No fence.

NAME.	HEIGHT.	COUNTY and 1-in. Pop. O.S. Sheet No.
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**SECTION 13.—APPENDIX.***The following points are not "tops," but each is enclosed by an isolated 2,000-ft. contour.*

1. Greenforet Hill *	2,020	Perth . . . . .	67	Section 1
2. Jeffries Corse (N. Top) . . . . .	2,004	Midlothian and Peebles . . . . .	74	„ 2
3. Birks Hill . . . . . (2,030)	2,045 ap.	Peebles . . . . .	80	„ 5
4. White Cleuch Hill . . . . .	2,004	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80	„ 5
5. Consleuch Head . . . . .	2,039	Selkirk . . . . .	80	„ 5
6. Greenside Law (S. Top) . . . . .	2,004	do. . . . .	80	„ 5
7. Shielhope Head or Water Head . . . . .	2,011	Peebles and Selkirk . . . . .	80	„ 5
8. Ellers Cleuch Rig . . . . .	2,005	Peebles . . . . .	80	„ 6
9. Whitehope Knowe * <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	2,012	Peebles and Dumfries . . . . .	84	„ 6
10. Comb Head (E. Top) . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,039 <sup>2</sup>	Dumfries and Lanark . . . . .	84	„ 8
11. Trostan Hill . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,035 ap.	Kirkcudbright . . . . .	83	„ 9
12. Keoch Rig . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,020 ap.	do. . . . .	83	„ 9
13. Bow (M. Top) . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,000 ap.	do. . . . .	83	„ 10
14. Bow (S. Top) . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,001 ap.	do. . . . .	83	„ 10
15. Millfore (S. Top) . . . . . (2,000 c.)	2,025 ap.	do. . . . .	87	„ 10

<sup>1</sup> One-inch O.S. gives name Barry Grain Rig only.



POSITION.

SUMMIT.

FENCES.

SECTION 13.—APPENDIX.

The following points are not "tops," but each is enclosed by an isolated 2,000-ft. contour.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. fr. Blairdenon Hill	Top S.W. of fence . . .	Fence on P.B. to N.W.; and to Blairdenon Hill.
$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. b. E. fr. Jeffries Corse	Top at fence . . .	Fence down N. ridge; and to Jeffries Corse.
$\frac{3}{8}$ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Birkscarn Hill	Top $\frac{1}{8}$ m. S.W. fr. cairn $9 \times 3$ at 2,030 point	No fence.
$\frac{5}{8}$ m. N.E. fr. Blackhouse Heights	Top at fence (remains) . . .	Fence (remains) on C.B. to Dun Rig; and to Blackhouse Heights.
$\frac{5}{8}$ m. S. b. E. fr. Black Law	Top at fence . . .	Fence to Black Law; and to Deer Law.
$\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. b. W. fr. Greenside Law	No cairn . . .	No fence.
$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. b. S. fr. Dollar Law	Top at fence . . .	Fence on C.B. to Greenside Law; and to Cramalt Craig.
$\frac{3}{8}$ m. S.S.E. fr. Garelet Dod	Top W. of dike . . .	Dike N. to Garelet Dod; and S. to Din Law.
$\frac{3}{8}$ m. N.E. b. N. fr. Whitehope Heights*	No cairn . . .	No fence.
$\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. b. E. fr. Comb Head	do. . . . .	do.
$\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. b. N. fr. Windy Standard	do. . . . .	do.
$\frac{7}{8}$ m. S. b. W. fr. Windy Standard	Top $\frac{1}{8}$ m. S.E. of fence . . .	Fence S.W. to Bow Burn; and N.E. to Old Mines.
$\frac{5}{8}$ m. S. b. W. fr. Coran of Portmark	No cairn . . . . .	No fence.
$\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. b. W. fr. Coran of Portmark	$5 \times 3$ some yds. W. . . .	do.
$\frac{3}{8}$ m. S.W. b. W. fr. Millfore	$5 \times 4$ . . . . .	do.

\* Six-inch O.S. gives nearby B.M. 2039-1.

TABLE II.

THE 2,000-FEET TOPS ARRANGED IN  
ORDER OF ALTITUDE.

Hill No.	Top No.	Height.	Name.	Ref. to Table I.
1	1	2,764	Merrick . . . . .	10-18
2	2	2,754	Broad Law . . . . .	5-19
3	3	2,723	Cramalt Craig . . . . .	5-16
4	4	2,695	White Coomb . . . . .	6-9
5	5	2,680	Dollar Law . . . . .	5-14
6	6	2,668	Corserine . . . . .	10-5
7	7	2,651	Hart Fell . . . . .	6-18
...	8	2,650	Fifescar Knowe . . . . .	5-15
...	9	2,650	Carlin's Cairn . . . . .	10-6
...	10	2,627	Firthhope Rig . . . . .	6-11
8	11	2,625	Lochcraig Head . . . . .	6-7
9	12	2,612	Cairnsmore of Carsphairn . . . . .	9-9
10	13	2,575 ap.	Kirriereoch Hill . . . . .	10-17
11	14	2,571	Molls Cleuch Dod . . . . .	6-5
...	15	2,540	Great Hill . . . . .	6-10
12	16	2,528	Shalloch on Minnoch . . . . .	10-13
...	17	2,492	Nickies Knowe . . . . .	6-8
13	18	2,455	Meikle Millyea . . . . .	10-9
14	19	2,454	Culter Fell . . . . .	4-3
...	20	2,452	Carrifran Gans . . . . .	6-12
15	21	2,445 ap.	Under Saddle Yoke * . . . . .	6-15
16	22	2,433	Dun Rig or Blackcleuch Head * . . . . .	5-2
17	23	2,414	Pykestone Hill . . . . .	5-9
...	24	2,412	Saddle Yoke . . . . .	6-16
18	25	2,410 ap.	Milldown . . . . .	10-7
19	26	2,403	Green Lowther . . . . .	8-3
20	27	2,390	Swatte Fell . . . . .	6-19
...	28	2,383	Carlavin Hill . . . . .	6-6
21	29	2,382	Glenrath Heights (Middle Hill *) . . . . .	5-3
...	30	2,382	Auchope Cairn . . . . .	12-2
22	31	2,377	Lowther Hill . . . . .	8-4
...	32	2,373	Falcon Craig * ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	6-20
...	33	2,373	Nether Coomb Craig ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	6-21
23	34	2,364	Cape Law . . . . .	6-13
24	35	2,363	Bencleuch . . . . .	1-2
...	36	2,360	Benyellary . . . . .	10-19
...	37	2,350	Millfire . . . . .	10-8
25	38	2,350	Lamachan Hill . . . . .	10-20
...	39	2,347	The Scrape . . . . .	5-10
26	40	2,340 ap.	Middle Hill * . . . . .	5-11
27	41	2,335	Tinto . . . . .	3
28	42	2,331	Cairnsmore of Fleet . . . . .	10-24
...	43	2,328	Beninner . . . . .	9-10
29	44	2,298	Blackcraig Hill . . . . .	9-1
30	45	2,288	Windy Standard . . . . .	9-6

TABLE II.—Continued.

Hill No.	Top No.	Height.	Name.	Ref. to Table I.
31	46	2,285	Black Law . . . . .	5-5
32	47	2,285	Queensberry . . . . .	8-15
33	48	2,282	Chapelgill Hill . . . . .	4-1
34	49	2,282	Tarfessock . . . . .	10-15
35	50	2,280	Meaul . . . . .	10-3
36	51	2,270	Ettrick Pen . . . . .	7-10
37	52	2,270	Mullwharcher . . . . .	10-10
38	53	2,267	Ballencleuch Law . . . . .	8-8
39	54	2,264	Talla Cleuch Head * . . . . .	5-20
40	55	2,263	Garelet Dod . . . . .	6-4
41	56	2,262	Gathersnow Hill . . . . .	4-5
42	57	2,259	Erie Hill . . . . .	6-1
...	58	2,257	Rodger Law . . . . .	8-9
43	59	2,256	Loch Fell (East Knowe *) . . . . .	7-13
...	60	2,237	Laird's Cleuch Rig * ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	6-3
...	61	2,231	Garelet Hill . . . . .	6-2
44	62	2,231	Blacklorg . . . . .	9-2
45	63	2,223	Capel Fell . . . . .	7-7
46	64	2,220	Andrewhinney Hill . . . . .	7-2
...	65	2,218	Cardon Hill . . . . .	4-2
47	66	2,218	Stob Law . . . . .	5-4
48	67	2,216	Dun Law . . . . .	8-2
49	68	2,216	Larg Hill . . . . .	10-21
...	69	2,214	Blackhouse Heights (Black Cleuch Hill *) . . . . .	5-6
50	70	2,212	Curleywee . . . . .	10-22
51	71	2,206	Wedder Law . . . . .	8-12
...	72	2,196	Andrew Gannel Hill * . . . . .	1-5
...	73	2,196	Loch Fell (West Knowe *) . . . . .	7-14
52	74	2,191	Drumelzier Law . . . . .	5-13
53	75	2,190	Gana Hill . . . . .	8-13
...	76	2,182	Din Law . . . . .	6-14
54	77	2,180	Wind Fell . . . . .	7-11
55	78	2,180	Scaw'd Law . . . . .	8-10
56	79	2,173	Bodesbeck Law . . . . .	7-6
57	80	2,169	Birkscairn Hill . . . . .	5-1
58	81	2,162	Windlestraw Law . . . . .	2-5
...	82	2,162	Shalloch on Minnoch (N. top) . . . . .	10-14
59	83	2,155	Cairnsgarroch . . . . .	10-4
...	84	2,154	Knee of Cairnsmore . . . . .	10-26
60	85	2,151	Millfore . . . . .	10-23
61	86	2,141	Hillshaw Head . . . . .	4-7
62	87	2,137	Blackhope Scar . . . . .	2-3
63	88	2,136	Moorbrock Hill . . . . .	9-8
64	89	2,125 ap.	King's Seat Hill . . . . .	1-6
65	90	2,120 ap.	Comb Law . . . . .	8-7
66	91	2,117	Tarmangie Hill . . . . .	1-7
67	92	2,115	Craignaw . . . . .	10-12
...	93	2,111	Smidhope Hill * . . . . .	7-8
...	94	2,110	Whitewisp Hill . . . . .	1-8
68	95	2,110	Greenside Law . . . . .	5-8
...	96	2,105 ap.	Clockmore . . . . .	5-18
...	97	2,100 ap.	Meikledodd Hill . . . . .	9-3

TABLE II.—*Continued.*

Hill No.	Top No.	Height.	Name.	Ref. to Table I.
69	98	2,100 ap.	Alhang . . . . .	9-4
...	99	2,096	Coomb Hill . . . . .	4-6
...	100	2,094	The Law . . . . .	1-4
...	101	2,094	Hunt Law . . . . .	5-17
70	102	2,090 ap.	Whitehope Heights *	6-17
...	103	2,088	Taberon Law . . . . .	5-12
71	104	2,085	Croft Head . . . . .	7-15
...	105	2,082	Coomb Dod . . . . .	4-8
...	106	2,075	Hopetoun Craig . . . . .	7-12
72	107	2,073	Blairdenon Hill . . . . .	1-1
73	108	2,068	East Mount Lowther . . . . .	8-6
...	109	2,067	Deer Law . . . . .	5-7
...	110	2,063	Alwhat . . . . .	9-5
...	111	2,060 ap.	Comb Head . . . . .	8-5
...	112	2,058	Trowgrain Middle . . . . .	7-3
74	113	2,055	Heatherstane Law . . . . .	4-4
75	114	2,050	Bowbeat Hill . . . . .	2-2
...	115	2,050 ap.	Tarfessock (S. top) . . . . .	10-16
76	116	2,046	Bell Craig . . . . .	7-4
77	117	2,042	Coran of Portmark . . . . .	10-1
78	118	2,040	Jeffries Corse . . . . .	2-1
79	119	2,038	Whitehope Law . . . . .	2-4
...	120	2,035	White Shank . . . . .	7-9
80	121	2,034	Windy Gyle . . . . .	12-1
81	122	2,028	Lousie Wood Law . . . . .	8-1
82	123	2,028	Cauldcleuch Head . . . . .	11
83	124	2,020 ap.	Dungeon Hill . . . . .	10-11
...	125	2,018	Mid Rig* . . . . .	7-5
84	126	2,014	Herman Law . . . . .	7-1
...	127	2,010 ap.	Ben Ever . . . . .	1-3
85	128	2,004	Innerdownie . . . . .	1-9
...	129	2,003	Glenleith Fell . . . . .	8-11
...	130	2,002 ap.	Bow . . . . .	10-2
...	131	2,000 ap.	Meikle Mulltaggart . . . . .	10-25
86	132	2,000	Earncraig Hill . . . . .	8-14
...	133	2,000	Dugland . . . . .	9-7

TABLE III.

ALPHABETICAL INDEX TO TABLE I.

Alhang . . . . .	9-4	Coran of Portmark . . . . .	10-1
Alwhat . . . . .	9-5	Corserine . . . . .	10-5
Andrew Gannel Hill . . . . .	1-5	Craignaw . . . . .	10-12
Andrewhinney Hill . . . . .	7-2	Cramalt Craig . . . . .	5-16
Auchope Cairn . . . . .	12-2	Croft Head . . . . .	7-15
Ballencleuch Law . . . . .	8-8	Culter Fell . . . . .	4-3
Barry Grain Rig ( <i>see</i> White- hope Knowe) . . . . .	13-9	Curleywee . . . . .	10-22
Bell Craig . . . . .	7-4	Cushat Law . . . . .	12-7
Bencleuch . . . . .	1-2	Deer Law . . . . .	5-7
Ben Ever . . . . .	1-3	Din Law . . . . .	6-14
Beninner . . . . .	9-10	Dollar Law . . . . .	5-14
Benyellary . . . . .	10-19	Drumelzier Law . . . . .	5-13
Birkscairn Hill . . . . .	5-1	Dugland . . . . .	9-7
Birks Hill . . . . .	13-3	Dungeon Hill . . . . .	10-11
Blackcleuch Head ( <i>see</i> Dun Rig) . . . . .	5-2	Dun Law . . . . .	8-2
Black Cleuch Hill ( <i>see</i> Blackhouse Heights) . . . . .	5-6	Dun Rig . . . . .	5-2
Blackcraig Hill . . . . .	9-1	Earncraig Hill . . . . .	8-14
Blackhope Scar . . . . .	2-3	East Knowe ( <i>see</i> Loch Fell)	7-13
Blackhouse Heights . . . . .	5-6	East Mount Lowther . . . . .	8-6
Black Law . . . . .	5-5	Ellers Cleuch Rig . . . . .	13-8
Blacklorg . . . . .	9-2	Erie Hill . . . . .	6-1
Blairdenon Hill . . . . .	1-1	Ettrick Pen . . . . .	7-10
Bloodybush Edge . . . . .	12-6	Falcon Craig ( <i>Top above</i> ) . . . . .	6-20
Bodesbeck Law . . . . .	7-6	Fifescar Knowe . . . . .	5-15
Bow . . . . .	10-2	Firthhope Rig . . . . .	6-11
do. (M. Top) . . . . .	13-13	Gana Hill . . . . .	8-13
do. (S. Top) . . . . .	13-14	Garelet Dod . . . . .	6-4
Bowbeat Hill . . . . .	2-2	Garelet Hill . . . . .	6-2
Broad Law . . . . .	5-19	Gathersnow Hill . . . . .	4-5
Cairnsgarroch . . . . .	10-4	Glenleith Fell . . . . .	8-11
Cairnsmore of Carsphairn . . . . .	9-9	Glenrath Heights (Middle Hill) . . . . .	5-3
Cairnsmore of Fleet . . . . .	10-24	Glenwhappen Rig ( <i>see</i> Gathersnow Hill) . . . . .	4-5
Cape Law . . . . .	6-13	Great Hill . . . . .	6-10
Capel Fell . . . . .	7-7	Greenforet Hill . . . . .	13-1
Cardon Hill . . . . .	4-2	Green Lowther . . . . .	8-3
Carlavin Hill . . . . .	6-6	Greenside Law . . . . .	5-8
Carlin's Cairn . . . . .	10-6	do. (S. Top) . . . . .	13-6
Carrifran Gans . . . . .	6-12	Grey Weather Law ( <i>see</i> Middle Hill, footnote) . . . . .	5-11
Cauldcleuch Head . . . . .	11	Hart Fell . . . . .	6-18
Chapelgill Hill . . . . .	4-1	Heatherstane Law . . . . .	4-4
Cheviot, The . . . . .	12-3	Hedgehope Hill . . . . .	12-4
Clockmore . . . . .	5-18	Herman Law . . . . .	7-1
Comb Fell . . . . .	12-5	Hillshaw Head . . . . .	4-7
Comb Head . . . . .	8-5	Hopetoun Craig . . . . .	7-12
do. (E. Top) . . . . .	13-10	Hunt Law . . . . .	5-17
Comb Law . . . . .	8-7	Innerdownie . . . . .	1-9
Conscleuch Head . . . . .	13-5	Jeffries Corse . . . . .	2-1
Coomb Dod . . . . .	4-8	do. (N. Top) . . . . .	13-2
Coomb Hill . . . . .	4-6	Keoch Rig . . . . .	13-12

TABLE III.—*Continued.*

King's Seat Hill . . .	1-6	Queensberry . . .	8-15
Kirriereoch Hill . . .	10-17	Rodger Law . . .	8-9
Knee of Cairnsmore . . .	10-26	Saddle Yoke . . .	6-16
Laird's Cleuch Rig ( <i>Top</i> <i>above</i> ) . . .	6-3	Scaw'd Law . . .	8-10
Lamachan Hill . . .	10-20	Scrape, The . . .	5-10
Larg Hill . . .	10-21	Shalloch on Minnoch . . .	10-13
Law, The . . .	1-4	do. do. (N. Top) . . .	10-14
Lochcraig Head . . .	6-7	Shielhope Head . . .	13-7
Loch Fell (East Knowe) . . .	7-13	Smidhope Hill . . .	7-8
do. (West Knowe) . . .	7-14	Stob Law . . .	5-4
Lousie Wood Law . . .	8-1	Swatte Fell . . .	6-19
Lowther Hill . . .	8-4	Taberon Law . . .	5-12
Meaul . . .	10-3	Talla Cleuch Head . . .	5-20
Meikledodd Hill . . .	9-3	Tarfessock . . .	10-15
Meikle Millyea . . .	10-9	do. (S. Top) . . .	10-16
Meikle Mulltaggart . . .	10-25	Tarmangie Hill . . .	1-7
Merrick . . .	10-18	Tinto . . .	3
Middle Hill . . .	5-11	Trostan Hill . . .	13-11
Middle Hill ( <i>see</i> Glenrath Heights) . . .	5-3	Trowgrain Middle . . .	7-3
Mid Rig . . .	7-5	Under Saddle Yoke . . .	6-15
Milldown . . .	10-7	Water Head ( <i>see</i> Shielhope Head) . . .	13-7
Millfire . . .	10-8	Wedder Law . . .	8-12
Millfore . . .	10-23	West Knowe ( <i>see</i> Loch Fell) . . .	7-14
do. (S. Top) . . .	13-15	White Cleuch Hill . . .	13-4
Molls Cleuch Dod . . .	6-5	White Coomb . . .	6-9
Moorbrock Hill . . .	9-8	Whitehope Heights . . .	6-17
Muckle Side ( <i>see</i> Talla Cleuch Head) . . .	5-20	Whitehope Knowe . . .	13-9
Mullwharcher . . .	10-10	Whitehope Law . . .	2-4
Nether Coomb Craig ( <i>Top</i> <i>above</i> ) . . .	6-21	White Shank . . .	7-9
Nickies Knowe . . .	6-8	Whitewisp Hill . . .	1-8
Pykestone Hill . . .	5-9	Wind Fell . . .	7-11
		Windlestraw Law . . .	2-5
		Windy Gyle . . .	12-1
		Windy Standard . . .	9-6

## BEN NEVIS GUIDE.

IN connection with the forthcoming guide-book to Ben Nevis, information on the following points is urgently required.

Have any ascents under summer conditions (*i.e.*, when free from snow) been made of the following climbs, and if so when and by whom ?

Gardylloo Gully.

No. 2 Gully.

Central Trident Buttress.

First *winter* ascent of Tower Gap (West) Chimney.

Any information will be gladly received by Dr Graham Macphee, 68 Knowsley Road, Cressington Park, Liverpool, 19.

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## EDITORIAL NOTE.

WITH the issue of the current number, Vol. XX. of the *Journal* is completed. Mr J. A. Parker has again undertaken to prepare the Index to No. 120, for which kindness the Club is once more greatly indebted to him. This Index, together with the list of Contents, will be issued with a later number.

With this number also my own duties as Editor come to an end, and I would like to return my warmest thanks to all those who have written for the *Journal*, which support alone has enabled it to carry on strongly on a purely Scottish list of Contents. May I ask those who have not contributed recently to write freely for Mr Bell, and the "Old Brigade" to continue to him the same help and consideration that have made my own time in office so enjoyable.

C. W. PARRY.



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB.

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### EASTER MEET, 1935—KINLOCHEWE AND LOCH MAREE, 18TH TO 23RD APRIL.

THE following members and guests were present at one time or another :—

*Members.*—The President, J. Logan Aikman, George Anderson, C. G. Andrews, Allan Arthur, George Arthur, F. D. Campbell Allen, J. Rooke Corbett, J. Gall Inglis, R. M. Gall Inglis, Hugh Gardner, G. T. Glover, Norman L. Hird, Gordon Jackson, Robert Jeffrey, D. J. Kellock, W. N. Ling, D. Mackay, M. Matheson, D. Myles, J. A. Parker, C. W. Parry, A. E. Robertson, Colin Russell, Rev. Alan G. Smith, G. R. Speirs, C. R. Steven, P. J. H. Unna, George Waddell—(29).

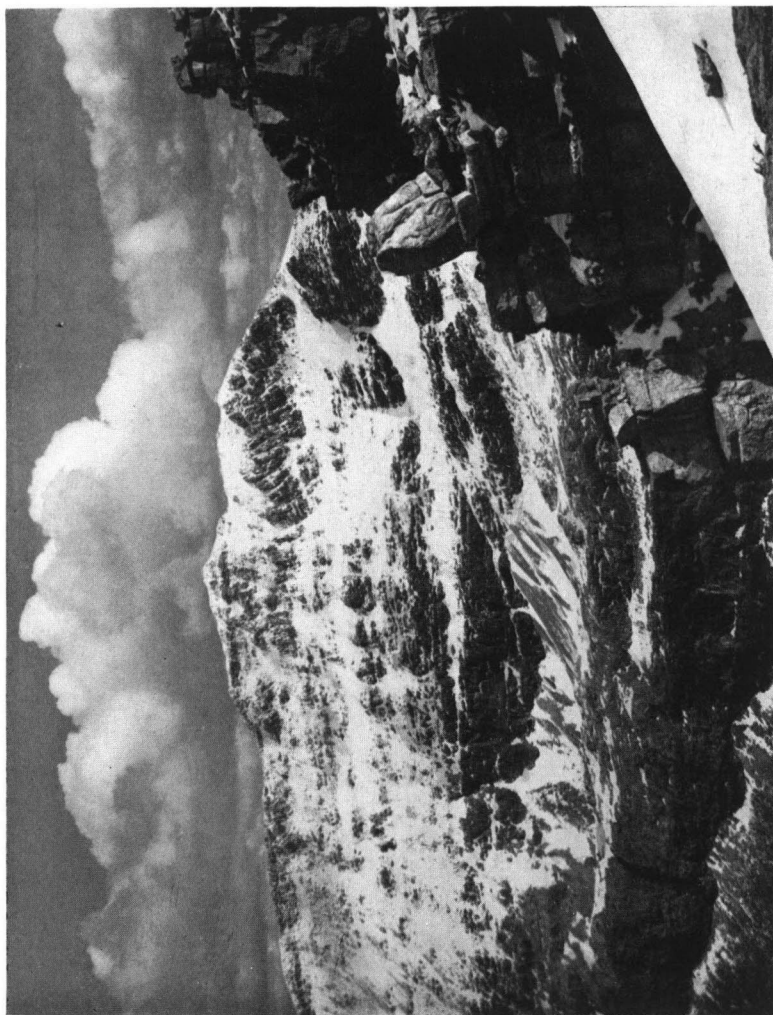
*Guests.*—J. B. Home, G. Pointon Taylor, C. M. Steven—(3). A total of 32.

Kinlochewe must surely be one of the finest places at which to hold a Meet in Scotland. The hills are magnificent in appearance, grand to climb, and the district as a whole is such as to make a holiday spent there, when one is unable to go on the tops, more interesting and enjoyable than any other centre at which Meets are held. The weather was very good during practically the whole time, and enabled those who confined their activities to the low levels to enjoy to the full what is probably the finest mountain scenery in Great Britain.

Colin Russell appears to have opened the ball with an ascent of Slioch on Wednesday.

*Thursday, 18th.*—Gardner, Russell, Campbell Allen, and Pointon Taylor ascended Liathach. Aikman and Gordon Jackson, starting late, ascended Slioch and Sgùrr an Tuill Bhàin.

Robertson spent the day wandering over Coulin forest at the same time as Ling, Glover, Unna, and



*April 1935*

SPIDEAN COIRE NAN CLACH—BEINN EIGHE

*Hugh Gardner*



*April 1935*

MULLACH AN RATHAIN (LIATHACH): Looking 220 Degrees from Top of Sàil Mhòr

*P. J. H. Una*

Anderson, on their way from Achnasheen, were saying hard things about the Chairman of the Right of Way Society and the inaccuracy of some of his signposts.

Corbett was up An Ruadh Stac, but had the misfortune to find the bridge broken down on the descent, and had therefore to ascend the Allt Coire Roill.

The weather was very good throughout the day and some fine distant views were obtained.

*Friday, 19th.*—Most of the Meet seem to have spent the day on Beinn Eighe. Ling, Gardner, Anderson, and Campbell Allen motored to Glen Torridon, Unna, Jeffrey, Aikman, and Hird motored to Bridge of Grudie, and Glover, Taylor, and Russell also went to Glen Torridon. The whole collection appear to have met in Coire Mhic Fhearchair and there split up into different parties. Ling, Glover, and Gardner went straight up Ruadh-stac Mòr then over a further two tops. Jeffrey, Hird, Aikman, and Unna ascended Sàil Mhòr and completed the whole ridge except Ruadh-stac Mòr. Campbell Allen, Pointon Taylor, and Russell, starting from the Torridon end, did all the tops. Allan Arthur motored to Bridge of Grudie, climbed Sàil Mhòr, and overtook Jeffrey and party, with whom he completed the traverse.

Robertson and Parry did their climbing by car, visiting Gairloch, Poolewe, and proceeding farther north to photograph the magnificent array of peaks to be seen from the Poolewe-Aultbea road.

Corbett bicycled to Lochan an Iasgaich and ascended in turn Sgùrr Dubh, Sgòrr nan Lochan Uaine, and Beinn Liath Mhòr. In spite of the fine weather, Corbett managed to get wet owing to an impromptu descent into a burn on the descent.

Gordon Jackson walked to Coire Mhic Fhearchair, and Kellock and Home ascended Fionn Bheinn *en route* to the Meet.

*Saturday, 20th.*—Allan Arthur and Jeffrey motored to Glen Torridon rather more slowly than they appear to have ascended Liathach, traversed all the pinnacles on the main ridge, and glissaded back to the car.

Matheson and Mackay did the two tops of Slioch from the hotel.

R. M. Gall Inglis and Kellock did the round of Alligin from Glen Torridon, and Robertson, Anderson, and Parry went up to Coire na Caim, where Robertson photographed, Anderson rested, and Parry had a bathe.

Cold as the water was, Robertson and Anderson considered that the bather was probably warmer than a party who could be seen for about forty minutes, quite motionless, on the pinnacle ridge of Liathach.

Unna, Hird, and Gordon Jackson were also up Beinn Alligin.

Corbett and Aikman ferried across the Loch and climbed A'Mhaighdean and Ruadh-stac Mòr, getting a lift part of the way back. The Stevens brothers tried the North Pinnacle Ridge of Liathach, but were defeated by the conditions. Waddell, Home, and George Arthur were also in this party.

Ling, Glover, Gardner, Allen, and Taylor ascended Beinn Tarsuinn, Mullach Coire Mhic Fhearchair, and Sgùrr Bàn. Glover apparently wished to return over Mullach, but was prevailed upon to return quietly back by Lochan Fada.

*Sunday, 21st.*—The weather this morning gave us of its worst, but made amends in the afternoon when the clouds lifted to unfold the most superlative panoramas in an atmosphere made beautifully fresh and clear by the morning rain.

Corbett ascended Ruadh-stac Beag, Sgùrr Bàn, and Sgùrr an Fhiranduibhe.

Ling, Glover, and Unna, pursued by Robertson, went up Gleann Bianasdail to Lochan Fada; Jeffrey, Hird, Anderson, Gardner, Allen, and Taylor proceeded up Slioch and back by the Corrie.

Matheson and Parry went to Diabeg and walked over to Loch Coulin on the return journey.

Myles and Andrews were up Beinn Liath Mhòr from Glen Torridon.

Mackay, Kellock, and Home did A'Mhaighdean from the "heights."

Aikman, Jackson, Waddell, and George Arthur ascended Fionn Bheinn and had a bathe in the loch on the way down.

Allan Arthur, armed with an aneroid of prodigious dimensions, was a seeker after truth on Tarsuinn.\* This excessively sensitive instrument seemed to resent the intrusion of large quantities of snow into the rucksack as much as its owner did, and its readings had to be corrected for temperature. Allowance will also have to be made, in all probability, for the height of the apparatus above ground-level when the readings were taken. Arthur first ascended Mullach Coire Mhic Fhearchair and Sgùrr Bàn, and, after taking the observations on Tarsuinn, returned over Mullach to recheck the heights.

The Stevens brothers and Speirs did the whole An Teallach ridge except Sàil Liath.

Considerable interest was occasioned by the arrival of a stretcher, which was convincingly tested, complete with accident and stretcher-bearers, by a solemn perambulation up the main road. For the rest of the Meet the question on everybody's lips as they returned home was "any signs of an accident?"

*Monday, 22nd.*—Allan Arthur, George Arthur, and Waddell climbed Ruadh-stac Mòr of Beinn Eighe by Glen Grudie, and the Gall Inglis, *père et fils*, and Home did Creagh Dubh of Beinn Eighe and found the height approximately 3,055 feet.

The Stevens completed the traverse of Beinn Alligin in misty weather.

Ling, Anderson, Gardner, and Allen went over Beinn Alligin from east to west. The tops were clouded, and from the last of the Rathians the party mistook Loch Toll nam Biast for Beinn Alligin and proceeded comfortably down the wrong ridge until called to order by their leader. Two golden eagles were met at close quarters at the summit.

Unna, Matheson, Mackay, Smith, and Kellock ascended Liathach from the east and proceeded along the

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\* See p. 460.

summit ridge to Mullach an Rathain, descending to Torridon by a snow and scree gully. The weather deteriorated after a fine morning, and the party were in mist over the entire ridge. The only aneroid came in for a good deal of undeserved abuse.

Myles and Andrews, *en route* home, stopped by Loch Laggan and ascended Beinn a' Chaoruinn.

Speirs did the complete traverse of Beinn Alligin from west to east, overtaking the Stevens *en route*. All had a bathe in the Amhainn Coire Mhic Nobuil.

*Tuesday, 23rd.*—Kellock motored to Poolewe and walked up Ben Airidh Charr. The chief purpose of the ascent was to photograph A'Maighdean from this angle, but mist from about 1,800 feet upwards made this impossible.

The Gall Inglis climbed Glen Docherty on top gear!

Unna, Smith, and Home motored to the heights and climbed Beinn Tarsuinn, Mullach Coire Mhic Fhearchair, and Sgùrr Bàn. There was heavy rain in the morning but fine views at *night*. Unna arranged frequent halts on the way back, by pretending to take photographs (possibly this explains "night").

Matheson and Mackay traversed Beinn Eighe ridge from west to east, ascending Sàil Mhòr by the snow gully on the north face. Wintry conditions prevailed until the afternoon, when some fine views were obtained to the north and east.

*Wednesday, 24th.*—Parker, who had arrived the previous night from the Cairngorm Club Meet at Tomich, ascended Slioch.

Smith climbed A'Maighdean from the heights and came back with heretical views on the relative altitudes of Beinn Tarsuinn and A'Maighdean.

Matheson and Mackay traversed Beinn Alligin.

*Thursday, 25th.*—Smith ascended Beinn Liath Mhòr.

Matheson and Mackay, accompanied by Phillips of the Rucksack Club and a friend, sent the following account of their climb: "Ascended the north face of Beinn Airidh Charr. The route was up the centre of the buttress which lies directly under the inscription 'Route





*Easter 1935*

LOCH MAREE FROM ABOVE LOCH TOLLIE

*C. W. Parry*



*Easter 1935*

NORTH FACE OF LIATHACH

*C. W. Parry*

June '09' in the diagram facing p. 33 of the 'Northern Highlands Guide,' and thence followed approximately that route on the upper buttress. The climb was done on two ropes, but the steep pitches under the summit were led by Phillips. The weather conditions were perfect. This fine face merits farther exploration."

For once an Easter Meet was favoured with excellent weather, and full use was made of the opportunity so provided. The Kinlochewe Hotel made us extremely comfortable, and the Meet was voted one of the most enjoyable of recent years. The Loch Maree Hotel contingent wish it put on record that they were very well looked after and that the management were most attentive.

C. W. P.

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### CLUB ROOM.

THE Club Room was moved at the end of May from Forres Street to Room 31, Synod Hall, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, 1. The room is on the second floor, above the Royal Scottish Geographical Society's premises. It is reached by the north-west (right-hand on entering) staircase.

The hall is closed on Sundays, but on week-days is open from 9.30 A.M. to 10 P.M. The key of the room may be obtained from the caretaker, whose office is in the entrance hall and who has a list of members. Any member who uses the Library frequently would save every one a lot of trouble if he were to obtain a duplicate key for himself, price sixpence, from the Hon. Librarian.

On a ledge just inside the door of the Club Room there is a book in which members are requested to enter their names and the dates of their visits.

There is a gas-fire in the Club Room, the charge for the use of which is sixpence per half-hour. There is a money box for fire-money on the mantelpiece.

Members are asked not to use the Club stationery for making notes or for lighting their pipes. There is a

supply of scrap paper in one of the drawers of the writing table.

There is a Suggestions Book on the writing table, and the Club-Room Committee will be glad if members will use it for making any suggestions or criticisms about the room or library which they may have.

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The bookcases are kept locked; the keys are in the left-hand drawer of the writing table. The cupboards under the bookcases are for the use of the Librarian and Custodian of Slides.

There is a card index of the books in the Library, arranged in alphabetical order of authors' names. The books are arranged, at present more or less, according to subject-matter. There is a special shelf for new books, etc., not yet indexed, which cannot be borrowed from the Library. The *S.M.C. Journal* and Guide Books, maps, and unbound journals must not be removed from the Library without previously giving notice to the Librarian. Subject to these exceptions, all books may be borrowed by members of the Scottish Mountaineering Club. There is a register in which the name of the book and date of borrowing should be inserted. Books may be kept for an indefinite period unless required by another member. When a book is returned, the date of returning should be entered in the register and the book left on the writing table. The Librarian is always glad to post books to members who cannot visit Edinburgh.

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The slide cabinets are kept locked and the key is in the left-hand drawer of the writing table. The slides may be examined, but may not be borrowed without previously getting the consent of the Custodian of Slides. During the lecture season there is a great run on the slide collection, and members are advised to send a note of their requirements some weeks, if possible, before their lecture.

## LIBRARY REPORT.

THE Library has not yet completely recovered from its flitting, but it is in working order.

The following new books have been added to the Library :—

Presented by J. A. Parker—

“ A Critical Examination of Dr MacCulloch’s Work on the Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland,” Anon. Edinburgh, 1825.

Presented by J. Rennie—

“ The Alpenstock ; or Sketches of Swiss Scenery and Manners,” by C. J. Latrobe. London, 1829. This book has many very interesting manuscript notes.

Presented by the Author—

“ The Open Road to Central Scotland,” by Richard Williamson. Jamieson & Munro. 6d.

Presented by their Publishers—

“ Young Men in the Arctic,” by A. R. Glen. Faber & Faber. 15s.

“ Through Bracken and Heather,” by Thomas Nesbit. Mackay, Stirling.

“ Where the Clouds Can Go : The Autobiography of Conrad Kain,” edited by J. Monroe Thorington. American Alpine Club. \$3.00.

“ Guide to Pillar Rock,” by H. M. Kelly. Fell and Rock Climbing Club. 2s. 6d.

*Mountaineering Journal*, edited by C. K. Brunning. Willmer Bros. & Co. 1s. 3d.

“ Nanga Parbat Adventure,” by Fritz Bechtold. Murray. 10s. 6d.

Presented by the Librarian—

“ The Art of Ski-ing,” by Josef Dahinder.

Purchased—

“ Climbers’ Guide to the Chain of Mont Blanc,” by Louis Kurz.

“ Ben Muich Dhui,” by A. I. M’Connochie.

“ Mountain Climbing,” by F. A. Collins.

“ They Climbed the Alps,” by Edwin Muller.

“ Kamet Conquered,” by F. S. Smythe.

Seven sheets of the 1-inch O.S. Map of Scotland have been presented to the Club by Mr William Tawse, of Aberdeen. This kind gift helps to make up for the large number of these maps which have "disappeared," taken, as one member has suggested, to facilitate a motor journey from Berwick to Thurso.

The Librarian still has a considerable number of books for sale. Particulars on demand.

The following Clubs are thanked for sending their publications to the Library:—

A.C., A.S.C., C.A.B., C.C. of Gt. B. & I., Canadian A.C., American A.C., S.A.C., C.A.I., S.C.G.B., F. & R.C.C., Appalachian M.C., M.C. of South Africa, J.A.C., D.Æ.A.V., Norsketuristforening, Svenska Touristforeningen, H.C., C.S.F.A., Sierra Club, Cairngorm Club, M.A.M., M.C. of East Africa (first journal, *The Ice Cap*), O.U.M.C., N.Z.A.C., Tararua Tramping Club.



## NOTES AND EXCURSIONS.

*The Editor will be glad to receive brief notices of any noteworthy expeditions. These are not meant to supersede longer articles, but many members who may not care to undertake the one will have no difficulty in imparting information in the other form.*

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### CENTRAL HIGHLANDS GUIDE (p. 123), FERSIT STATION.

As Fersit Station is now closed, climbers descending thereto from Stob Coire Sgriodain will have to make for Tulloch Station, 3 miles north, if they intend catching a train.

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### CORROUR TO GLEN NEVIS.

Loch Treig is now raised, so in order to reach the path on the north side of the Amhuinn Rath from where the Corrour-Loch Treig path disappears into the loch, make your way over boggy ground round the foot of the loch, and in a S.W. direction to Staoineag,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles on, where there are stepping-stones over the river. These are impassable when the river is in flood. Having crossed, a faint track can be traced all the way to Luibeilt, where the river must again be forded. From Luibeilt the next 2 miles or so are trackless and through hopeless bog, but keep half-way between the deer-fence and the river, and where the latter turns north to its source, keep on west, and strike the River Nevis below Tom an Eite. Keep close to the river, and the path will be picked up intermittently, at one point for a good half-mile stretch, until Steall is reached. Here the good path through the gorge to Glen Nevis is unmistakable.

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### BEINN EIBHINN, UINNEAG A' GLAS COIRE.

This top scarcely justifies its inclusion in "Munro's Tables." Were it not for a curious trench about 40 feet in depth (I presume this is the "window") which makes an abrupt break in the very gradual slope leading from Uinneag a' Glas Coire to that ascending to Beinn Eibhinn, the actual dip between the two hills would not exceed 50 feet. As it is, the col is only 90 feet below the height of

Uinneag. Uinneag a' Glas Coire is a grassy, flat-topped hill, with no particular characteristics, and as seen from Beinn Eibhinn appears as a spur leading south to the Uisge Labhair.

ROBT. M. GALL INGLIS.

## ISLE OF SKYE.

### SRON NA CICHE: CENTRAL GULLY.

*2nd June 1935.*

Instead of climbing the left wall to pass the "apparently unclimbable pitch," a variation was made on the right side.

This starts a few feet below the chimney and goes up obliquely to a recess with a poor belay. A short face climb leads on to a tapering ledge requiring careful movement. About 10 feet from its termination another short face climb gives out in a small recess. From this a difficult horizontal traverse is made to the left on sloping bosses adhering not too successfully to the main face, finishing with a swing round an undercut block and so up on to the Terrace a little to the right of the filthy chimney of the "unclimbable pitch."

Rubbers were used, and the standard will probably be reckoned as severe.

M. B. S.

A. C. B.

A. C. D. S.

### ROUTE TO BLAVEN FROM LOCH SLAPIN.

The route to Blaven from Loch Slapin, as indicated in the 1907 issue of the 6-in. map of the Coolins reproduced for the S.M.C., is not the quickest or easiest one to the hill.

After crossing the Allt na Dunaiche the red line shows the route as keeping close to the south bank of the burn flowing down from Coire Uagneich. This leads one on to rough ground at the foot of An Stac, and unless one keeps fairly high up the hill a deep gully bars further progress. The ground on the north bank of this burn is perfectly simple, and leads directly to the foot of the rocks on the east of Blaven.

ROBT. M. G. INGLIS.

### D GULLY—BUACHAILLE ETIVE MÒR.

The gully starts with a series of short awkward pitches. These are mostly about 15 feet high, and formed by large jammed blocks.



They are all interesting, and the lack of a big drop makes it possible to enjoy the difficulties without much risk of being damaged.

After six or seven such pitches, the final pitch is reached. An easy ascent of some 25 feet was made on the right wall to the top of the first jammed block. This block supported a number of smaller ones, and above these was a very large one which formed the top of the pitch. An awkward traverse was made below the upper block to where a swing out and a pull up on a projecting spike would have landed the climber in a short difficult chimney between the block and the left wall. If the rope had been passed behind one of the smaller blocks, a safe belay would have been obtained. There being no rope, however, No. 1 murmured something about discretion and valour, and came down again. He found No. 2, who had watched the manœuvres with some misgiving, much relieved that he would not be called upon to repeat them. The pitch was turned on the left wall by an unpleasantly exposed and vegetable route, which led to the top of the pitch. From here a scramble of some hundred feet led to the top of the gully and the cairn which marks the top of D Gully Buttress.

In conclusion: an excellent climb for a short day.

IAIN H. OGILVIE.

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#### SNOW ON BEN NEVIS.

G. Graham Macphee writes that on 28th September 1935 he visited the places on Ben Nevis where snow usually lies all the year round. He found no trace of snow anywhere. About midday a snowstorm commenced, and, by the time a climb was completed, snow was lying on the summit plateau to a depth of nearly 1 inch. This had melted on the 29th, although snow was lying on that morning down to below 4,000 feet. The entire mountain was thus free from "perpetual snow" for only the second time within living memory, or within the memory of a deceased local resident who was born in 1840. The one other occasion when complete absence of snow was recorded was in 1933. This supports the belief that the general tendency is towards a warmer climate on Ben Nevis, supported by the study of old photographs of winter conditions on the mountain as compared with the amount of snow found during the past few winters. When the party left the mountain, snow was again falling, and it is probable that only for a few days was Ben Nevis devoid of permanent snow.

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#### NEW CLIMBS ON BEN NEVIS.

##### THE GREAT CHIMNEY.

On 28th September 1935, a day of incessant rain, G. Graham Macphee and A. G. Murray ascended the Great Chimney on the

east side of the Tower Ridge. This chimney cleaves the wall of the Tower Ridge to the north of Echo Wall, and the start of the climb is a little above the level of the foot of Observatory Buttress when the latter is free from snow.

The first pitch of 20 feet leads to a recess with belay where the situation is impressive, with overhanging rocks projecting as much as 25 feet in one place. The next pitch of 60 feet has belays and a small chockstone at the top. Twenty feet more over steep and loose rock lead to the crux of the climb; a vertical block with cracks on either side. That on the left was chosen and was found difficult to start. The solution was a good incut hold for the right hand with another smaller one above it. By using these and jamming the right leg, a high foothold for the left foot was reached, and easier climbing followed to a resting-place about 25 feet up. Under the cold and wet conditions this pitch took an hour, but now that the route is known the whole chimney could be done comfortably in that time. The foot of this hard pitch was a little below the level of a large chockstone far out in the chimney, which varies from 3 to 7 feet in width and cuts fully 50 feet into the rock. Above this a through route just feasible for normal climbers was used. The stout would no doubt prefer the outside route. The chimney finishes at the narrow nick on the crest of the Tower Ridge about 50 feet or so below the foot of the Little Tower.

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#### NORTH GULLY OF CREAG COIRE NA CISTE.

On 29th September 1935 the same party made the first summer ascent of North Gully of Creag Coire na Ciste. At first this is a shallow slanting scoop of smooth water-worn rocks. Fifty feet from the start of the climbing a good recess with belay is found. Above this there is a steep section for 40 feet, above which easier ground is reached. Holds high up on the left wall and sloping holds on the bed of the gully are used. Above this the angle is easy but the rocks smooth. Traversing to the right under the buttress a chockstone is surmounted. A narrow gully leads to the summit plateau without any difficulty.

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#### THE BAYONET ROUTE.

On 30th September 1935 G. Graham Macphee and A. G. Murray ascended what is believed to be a new route up to the First Platform of the North-East Buttress. Starting from the grassy ledge at the foot of Ruddy Rocks Route (half-way between the lowest point of the rocks and the foot of Slingsby's Chimney) the climb goes up a rib of rock diagonally to the left until in 70 feet a grassy niche is reached, with a belay. A delicate traverse to the left leads to the

foot of a shallow groove, which is followed upwards to an awkward corner beneath a series of overhangs. These might prove surmountable under good conditions, but the climb traverses to the left on sloping holdless slabs till an awkward stride leads to a wide groove with an upward pointing rib. This is climbed until the ridge on the right can be gained above the overhangs. After continuing up for some distance, the wide grassy recess near the top of the Intermediate Route is seen on the left, and beyond it the crest of Raeburn's Arête. Continuing directly up to the right of the recess, the ridge steepens and a curious square-cornered rock formation is reached. The ascent of this is almost as hard as the delicate traverse though of a different type, as an awkward overhang is climbed direct to reach a sloping slab with poor holds. Bearing slightly up to the left and then up to the right, easier climbing is reached, and presently scrambling leads to the summit of the First Platform immediately to the left of the cairn at the top of Ruddy Rocks Route.

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PROBABLE NEW CLIMB ON NARNAIN (N.E. FACE),  
5TH MAY 1935.

*Party.*—J. Donaldson (J.M.C.S.), J. R. Hewit (J.M.C.S.).

The climb is situated some 6 feet or so to the left of the crack which comes down to the scree from the cave of the Jamb Block Chimney and consists of a crack about 50 feet in height.

About half-way up there is a kink in the crack, and as far as this the climbing is easy.

The climber, by using a small hold, is then able to move round and upwards, and the upper section of the crack is then entered. This part is very narrow and holdless, giving strenuous work until the top edge can be gripped. There is, however, little danger of falling out, the crack being so narrow that it is almost impossible to turn one's boots in it. The climb is best done in one pitch.

The lower half was well nail-marked, but the upper section unmarked and led us to suppose that it had never been climbed throughout.

We suggest that the climb should be called "The Restricted Crack."

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BEINN A' CHROIN.

*Party.*—J. Donaldson (J.M.C.S.), S. Brown (J.M.C.S.), J. R. Hewit (J.M.C.S.).

On 19th May the above party set off from Monachyle Hostel to bag Beinn a' Chroin.

On the way up the south-east slopes of the mountain, a fine

boulder about 15 feet in height was discovered, and gave a variety of routes from easy to severe.

A little more than half-way to the summit from this point a dark cleft was conspicuous, and on approach turned out to be a magnificent 40-foot chimney with sound holds. Though nail-marks were apparent at the foot and on the rocks at the top, the chimney itself appeared to be unmarked.

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#### TINTO HILL.

A View Indicator was erected on the summit of Tinto Hill, Lanarkshire, on 13th September 1935. It consists of a masonry pillar, 3 feet high, on which is set a circular disc of Doulton stoneware, 2 feet in diameter. The design on the disc is similar to that of the Ben Nevis Indicator, erected by the Club in 1927, but with the difference that a useful outline map of the neighbouring country has been placed in the centre of the design. The funds for the construction of the Indicator were raised by public subscription. Mr J. A. Parker designed the Indicator and superintended its erection.

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20th September 1935.

DEAR MR EDITOR,

#### THE FOUNDATION OF THE CLUB.

I have read with interest Mr Maylard's letter in the May issue of the *Journal*. As an attempt to disclaim all responsibility for the founding of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, it is not a very convincing effort and will have little effect on the well-established tradition that the founders of the Club were Naismith, Maylard, and Thomson.

One has only to read the letters which appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* in January 1889 to realise the true position, namely, that Naismith was the originator of the idea, in fact the "father" of the Club, as he is still affectionately called; that Thomson (along with Archie, not now a member) was the first supporter, but that Maylard was the man of action. He it was who called the historic meeting of 11th February, and he it was who named the Club "The Scottish Mountaineering Club." Not only that, but by enlisting the sympathy and experience of Professor G. G. Ramsay and persuading him to act as Chairman of the Meeting, he secured for the Club a man of outstanding personality and, moreover, a very eminent mountaineer.

On consulting my dictionary I find that the meaning of the word *to found* is "to lay the foundation of; to establish the basis of."

I am sure all members will agree with me that having regard to this definition of the word, the three "Founders" of the Club were Naismith, Maylard, and Thomson.

Yours sincerely,

H. MACROBERT.

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### THE COULIN PASS.

A very important adjustment of the old drove road route from Strath Carron to Torridon and Kinlochewe via the Coulin Pass has been arrived at by negotiation with the Coulin Estates Ltd. and the Forestry Commission and the Scottish Rights of Way Society. The particulars, which will interest the Scottish Mountaineering Club, are given herewith.

By a mutual agreement with the Scottish Rights of Way Society, the Forestry Commission, and the Coulin Estates, the routes from Strath Carron to Torridon and Kinlochewe via the Coulin Pass are as follows: From Achnashellach Station proceed up the private motor road to the top of the Coulin Pass and down over the Easan Dorcha stone bridge and on therefrom for a mile to the east end of the plantation, half a mile short of the old Coulin Lodge. Leave the private road at this point and go north-west round the back of the plantation and along the river side to the wooden footbridge; cross this bridge and proceed to Torran Coulin. About a quarter of a mile beyond Torran Coulin there are two direction posts, one pointing the way up the track over the hill, north to Kinlochewe, and the other pointing north-west along the path on the north side of Loch Coulin. This path leads on to the private road at the south-east end of Loch Clair, which is followed to the public road in Glen Torridon.

Going in the reverse direction from Kinlochewe, cross the bridge just east of the Hotel, turn sharp right through the gate and proceed south, gradually rising (track pretty faint here in places) over the western shoulder of Carn Dhomhnuill Mhic a' Ghobha and so to Torran Coulin. Cross the wooden footbridge over the River Coulin and then turn sharp left up the river side for 100 yards or so and round by the back of the plantation. Here the private road is joined and the route is now unmistakable to Achnashellach Station, Strath Carron.

From Torridon take the public road to the direction post just north of Loch Clair. Proceed along the private motor road to the bridge at the south-east end of Loch Clair. Do not cross this bridge but go up the east bank of the stream and along a good path to Torran Coulin, and on to Achnashellach Station as described above.

The Chairman of the Scottish Rights of Way Society desires to point out that this arrangement which has been come to with the Forestry Commission and the Coulin Estates is one of considerable

advantage to the walking public. Wayleave has been granted along this private road and path from the Glen Torridon road to Torran Coulin, along which, be it clearly remembered, there was previously no right of way at all. An old drove road from Easan Dorcha to Torridon apparently went along the west side of Loch Clair and Loch Bharranach to Lochan an Iasgaich, and this route is now largely obliterated by disuse and long heather and bog so as to make it very bad going indeed and hard to find.

By the arrangement now come to, the private policies of Coulin Lodge are left undisturbed, and the public get a route which is quite clear, and good going all the way. It is very important in the interests of the public and of the owner alike that the part of the private road from the east end of the plantation at old Coulin Lodge along the south side of Loch Coulin be entirely avoided by the public and the alternative route, as indicated above, taken.

Further, be it observed that the old routes here described were *drove roads*, and there was never any right of passage, as far as can be ascertained, for wheeled vehicles. Motorists, therefore, are completely barred, and cyclists are warned that they must be prepared to wheel their cycles along the track between Torran Coulin and Kinlochewe or to Loch Clair.

The private road from the Glen Torridon road to Coulin Lodge was made when the Lodge was built by the late Lord Elphinstone, and the Achnashellach portion was made by the late Lord Leeds, and both these gentlemen were careful to assert their rights and to allow wheeled traffic over this road by permission only. The Forestry Commission and the Coulin Estates are quite within their rights to exclude wheeled vehicles along their private road, and the wayleave for pedestrians which they have granted over a portion of it, as a *quid pro quo* for not using the old route by the west side of Loch Clair, is a great benefit to the walking public.

A. E. ROBERTSON,  
*Chairman, Scottish Rights  
of Way Society.*

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#### EXTRACT FROM THE *MORNING POST*.

“A friend who has just climbed Ben Nevis tells me that he found there a recently erected tablet, which reads:—

“‘Ben Nevis, height 4,406 feet. Erected by The Scottish Mountaineering Club.’”

The origin of many of the world's hills is a subject of doubt even among geologists, but the history of this mountain, at all events, seems to be well known to some of our members. It is a pity that the names of the Office-bearers and Committee responsible for this admirable feat were not also inscribed upon the tablet, together with the name of the contractor employed!

## JOURNALS FOR SALE.

The following volumes and numbers of the *S.M.C. Journal* are for sale:—

Volumes 4, 6, 8, 9, and 10, complete and well bound, and Numbers 13, 26, and 27.

Particulars may be obtained from Mr Eric Maxwell, Librarian, The Grampian Club, 42 Oxford Street, Dundee.

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## BELFORD HOSPITAL—FORT WILLIAM.

The unfortunate increase in the number of climbing accidents of recent years has led people to take more interest in the question of local hospitals and their capacity for treating such accidents. In the last year the *Belford Hospital* at Fort William has treated the following climbing accident cases:—

*Indoor Patients.*—Two patients with a total days' residence of twenty-one days.

*Outdoor Patients.*—Seventeen patients, whereof 7 were admitted for X-ray examination and 10 for stitching and dressing.

There was one case of death—a climbing accident on Ben Nevis—involving the use of the mortuary.

The hospital is well equipped for dealing with emergency cases of a surgical nature, and 227 X-ray examinations were made during the year. The hospital has changed from an institution maintained out of its endowments into a Voluntary Hospital in the last year or eighteen months, and relies largely on contributions from the public.

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## NEW ROUTE ON BRAERIACH PINNACLE.

W. M. MacKenzie sends the following description of a new route on this Pinnacle, ascended on 5th May 1935: J. H. Sutherland and myself started this climb from a point a few yards to the east of a tongue of snow, and made for a patch immediately above it. Arriving at this patch we traversed towards the Central Buttress Gully for about 40 feet, then, stepping round a corner, found ourselves at the foot of a chimney. We ascended this chimney and it brought us out about a dozen feet or so to the west of the Pinnacle summit. An easy scramble took us to the summit and thence over the col to Braeriach. We did not encounter much difficulty, the holds being in the right places and on good firm rock throughout: this being, at least, an advantage over the route from the East Gully. Our time from the foot of the snow-slope to the summit was three and a quarter hours, most of this time being spent in the climbing, where



there is a scarcity of stances; but we took our time. The chimney can be seen from the western end of the corrie.

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The first six volumes of the *Journal*, bound in buckram, are for sale: particulars may be obtained from Mr C. W. Patchell, Greenbank, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumberland, to whom inquiries should be addressed.

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J. H. B. Bell sends the following notes of climbs:—

(a) The Black Pinnacle, on the Pinnacle Buttress of Sgoran Dubh, was climbed direct from its lower side by me in March 1935. It involves a somewhat exposed traverse on the north face, just below the summit. This is difficult.

(b) In an ascent of the Mitre Ridge of Bheinn a' Bhùird, it was found possible to get up the second last pinnacle nearly direct by a crack on its west face, instead of traversing on the east side low down, as previously recorded.

(c) In company with Mr C. M. Allan, in June 1935, I had the pleasure of making my second complete traverse of the Main Cuillen Ridge, starting from and returning to Glen Brittle and including Sgurr Dubh Mor and Sgurr Sgumain. Excessive heat was experienced for the first half and heavy rain and storm towards the end. The total time taken was nineteen and a half hours, which included twelve and a half hours on the ridge.

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#### LETTER TO J. H. B. BELL REGARDING THE FIRST ASCENT OF BLAVEN.

DEAR SIR,—I had intended writing to you earlier on a matter which might have been of interest for the new edition of the S.M.C. "Guide to Skye." Although it is now too late for inclusion, I thought you might like to have the note for future reference.

In the "Guide" the first ascent of Blaven is attributed to the brothers Willink, in September 1873. Now I am unaware of the principles authorised by custom governing the recording of first ascents; Dr Inglis Clark, I can recollect, has given his opinions on this point somewhere in the *Journal*. If, however, a quotation from a letter in a biography be permissible, then there is evidence of a much earlier recorded ascent of Blaven.

In a "Memoir of John Nichol," by Prof. W. Knight<sup>2</sup>, is given an extract from a letter to a friend in which he relates incidents during a tour in Skye in August 1857 with the poet Swinburne.



One he records thus: "We climbed Blaven, the highest peak in Skye, with no great danger"

The weather was glorious during their visit, and Swinburne, who seems to have been in towering spirits, desecrated and insulted the islands with vain puns. Climbers' habits show little tendency to change.

Elsewhere, Nichol claims to have "scaled a hundred hills," and appears to have climbed Goat Fell and Beinn Bharrain in Arran. Later in the letter referred to, he writes, "If you are ever in the north of Skye, don't try to get up Quiraing without a guide. Crosskey (another friend who accompanied him on the tour) and I succeeded, but we were very glad to get down again, with cartloads of stones accompanying us." Evidently John Mackenzie could have widened the scope of his activities.

Doubtless Blaven was climbed many times before 1857. That such a simple hill should remain unconquered until 1873 when Sgurr nan Gillean had been climbed in 1836 seems improbable. All that remains in doubt would seem to be the eligibility of Swinburne and Nichol's climb as a recorded first ascent.—I am,  
Yours very faithfully,

ALEX. SMALL.

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#### NO. 1 BUTTRESS—SGORAN DUBH.

This buttress is divided by a deep gully into two portions, the northern one of which, according to the Club Guide to the Cairngorms, was, at the date of publication, unclimbed. This North Buttress is itself split by a wide chimney, set at a steep angle, carpeted with loose turf and plants, and unpleasantly insecure. To the left of this chimney is a steep rock wall, which can be climbed on small ledges; to the right a narrow ridge swings up steeply. Both these routes unite above the chimney, which is closed by the curious and cap-shaped slabs of the crest, which afford to the buttress, from other parts of Sgoran Dubh, its formidable and characteristic appearance.

Wintry conditions had fourteen times forced the writer to abandon attempts on this piece of rock, but the ascent was completed with Miss E. C. Baily, Edinburgh, on 21st July 1935. The writer has not heard of any ascent of this buttress, but it seems scarcely credible that this steep, sound, and accessible piece of rock could have been so long neglected.

The climb commences at the foot of the grassy chimney last mentioned, up the ridge to the right, and this may be followed or a traverse made to the right. Low down, easier routes are obvious, but steep and sound rock is aggressively apparent on the left, and splendid climbing may be had upon this above the A.P. drop into the chimney. At one point a traverse across a vertical slab presents itself, but an easier way may be found to the right, until smooth

slabs, with cracks masked in vegetation, suggest a short descent to the left to the foot of a steep chimney, up which the way lies behind a constricting projection. Above this a series of steep slabs, airy but rough and with grand holds, lead to a good hitch. The great slabs of the summit cap may now be taken by a crack on the left side by a good arm pull. Sloping holdless slabs, lichen-covered, may now be walked up. Rush tactics at the last slab bring the flat summit table within reach, but the difficulties are not over, and a sensational 15-foot descent on small holds awaits the last man above a 100-foot vertical drop on the left. The landing-place is a narrow edge of rock. An easy tower is now surmounted, and the rope may be removed.

Time for a party of two, 80-foot rope, two hours.

On wet days parties should beware of descending into the tempting, but vegetable and slippery depths of No. 1 Buttress Gully, and descend easily to the north. The upper bothy in Glen Eanaich should be at hand thirty minutes after leaving the rocks.

A. L. CRAM.

#### BEINN TARSUINN.

List of readings taken by Allan Arthur at Kinlochewe Meet, 1935.

	Time.	Height (Ordnance). (Feet.)	Aneroid. (Feet.)	
Hotel . . .	10 A.M.	50	Set 50	←
Heights . . .	10.15	...	...	
Hut on Path . . .	11.17/25	...	1,015	←
Lochan . . .	12 NOON	...	1,400	
Sgurr Dubh . . .	1.23/30 P.M.	...	3,200	
Mullach . . .	1.40-2.0	3,327	3,330	
Col . . .	2.10	...	2,700	
Sgurr Ban . . .	2.35	3,194	3,250	
Mullach . . .	3.10/20	3,327	3,330	
Col . . .	3.35	...	2,500	
Top . . .	3.43	...	2,750	
Col . . .	3.50	...	2,380	
<b>Tarsuinn</b> . . .	<b>4.10/15</b>	...	3,070	
Hut . . .	5.20/25	...	1,050	←
Heights . . .	6.15	...	...	
Hotel . . .	6.30	...	50	←

(Glass rose 50 feet during day.)

#### BEN NEVIS.

G. Graham Macphee reports that in June 1935 the large block in the Tower Gap was found to be very unstable. In fact, it had become dangerously loose and was supported only by a small stone

jammed low down between its base and the rocks on the Tower side. On 23rd June the boulder crashed into Coire na Ciste, causing the whole ridge to quiver in its descent of Tower Gap Chimney. The Tower Gap is now much safer, if a little more difficult. The boulder in question had evidently been stepped on by hundreds of people in crossing the Gap.

### "THE YOUNG IDEA."

"There is nothing like starting young." The following list will no doubt be of interest to members, some of whom will doubtless speculate upon the possibility of a candidate for election offering a complete list of Munros as his qualification.

#### LIST OF HILLS CLIMBED BY RICHARD FRERE, AGED 13, AND HIS FATHER SINCE MAY 1934.

Hill.	Height in Feet.	District.
Craig Phadraig . .	(550) (six times)	Inverness.
	3,300	
Dunain Hill . .	(940) (three times)	"
	2,820	
Ord Hill . .	(633) (three times)	"
	1,899	
Carn a Bodaich . .	1,000	"
Mealfuarvonie . .	(2,284) (twice)	"
	4,568	
Craig nan Clag . .	(1,282) (twice)	"
	2,564	
Meal Mhor (Daviot) . .	1,207	"
Craig Ruadh . .	2,388	Strathconon.
Tom Bailgean . .	1,514	Inverness.
Ben Wyvis (An Cabar) . .	3,106	Ross-shire.
" (Summit) . .	3,429 (second ascent)	"
Meall an Tuirc . .	1,500	"
Creag Ghlass (Glen Meinich)	1,850	Strathconon.
Meall a Ghuibais (towards)	1,200	Kinlochewe.
Ben Eighe (Spidean) . .	3,220	"
Stac Gorm . .	1,484	Nairn Valley.
Craig a Chlachain . .	1,195	"
Sgurr a Choire Ghlais . .	3,552	Glen Strathfarrer.
Meallan nan Uan . .	2,750	Strathconon.
Mam Soul . .	3,862	Glen Cannich or Glen Affric.
Sgurr na Lapaich . .	3,401	"
Ben Nevis . .	(4,406) (twice)	Inverness-shire.
	8,812	
Ben Nevis Memorial Hut	2,220	"
Beinn Dubhcharaidh . .	2,261	"
Stac Polly . .	2,009 (traversed ridge from end to end)	Ross-shire.
Grand Total . .	<u>67,111</u>	

## S.M.C. ABROAD.

C. W. Parry writes as follows: "I was in the Alps for a fortnight of very mixed weather in August. Arriving at Grindelwald on the afternoon of the 7th, I found nobody with whom to climb, and so ascended alone to the Glekstein Hut and engaged the guardian for the following day. On Thursday the Wetterhorn was climbed with two young Englishmen who were in their first season and did not feel equal to making the ascent alone. We made the descent by an involved route across the face, which allowed us to go very fast. On Friday, with Fritz Suter, I went to the Mittelegi Hut on the Eiger to ascend the Mittelegi Ridge, but heavy snow put the rocks out of condition for days, and we descended the 7,500 feet to Grindelwald by the rocks at the end of the Kalliband. Saturday was spent in idleness while the mountains recovered condition somewhat, and on Sunday we went to the Guggi Hut. The following day we ascended the north face of the Jungfrau across the Guggi, Kuhlauenen, and Giessen Glaciers, and the Silberhorn and Hochfirn, and descended to the Rothalsattel and Jungfrauoch. After a short interval for a meal, we then reascended to the Mittelegi Hut, having to cut up the ice-fall and dodge several falling ice-blocks; a pretty strenuous day. Two more days were spent in this hut while it snowed incessantly, and on Thursday we descended to Grindelwald by the Grindelwald Fiescherfirn, abseiling down the couloir, deep in soft snow. On Friday we spent the night at the Jungfrauoch, and on Saturday traversed the Gross-Fiescherhorn and down the Walliser Fiescherfirn to the Finsteraar Hut. On Sunday we traversed the Finsteraarhorn, ascending in the very fast time of two hours fifty minutes, but in spite of this we met very bad snow on the other side of the mountain when the sun had got some power. Continuous cutting down the Hugiattel delayed us over an hour, yet we were back in Grindelwald by 4 P.M., after a very strenuous day. On Monday I returned to England in pouring rain.

A. L. Cram writes: I attended the C.U.M.C. Meet at Grindelwald, in the Oberland. Weather conditions were very bad and this, combined with the novitiate state of the party, made a good deal of care necessary.

I arrived on 4th August and on the 5th went up to the Gleckstein Hut. On the 6th, with Fearon, Kendall, and Howell, I climbed the Wetterhorn (12,149 feet) by the Great Couloir and the Mittelhorn (12,166 feet). We descended by the Wetterhornsattel and crossed the Wetterkessel to the Renfenjoch, traversing the Dossenhorn to the Dossen Hut. On the 7th we descended to Rosenlaui and walked over the Grosse Scheidegg Pass to Grindelwald. On the 8th we went up to the Schwarzegg Hut and on the 9th, in threatening weather, climbed the Great Couloir on the Schreckhorn (13,386 feet) to the base of the Great Wall. A heavy mist then began to precipitate

heavily. We retreated through the ice-fall of the Schreckfirn to the rocks of Gagg and returned to the Schwarzegg. Later in the day Kendall and I went up to the Strahlegg Hut. On the 10th it was still raining, but I climbed, with Kendall, Monkhouse, and Barford, a fine rib on the Grindelwalder Grunehorn, traversing the summit to the Ochsenjoch. On the 11th we went up to the Strahlegg Pass and climbed the South-west Ridge of the Grosse Lauteraarhorn (13,265 feet) in ten hours. Ice-covered traverses on the north side required care. A descent was made by the South Ridge to the Strahlegg Firn and the Strahlegg Pass (10,995 feet) crossed to the Strahlegg Hut. On the 12th we descended the Ober Eismeer to the Zasenberghorn, ascending the heavily crevassed Grindelwald Fiescherfirn to the Eismeer Station on the Eiger. To avoid frequent avalanches from the Kalli Rocks, extensive cutting was required to overcome the crevasses and an ice-wall in the lower fall of the Fiescher Wand. We picked up provisions before making for the Bergli Hut, but were forced upwards towards the South Eigerjoch before a traverse of the upper fall was possible. We arrived at the hut in a snowstorm, thick mist, and darkness. On the 13th and 14th snow fell heavily, accompanied by a high wind. On the 15th the weather improved, and in drifting snow we crossed the Unter Monch Joch (11,680 feet) to the Ewig Schnee Feld and the Ober Monch Joch (11,871 feet) to the Jungfrauoch. There Monkhouse descended by rail, but the remainder of the party, after lunch, returned to the Ober Monch Joch and went up the Monch. Powder snow on rocks delayed us, with extensive cutting in ice overlaid with snow. We turned back at 5 P.M. in snow and mist at a height of 13,100 feet. Kendall descended by rail from the Jungfrauoch, but Barford and I remained there, and next morning went up to the Rottal Sattel on the Jungfrau. Snow conditions were very tiring, and new snow avalanches frequent. Finding 3 feet of new snow on ice we did not pursue the route farther after the sun rose, and descended to the Jungfrauoch. On the 17th we climbed the Monch (13,468 feet) and thereafter descended to the Bergli Hut. On the 18th we went across the Unter Monch Joch and cut our way along the Fiescher Grat. Considerable time was lost in cutting down to the schrund in search of a sum of money dropped by Barford. Much new snow lay over ice, and by the time we had reached the Wallischer Fiescherhorn an evil sky began to snow. We kicked down in mist to the Ewig Schnee Feld and, passing the Bergli, descended the right side of the Fiescher Wand. This route, however, was completely blocked by crevasses, and a warm wind soon made the snow dangerous. Some fancy ice-work in crevasses was necessary to avoid séracs and weakening bridges. A Swiss party which had followed us down came off on wet snow above a 300-foot ice-slope and, falling across a schrund, lodged in a crevasse. As a result, the leader of the party was killed and his wife seriously injured. We signalled to the Eismeer Station and returned to the Bergli, where we joined a rescue

party of guides and descended with them, standing by until a rescue was effected. We returned to the Hut in a snowstorm and in complete darkness. On the 17th we crossed the upper fall of the Fiescher Wand to the Eismeer Station, finding the way trying in mist and deep, new snow. A descent to Grindelwald was made by the Kalli Firn and Mitteleggi routes. On the 21st, with Chorlton, Whipple, and another, I went down to Lauterbrunnen and from there to the Mutthorn Hut. On the 22nd we made a pass across the north end of the Tschingelhorn and climbed the Lauterbrunnen Breithorn (12,399 feet), crossing the south ridge of the Tschingelhorn on the descent to the Mutthorn Hut. In the late afternoon we crossed the Petersgrat and made a descent to Fafleralp. Next morning we went through the Lotschenlucke to the Hollandia Hut. The weather broke, diverting us from the Aletschorn, and on the 24th we went on to the Concordia Hut, where we were held up throughout the next day by a snowstorm. On the 26th Chorlton and I set off for the Jungfrau, but were forced to return, and the whole party crossed the Grunehornlucke, in typical Scots Easter conditions, to the Finsteraarhorn Hut. Snow fell heavily all night, but a slight improvement in the early morning enabled us to cross the Gemslucke (11,025 feet) and to obtain a bearing on the Oberaarjoch (10,607 feet), which we crossed, afterwards descending the Oberaar Glacier to the Grimsel. Shedding members of the party, we walked down towards Meiringen and thereafter went up to Rosenlaui. With a friend I went on across the Grosse Scheidegg Pass and arrived in Grindelwald early on the morning of the 28th. The weather continued bad, and I left Grindelwald on 30th August.

## REVIEWS.

**The Rucksack Club Journal, Vol. VIII., No. 1, 1935, Issue 29.**

This volume is of the usual Rucksack dimensions, and full of interesting fare. Our own members will probably find most interest in "Ski-ing at Home," by B. R. Goodfellow; "Suilven," by Robin Gray (very well worth reading by our rock-climbers); and an interesting account of the Crowberry in the "Notes." A delightful article, somewhat sarcastically entitled "A Most Enjoyable Climb," leaves one with impressions which are to some extent modified when we find it is by the same author as the Crowberry Climb above mentioned. "The White Mountain," by J. F. Burton, gives one an impression of Mont Blanc under unusual circumstances, while "Fear in the Night" reminds us of some of the stories of the Giant of Ben Macdhui.

Other interesting articles on Foreign Regions, The Carpathians, Iceland, Japan, and Africa, and an unusual description of caving, entitled "Scratchings Underground," together with the usual Notes, Proceedings, etc., make up a number of sustained interest. The illustrations are excellent.

C. W. P.

**The Journal of the Fell and Rock Climbing Club, Vol. X., No. 1, 1934; No. 28.**

The size and scope of this production always commands my admiration, and in this number the variety of material is great. It is impossible to review the many articles individually in the limited space at my disposal, but certain features impress themselves upon me. The method of tracing routes up rock faces by superimposing transparent paper is an excellent one, as used in T. Graham Brown's article on "Boat Howe Crag," and avoids disfiguring such good rock photographs as illustrate the article. I was greatly interested in the article upon Old Maps, much on the same lines as one by J. A. Parker in the *S.M.C. Journal* some little time ago. There is a great deal of interesting general information contained in this paper by E. W. Hodge, and some very good reproductions of old maps.

The excellent article on "Guideless Climbing," by N. E. Odell, is well worth study, even if it has already been read in the *American Alpine Journal*. Of more particular interest to the S.M.C. is "Easter in the Cairngorms," by George Anderson, with pictures by two of our leading photographers. In view of the unfortunate weather which Mr Anderson's party experienced, we hope he will



indeed return and be able to see the Cairngorms under more favourable conditions.

There are several articles on Foreign Centres: "The Dolomites," by Margaret Side; "Canada," by Dorothy Pilley; "Narya Parbat," by Somervell, and "Nanda Devi," by E. E. Shipton, among them. Other articles, including "New Climbs at Home," all unusually interesting, Reviews, Notes, etc., complete a very good number, fully illustrated by many really fine plates. C. W. P.

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**Pillar Rock and Neighbourhood.** Published by The Fell and Rock Climbing Club of the English Lake District.

This is a new edition of the well-known Guides of the Fell and Rock Club, and as far as the text goes is very similar to the previous edition. In other ways, however, it is a great improvement. It is now issued in a more compact size,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  approx., and is very easily carried in the pocket; moreover, the cover is of stiff, hard-wearing material of pleasing appearance. The old photographs of the previous edition have been superseded by a number of excellent drawings of considerable artistic merit as well as practical use. The district covered includes, as well as Pillar Rock itself, West Cove, Great Doup, Hind Cove, Black Crag, Scoat Fell, Mesedale, Yewbarrow, Buckbarrow, and Crag Fell. There is a classified list of climbs, together with a list of first ascents. Altogether a most useful and attractive production, new enough to be still quite up to date. C. W. P.

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**The Cairngorm Club Journal**, Vol. XIV., June 1935, No. 76.

This number is full of interesting things, and starts with that type of article which is often the most interesting of all—"Recollections of Former Days." How seldom can people be persuaded to write reminiscences of this sort, and how interesting they usually are when the plunge is taken.

The "Spectre of Ben Avon" is discussed in a prosaic but probably accurate fashion, no doubt to the horror of those interested in the study of the supernatural. Lochnagar naturally features greatly in the issue of this journal, and "An Account of a 'Glory'" very fully discussed; "Below the Snow Line," in the Rhone Valley and district; "A Solitary Tramp" in the Cairngorms; an interesting account of "pedestrianism" by a novice; "A West Coast Itinerary"; a rather unconventional if brave climb of Moss Ghyll, and the Proceedings, Notes, etc., make up a very good number of sustained interest. We learn, with deep regret, of the death of



Henry C. Dugan, but what more beautiful souvenir could one wish for than the lovely photographs by him with which this number is illustrated.

C. W. P.

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**Through Bracken and Heather.** By Thomas Nicol. Eneas Mackay. 5s.

This charming book, by the author of "By Mountain, Moor, and Loch," is one of the most attractive books of its kind that we have read. The ground covered is extensive: from Loch Linnhe and Ben Nevis, through the west country by Glen Finnan and Morar, the author brings us to Skye, where he shows us the Coolins, Loch Couriusk, and Sligachan. Again returning to the mainland he takes us to Gareloch and Glen Docharty; to Loch Maree, Glen Urquhart, and Glen Affric, and bids us farewell at Kyle of Loch Alsh.

Apart from unusual beauty of description, always restrained and simple, the most striking feature of the book is the evidence, apparent on every page, of the author's keen observation of the beauties around him in every form. What might be to others a dull trudge in the rain is to him a nature study, and the enthusiasm of the naturalist gives to him in his travels and to us in reading of them, an interest that must make many wonder at how much they have missed on their days on the hills.

The illustrations, while always illustrating some feature of interest, are rather variable in quality, but the text needs no gilding; it is altogether delightful.

C. W. P.

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**The Ice Cap.** The Journal of the Mountain Club of East Africa, No. 1, 1932. (Published 1934.)

The Mountain Club of East Africa is relatively a newcomer to the lists, but it has a field of its own, and a very important one, too. Its territory contains notably the great mountain masses of Kilimanjaro, Mt. Kenya, and Ruenzori; mountains about which there was little collected information, and the records of whose ascents had to be searched for through English, South African, German, and other papers. In addition to bringing together those interested in these mountains and collecting all relative information, the Club has taken over the custody of three old mountain huts erected by the Germans before the war, and the task of providing additional ones.

To those living on the plains near the Equator, the very thought of the eternal snows must be as refreshing as a sundowner, so it is not surprising to find that the title of *The Ice Cap* has been selected for the journal of the Mountain Club of East Africa, the first number of which has been sent us.

In this number we find a most efficient start has been made in the large task of collecting records and information. That several of the articles are reprints from the *Alpine Journal* and other papers is only natural and in no wise adverse criticism, for surely this is the place to look for accounts of pioneer expeditions. These include notably excellent articles by Mr E. E. Shipton on some of his expeditions on Mt. Kenya and Ruenzori. The history of the attempts on Kilimanjaro is given in detail in an article by Herr Wilhelm Methner, a former German official of the district, while Dr R. Reusch, Hon. Life President of the Club, who has twenty-three ascents of the mountain to his credit, contributes an article on Kilimanjaro as well as an account of a discussion as to the true summit of the mountain, a discussion which has now been settled and a repetition of which has been prevented by the erection by the Club of name-boards on the tops.

That in such a collection of records there should be points of difference is quite natural, and the Editor, Mr N. R. Rice, is to be complimented on his careful annotation of doubtful points and errors. In addition to collecting and editing, Mr Rice contributes two interesting articles, and has compiled very valuable sketch maps of the summits of Mt. Kibo and Mawenzi, based on his observations and photographs.

The journal contains many photos, a large panorama of the crater of Kibo deserving special mention. It also contains what would seem to be a very full bibliography, and tables of mountains and first ascents.

We would congratulate the Club on its activity and wish them all success, and we must congratulate especially the editor of *The Ice Cap* on the result of his labours.

L. ST C. B.

#### **The Journal of the Mountain Club of South Africa, No. 37, 1934.**

That deaf ears are not being turned to the call of the mountains in South Africa is amply shown by this journal, which has as usual a wealth of information on the latest climbs in South Africa as well as many more general articles, and is both well printed and well illustrated.

We may well feel envious of the bill of fare to which the South African is treated. Table Mountain provides everything that the Lakeland rock climber could desire, while the farther-off ranges provide the mountaineering expeditions on a larger scale, which possibly appeal more to our Scottish hearts. It must not be forgotten, however, that many of these ranges involve more travelling than it takes us to get to the Alps.

There is a slight monotony in the classification of "E" (not

"Easy") against all the rock climbs described, but they are undoubtedly an impressive list.

Activities outside of their own territory are recorded in the story of an attempt on Kilimanjaro, and also the diary of a tour in the West Highlands of Scotland, which helps us to see our country as others see it.

Other articles include three which attempt in different ways to explain the call of the hills. One invokes the aid of the Science of Psychology, a second finds the key in the senses of sound and smell, while a third tries to show how to find the spirit of the hills. Whether they can explain it or not, this journal amply shows that the Club possesses this spirit, and also contains much interesting reading.

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**The Midland Association of Mountaineers, Bulletin No. 3, May 1935.**

This short journal is devoted primarily to recording the activities of the Association, which include a Meet at Saas Fee and another at Fort William. Two excellent photos taken at the former are well reproduced.

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"The Nanga Parbat Disaster" would be a more appropriate title for **Nanga Parbat Adventure**. By Fritz Bechtold, translated by H. E. G. Tyndale. John Murray. 10s. 6d.

It is a simple tale, told almost with the brevity of a dispatch, of the catastrophe which overtook the Austro-German party which, in 1934, attempted to climb this great mountain.

Comparisons are odious, but one cannot help being struck by the difference between the methods of this ill-fated party and those of our own British Mount Everest expeditions, particularly in the attitude towards the native porters. One cannot imagine two of our countrymen unroping from the native porters on the mountain in such conditions. The superstitious will note that the Germans and Austrians numbered thirteen, they sailed from Venice on 13th April (which was a Friday), and their table number on board ship was thirteen. Two British transport officers joined the party in India to assist with the organising, but they did not take part in the actual fight for the summit.

Six of the native porters perished. Some of them were seasoned "tigers" from previous Himalayan expeditions. One European died suddenly from pneumonia. Three others succumbed to exposure when bad weather caught the party high up on the mountain. The horror of their deaths is suggested by the mention of the fact that

after several days of storm one of them was still alive in an ice-cave on the exposed ridge, quite beyond the help of his comrades who, from a camp lower down the mountain, were the impotent witnesses of his fate.

The 88 pages of text are brief and to the point, but the book is profusely illustrated with some of the finest Himalayan photographs we have yet seen in a book of this kind—and there are eighty of these magnificent plates.

G. G. M.

**Where the Clouds Can Go.** The Autobiography of Conrad Kain, edited by J. Monroe Thorington. American Alpine Club. \$3.00.

Kain began life as the eldest son of a poor miner of Wasswald. Some of his childhood was passed as a goatherd, and after that, when he went to work in a stone-quarry, he seized every opportunity to get away on to the hills again, whether to poach chamoix or to go over the rock-climbs by himself. Gradually "the guide evolved from the poacher," and eventually Conrad went to America.

The book, which is mostly written by Kain and supplemented towards the end of his career by articles by those who knew him, not only gives a picture of peasant life in pre-war Austria but gives a picture of a climbing career from the guide's point of view, such as has never been published before. There is much philosophy and much humour in the story of Kain's adventures and, since the diaries were not written for publication, there is little affectation and an unusual amount of plain-speaking.

This book is most readable and has a wider appeal than most mountaineers' autobiographies.

### **The Alpine Journal, May 1935, No. 250.**

This Journal contains important news about climbing in every quarter of the globe: from the Himalayas to Baffin Bay, and from New Zealand to the Caucasus. Sir John Withers in his valedictory address gives an interesting survey of the various mountaineering events which took place during his presidency. In passing, he refers with regret to the unfortunate competitive element which has been so evident in recent years with regard to rather showy first ascents.

Dr Graham Brown's article on Mount Foraker, Alaska, is of great interest. It is a record of Polar travel with mountain ascent on the grand scale. Dr Graham Brown has written a full-dress account of which this is the first instalment, and we shall look forward to the continuation with great interest.

Shipton's article on the Nanda Devi Basin is most informative, and the moderate figure of his total inclusive costs appeals to the writer's Scots mind. Shipton and Tillman were in the mountains for just under five months, and away from England for seven months. The total inclusive cost of this expedition worked out at £143. 10s. each.

Statements from three of the surviving reporters on the Nanga Parbat Expedition form a useful contribution to the history of this ill-fated party.

This number of the Journal has many short items of interest too numerous to mention here.

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#### **Oxford Mountaineering, 1935.**

This is referred to as the first independent Journal of the Club, and we wish them the best of luck. We are glad to notice that the membership has gone up from 100 to 130 in the last two years, and we hope that the position of the Club will continue to improve.

The articles on the visit to the Lofoten Islands were extremely well done, and the photo of the hand-traverse on Stedind was exceptionally good.

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#### **The Cairngorm Club Journal, June 1935, No. 76.**

This is a delightful number to read on a winter's evening. Macpherson's account of what he describes as the "Tayside Stragglers" gives one a feeling that it must have been a pleasant party with which to climb.

The account by Alexander of a solitary tramp on the Cairngorms makes entertaining reading, and the sense of personal atmosphere is well maintained throughout the whole Journal.

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#### **The Mountaineering Journal, Vol. III., No. 3.**

This has the usual high standard of photography for which we have become accustomed to look in this periodical. The pictures showing the mass of clouds are exceptionally fine. There is a vivid account of a visit to the Aylmer Bivouac in New Zealand, which leaves one with the feeling that one would like very much to see the pictures for which the artist made this journey. There is also an informative article on avalanches and a finely illustrated account of camping on Mont Blanc.

**The American Alpine Journal, Vol. II., No. 3.**

The article by Houston on his trip in Alaska with Dr Graham Brown provides an informative story when read along with that of Dr Graham Brown in the *Alpine Club Journal*. The photos are good, particularly that of Brown on "Tranquillity" (the companion piece, we suppose, to "Brown on Resolution").

The article entitled "Ski Mountaineering in California" gave a nasty shake to the writer's sense of geographical values. Apparently bathing girls and movies are not the only products of this fortunate State! The ski-ing in March and April is evidently first-rate.

There are several other articles of interest, including an American ascent of Mont Blanc in 1856.

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**The Appalachian Mountain Club Journal, December 1934.**

This is a very interesting magazine, giving fine illustrations of climbing country different from what one can expect to find in Europe. The article on "Piton Technique" would raise a strong discussion with the retiring president of the Alpine Club.

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**The Sierra Club Bulletin, February 1935.**

This Bulletin begins with an article entitled "Ski Heil!" which has delightfully amusing illustrations. The story of Snow-Shoe Thomson should be read by those who are interested in this method of travelling on hills.

## THE JUNIOR MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF SCOTLAND.

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EASTER MEET, 1935—BLAIR ATHOLL,  
19TH TO 22ND APRIL.

*Members.*—W. M'Lellan, J. J. Murray, W. C. Carmichael, J. N. Ledingham, T. D. MacKinnon, D. L. Campbell, and A. M. Smith.

*Guest.*—C. K. Lewis.

The weather was above the average for J.M.C.S. Meets, and there was no recorded instance of a soaking over the whole week-end. There was some snow above 2,500 feet, but ice-axes were more of a luxury than a necessity.

*Friday, 19th April.*—The first arrival was Ledingham, who had travelled by car from Glasgow. He was closely followed by Murray and Lewis, who had climbed Schiehallion on the way. They were enthusiastic about the summer-like conditions encountered, and spoke eloquently of the joys of sun-bathing on snow-covered slopes, as did their faces. Smith arrived later in the evening.

*Saturday, 20th April.*—Friday's fair promise was not fulfilled to-day, and the party of four, increased by Carmichael, who had arrived by early morning train, set off by two cars for Bruar Lodge to climb Beinn Dearg. They were greeted there by the keeper, who proffered advice on the best route to take, and the advisability of not descending by mistake into Glen Tilt, as one previous party had done, and, after reassuring him on that point, a start was made up the Glen immediately behind the Lodge and the summit gained fairly quickly. At the summit cairn, disproportionately big for the importance of the mountain, a conference was held as to what heights were still to be scaled and, after careful consideration of



the map and of what surrounding country could be seen through the mist, the conclusion was reluctantly reached that only descent remained. After lunch by the side of the Bruar water the party set off on an expedition up Glen Bruar which ended at a wire bridge where Lewis successfully performed the hazardous crossing, not at all assisted by stones thrown into the river below him.

Campbell, M'Lellan, and MacKinnon arrived this evening.

*Sunday, 21st April.*—To-day broke rather dull, and the whole party of eight set off by cars on the road that skirts the south side of Càrn Liath, and a start was made at 10.50 from point 1443. The mist was low and the climb executed at a fair speed up what was little better than a steep and dreary slope. With no excuse to look at the view, which was confined to a radius of a few feet, resort was made to Murray's aneroid as a provider of momentary rest. Murray was intensely proud of this recently acquired piece of equipment, and as the summit approached, his excitement as to its probable accuracy increased. There was a shout from ahead that the cairn was in sight, and out came the aneroid, which was consulted and humoured over the last few feet. With the party gathered round, the reading was taken and found to be only 15 feet out. Justifiable pride on the part of Murray was shattered by the discovery, on setting off again, that the ground was still rising, and the true top was not reached before another 100 feet of climbing. Little more was heard of the aneroid but an offer of sale, which was not accepted. Thereafter the party proceeded over Braigh Coire Chruinn-bhalgain, and a good glissade of about 500 feet was enjoyed on the eastern slopes to the Col, where lunch was taken. The state of MacKinnon's trousers was causing some concern because of the imminent danger of their disintegrating completely, which process had been accelerated by the glissade. After lunch the circuit of Beinn a' Ghlo was completed by bagging Càrn nan Gabhar via Airgiod Bheinn. The day was now very fine and warm, and there were good views to the north over the Cairngorms.



On the way back three members of the party revisited the glissade, and MacKinnon, whose trousers had by now lost all decency, finished it in a shower of mud about 30 feet below the snow-line.

*Monday, 22nd April.*—This was a really glorious day, very hot and clear. The party divided into two groups, one going south and the other north.

Ledingham, Lewis, Murray, and M'Lellan motored to Killin and up Glen Lochay to Badamhaim where the road ends. They had an uneventful, if rather warm, climb to Stob an Fhir-Bhogha and thence along the summit plateau to Beinn Heasgarnich. Ice-axes were carried but were little used except, in the poetic words of Murray, "to prod frogs which were seen in hundreds, spawning in the warm sunshine in the numerous shallow bog waters"—definitely a new use for ice-axes. The descent was made at a good pace and finished at a fine bathing pool in the Allt Badamhaim.

Carmichael, MacKinnon, Campbell, and Smith motored to a point midway between the Atholl Sow and the Boar of Badenoch, and set off in glorious weather up Coire Domhain from which A'Mharconaich was climbed at a leisurely pace, with much dallying to take photos and to lie in the hot sun. It was unanimously agreed that peak baggers were the most pitiable of all mortals, and easy ridge walking, on a day like this, most exquisite of pleasures. Lunch was taken at the summit cairn, where the appearance of a roast chicken in a roosting position caused some justifiable licking of the chops. It had been produced unexpectedly from a capacious rucksack. Comments were made by Carmichael on the appropriateness of such a meal, but he considered that the system was wrong and that it should have been trained to fly up and wait for the party on the top. After admiring the fine view to Ben Alder and the north-west, the party continued over Beinn Udlamain to Sgairneach Mhòr, MacKinnon in a state of almost complete nudity, but fittingly bashful about it. Campbell and Smith descended by Coire Cragach, having a good glissade of a few hundred feet in crisp snow. The car was regained at about 5 o'clock

after a really perfect day, in which mountaineering was well mixed with sun-bathing and gluttony.

All of the party returned home to-night after what was generally agreed to have been one of the best Meets of recent years, although the number attending was unfortunately far below the average. A. M. S.

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GLASGOW SECTION.

FAIR MEET—C.I.C. HUT, BEN NEVIS,

12TH TO 15TH JULY 1935.

*Members.*—D. L. Campbell, W. M. MacKenzie, T. D. MacKinnon, I. M. M. MacPhail, J. J. Murray, A. M. Smith, and A. D. Stewart.

*Guest.*—W. R. Adam.

The Meet was favoured by very good climbing weather, and remarkably fine views were obtained, especially on Sunday, 14th. It was noticeable that very little snow was left in the gullies this summer.

*Friday, 12th.*—The first arrival was MacPhail, who was closely followed by Murray and Stewart labouring under packs of gargantuan proportions. Adam, Campbell, and Smith arrived in a semi-starved condition at about 11 P.M., making the complement for the night.

*Saturday, 13th.*—MacPhail, Stewart, and Murray were the first to start on Saturday morning in warm sunshine, and they climbed the Douglas Boulder by Green and Napier's route and continued on the Tower Ridge until the Tower was reached. Here MacPhail and Stewart took the route to the east, while Murray waited below, and was brought up the direct route by MacPhail. They report that the Gap is now more difficult, since the chock boulder has been removed.

Adam, Campbell, and Smith broke themselves in by climbing Carn Mòr Dearg up the boulder-strewn slopes

from the hut, where the effect of foreshortening was very noticeable, converting what is actually a long and toilsome slope to the appearance of a few hundred feet of easy going. They carried on to the summit of Nevis by way of the arête and, arrived there, watched the finish of the other party's climb. This was noted for a new and original method employed by Stewart to cross the Gap, but the consensus of opinion was that his length might have been utilised to better purpose to form a bridge by which the other two could have crossed in comparative comfort.

The two parties descended together by No. 4 Gully to the hut, thoroughly wet owing to a sudden change in the weather.

MacKinnon arrived at 12 noon, just missing the last party, and after eating a solitary meal outside the hut, romped over Carn Mòr Dearg and Càrn Dearg Meadhonach and back to the hut.

MacKenzie appeared out of the wetting mist at about 10.30 P.M.

*Sunday, 14th.*—MacKinnon and MacKenzie climbed the Castle Ridge of Càrn Dearg from the Castle corrie and descended by the North-East Buttress of Nevis, MacKenzie leaving for home. MacKinnon climbed up again and joined Campbell and Stewart and Smith and Adam, who were climbing in two parties on the Buttress. The weather was misty at first, but later cleared into a truly glorious day.

Murray and MacPhail, inspired by MacKinnon's early start, returned to bed, but left the hut at 3 P.M. and climbed the Castle Ridge.

Some time was spent on the summit admiring and photographing the remarkably fine views to all directions. There was also some wrangling as to whether Rhum (pronounced "Room" when in MacPhail's company) was really Skye, which ended in odds being laid and taken.

MacKinnon and Campbell descended by the east route of the Tower, and thereafter followed the ridge to the Glen.

MacPhail and Murray came down by the North-East

Buttress, after leaving instructions to the remainder of the party as to how the soup was to be prepared for their advent. This last party took to No. 4 Gully, and fascinated by the cool clearness of Lochan na Ciste, doffed clothes, and found it even cooler than they had imagined. The delay was fatal to the expectations of MacPhail and Murray, and the two parties arrived almost simultaneously.

*Monday, 15th.*—Murray and Stewart started off to climb the Observatory Ridge but, owing to lack of time, did not complete the climb, and returned by way of sundry new routes, discovered by Stewart at the lower end of the rope, to test Murray's ability in climbing down.

MacPhail spent the morning on the Douglas Boulder exploring the possibilities of a climb on the valley face.

Smith and Adam had a fine climb on the Castle Ridge of Càrn Dearg, and returned by No. 4 Gully.

Every one left this evening, thus closing a Meet which was successful in every respect, particularly fortunate in the matter of weather, and noted for the robust quality of the evening sing-songs, although the songs themselves were not always of the classical variety. All thanks are due to the S.M.C. for again allowing the use of the hut for our Meet.

A. M. S.

#### GLASGOW SECTION.

MEET AT CLACHAIG, 23RD TO 24TH MARCH 1935.

ANDERSON, Henderson, Humble, Maitland, Nichols, and Scott motored to Glencoe in heavy rain on the Saturday evening. As one of the cars had neither speedometer nor horn and only one side-light, the journey was rather an exciting one.

At 8.30 next morning, when we left the inn, we were cheered to see the snow on the twin buttresses of Bidean nam Bian sparkling in sunshine. Eventually, after ploughing through snow-drifts, we reached Collie's

Pinnacle. From the neck Scott ascended almost to the top, but was induced to come down again. The whole party on two ropes then climbed the gully between the two buttresses. The snow was in good condition, the surroundings inspiring, and the gully narrowed quite nicely at the top. It is strange that this gully is not mentioned in the Central Highlands Guide. In snow it is surely the best approach to the summit.

From Bidean we had a most enjoyable ridge walk to Beinn Fhada with, now and then, glimpses of Glencoe and Glen Etive through the mist. All glissaded down a steep gully from Beinn Fhada. Five members enjoyed this so much that they climbed up and repeated the performance, and by the time the last man came down the gully was in the nature of a speed track.

It would be dusk when we forded the River Coupal in quite the style of the "Battle of the Modder River," and dark and very wet when we went off for home.

From the visitors' book we were surprised to note that very few climbers have used this base during the winter, but proud to add our names after the distinguished signature of J. H. B. Bell. Surely the inn should be more used for small Meets. When one can get a hot bath (first two men anyway), a five-course dinner (in the cosy wee parlour upstairs), a bed, a four-course breakfast (in the bar), to say nothing of a magnificent view of the Battle of the Modder River—all for 7s. 6d.—one can afford to ignore minor inconveniences.

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