

I.C.M.C.

Sunday 16th September

Sandstone Meet (High Rocks)

Meet at the bookstall in Charing X main  
line station at 9.20 am.

Names : Dave Watson

Frank Ekman

Jan Wazsink

Friday 21st September - Sunday 23rd

Anyone interested in climbing this  
weekend? Possibility of transport to Wales  
or gut. Please add your name, watch this  
space and let me know where I can contact  
you.

Names Dave Watson

If anyone has any slides of last years  
activities I would like to borrow them  
for freshers day.



A JOURNAL

OF

I.C.M.C.

1929-1951.



The facts set out here are gleaned from old copies of Phoenix and fragmentary records in the keeping of the Club secretary. If the story seems meagre in places it is because the early log-books, where our activities were probably described more colourfully, have been lost. The notes ~~are~~ <sup>do</sup> record the efforts of a number of enthusiasts serving an apprenticeship to fit them for greater mountaineering expeditions. If the climbing careers be followed up of some of those people who have gone before it will be found that many have become leading members of the Climbers Club and a noteworthy few, building on the foundation of experience gained with this Club, have graduated to membership of the Alpine Club, in whose ranks will still be found the leading British mountaineers.

During 21 years this Club has already built up a sound mountaineering tradition and its senior members have always given of their best in passing on their knowledge to freshmen or women joining the club. However



this aspect of club activity could be more efficiently carried on if those members, who have been active during their stay at college, could maintain some interest in club affairs after leaving and occasionally to attend club meets. The handing on of their wider experience would be most valuable and much appreciated by the club members. The attention of anybody in this position, who desires to be formerly connected with the club's activities, might be called to the status of life membership. The club is proud to carry the title Imperial College MOUNTAINERING Club, and whatever our experiences in the often visited and well-loved British climbing grounds may be, they can never be more than a shadow of those to be experienced in High Alpine expeditions. It is my opinion that British climbing may still best be looked upon as a pleasant, but a serious and educative, preliminary to Alpine climbing. Certainly this must be so if the club is to justify its title and enhance its reputation amongst its fellow climbing clubs. Every effort should be



made to hold at least one Alpine meet each year.

Finally I take the liberty here of suggesting for serious consideration of future committees and club members that the possession of a club hut would be a tremendous asset to the club, that a collection of slides & photographs and a written record of all aspects of club activities should be made and kept up to date by successive members and that a Club room be set aside in the Union where club equipment, and library might be housed and where those informal meetings which occur at frequent intervals throughout term time might be held in greater comfort.

George Sestel.

Imperial College Union,  
21<sup>st</sup> March 1957.







The Club was formed during the session 1929 - 30 and was due largely to the enthusiasm of Gilbert Wilson who received the active support of Professor G.I. Finch and Mr. Winthrop Young. A constitution was drawn up and adopted by the Club on December 13th, 1929, and received minor amendments on February 10th, 1930. At a meeting of the Imperial College Students Committee, the Club was provisionally granted permission to use the title 'Imperial College Mountaineering Club', "pending a decision regarding one of its rules dealing with membership", on 16th December, 1929. The declared objects of the Club were to be

"the encouragement among students and staff of the Imperial College of all forms of mountaineering".

The committee was to consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a librarian and a custodian of apparatus. The offices were tenable only by students, with the exception of the Vice-Presidentship, and for one year only. Later, four Whips were introduced onto the committee, whose duty it was to circulate notice of meetings and lectures to the members. The only major difference between the original rules and the present ones is that relating to the election of ordinary Members. It read:-

"The candidate for election must have attended as a guest at least one meeting of the Club. He must be properly proposed and seconded. Notice of nomination must be posted up on the College Noticeboard, with announcement of the meeting at which the proposal shall take place and/or circulated by the Whips. One blackball in ten shall exclude: blackballs to be sent in writing to the Secretary within seven days from the meeting at which candidate was proposed. Candidates for election need have no mountaineering experience, but should be prepared to be interested in mountaineering to gain experience therein as opportunity offers".



A meeting of the I.C. Students Committee was held on 27th January, 1930, at which Professor Finch was co-opted and he gave reasons why it was essential for the club to have power to blackball intending members. He stated that there was no intention of limiting membership, but that the safety of a climbing party might be imperilled by lack of unison among its members. The committee subsequently accepted the rules and granted permission for the title 'Imperial College Mountaineering Club'. In the revision of 1937, <sup>*the rule was altered*</sup> so that "all students and staff of the College shall be eligible for membership of the Club, provided that they shall be interested in mountaineering" and only in exceptional circumstances which have to be communicated to the Committee of I.C. Union "shall the committee debar any person with the above qualification from membership of the Club". The Club tie is also first described in the Constitution of 1937. There were minor amendments in 1945 and this constitution was confirmed in 1950, a copy of the latest constitution being included here. Copies of the original and 1937 versions are in the keeping of the Secretary of the I.C.U.S.C.C.



RULES  
OF  
THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

(As amended 10th. October, 1945)

1. The Club shall be called "The Imperial College Mountaineering Club".
2. The objects of the Club shall be the encouragement of all forms of mountaineering among the students and staff of the Imperial College.
3. The Club shall be composed of:-
  1. Ordinary members
  2. Life members
  3. Honorary members.
4. ORDINARY MEMBERS: All students and staff of the College are eligible for membership of the Club, provided that they shall be interested in mountaineering. Only under exceptional circumstances, which must be communicated to the General Committee of the Imperial College Union, shall the Committee debar any person with the above qualifications from membership of the Club. The annual subscription for Ordinary members shall be 5s. 0d. due in October. No person shall be deemed to have become a member of the Club until his first annual subscription has been paid. Members whose subscriptions are three months in arrears shall be debarred from voting at the Club meetings. Persons whose subscriptions are six months in arrears shall, after being warned, automatically cease to be members of the Club.
5. LIFE MEMBERS: Members of the Club leaving the College may, on application, be made Life Members, provided that they have participated actively in the affairs of the Club. They shall be elected by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee, such a decision being ratified by a General Meeting of the Club. Such Life Members shall be entitled to attend Club meets ( subject always to Rule 12 ). Life members must assure the Club of their continued interest in the Club by visiting the Club or writing news-letters to the Hon. Secretary at least once a year. If a member fails to comply with this proviso, he shall cease to receive notification of Club activities or circular letters. Life Members shall ordinarily be exempt from payment of the annual subscription. Life Members who subsequently return to College shall be required to pay the



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pay the annual subscription. Only such Life Members as pay the annual subscription shall vote at Club Meetings.

6. HONORARY MEMBERS: The Honorary Membership of the Club may be conferred, by the consent of a General Meeting of the Club, on any person who has rendered service to the Club or to mountaineering. Honorary Members shall not vote at Club meetings, but may participate in Club activities (subject always ~~to~~ to Rules 7 & 12)

7. Members of the Club, not being members of the Imperial College Union, shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of Union membership.

8. The Officers of the Club shall be:-

President  
Two Vice-Presidents  
Secretary<sup>a</sup>  
Junior Treasurer<sup>1</sup>

The Committee shall consist of the above officers and two other members. The President, Secretary and Junior Treasurer must be students and may hold the same office for one year only.

9. Each year the Committee shall appoint a Librarian and Quatermaster to be responsible for the Club Library and equipment respectively.

10. All Officers of the Club shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Club in the summer term of each year. They shall commence their duties at the beginning of the next Academic year. Vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled at a General Meeting.

11. Lectures arranged by the Club shall be open to all members of the Imperial College.

12. GUESTS: Each member may introduce guests to any Club lecture, dinner or tea. Guests may not be introduced to climbing meets unless the permission of the President or other Officer in charge of the meet has been obtained.

13. The Committee has power to debar any member from attending climbing meets. Any member so debarred, who subsequently desires to leave the Club, shall be entitled to the refund of his subscription for the ~~year~~ current year.

- 14. Notices of the activities of the Club shall be posted on the Club's Notice Board a reasonable period in advance.
- 15. The Club tie shall consist of Imperial College crowns encircled with coiled ropes in gold evenly spaced on a maroon background. It shall be on sale at the College Bookstall and only active members of at least six months standing shall be permitted to wear the tie.
- 16. CLUB PROPERTY: Club equipment shall be available for the use of ordinary members subject to the approval of the Committee. Members shall be required to make good any damage done to the property of the Club while in their care.
- 17. Any amendment to these rules must be confirmed by a General Meeting of the Club at least six days after the Meeting at which the amendment was made. No such amendments shall be operative until they have been sanctioned by the Imperial College Social Clubs Committee.
- 18. The interpretation of these rules is solely at the discretion of the Committee, which also has power to deal with any matters not covered herein, provided always that their actions shall be consistent with the rules laid down by the Imperial College Union.

*Margaret Thowley*  
 ( Hon. Secretary )  
 8/4/46



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1929 - 30.

President:- G. Wilson.

The first alpine meet of the club was held in July, 1930, at the Ponteglias Hut, when a party was led by Professor G.I. Finch. Climbing meets were also held at Wasdale Head during the Christmas and Easter vacations.

During the session, lectures were delivered by Gilbert Wilson, Professor Finch, the Rt. Hon. L.S. Amery, M.P., F.S. Smythe, <sup>Gen. BRUCE</sup> and others. A club library had already been instituted and was housed in the Chemical Technology department.

1930 - 31.

President:- H. Nakashima.

A summer meet was held during August, fourteen members and their guests taking part. The party was again led by the Vice-President, Professor Finch. An advance party of five met on August 1st and, after spending a week in the Gotthard district, were joined by the remaining members on August 8th at the Heim hut where several days were spent. Climbing was seriously limited by bad weather. A move was then made to the Oberaarjoch hut, in the Bernese Oberland, via the Grimsel Pass. Thence the party proceeded over the Gunsücke to the Finsteraarhorn hut and finally to the Jungfrau station, by way of the Concordia hut.

Unsettled weather continued, an expedition to the Mönch being made on August 18th in thick weather. The following day proved to be fine and the Jungfrau was climbed in excellent conditions. During the descent, an accident occurred which cost three lives.

Climbing was thus brought to an end, but the majority of the party remained at Lauterbrünnen to assist Professor Finch in the subsequent operations.

In the Phoenix for May 1932, under a photograph of the memorial plaque for those killed on the Jungfrau, the following poem appeared:-

High on moon-raking peaks their hearts are set,  
 On everlasting ice they fixed their gaze  
 Above the confusion of our dusty days,  
 Above the unresting tumult and the fret.  
 And it is well with them, for they have met  
 Death on the far-off silent mountain ways  
 They loved so greatly, nor can man's dispraise  
 Vex them, nor praise attain to them, and yet  
 We would not let them unsaluted go  
 Forth from this life they did not choose to sell  
 As all we do, for high reward or low.  
 They attempted much, and, in attempting, fell  
 To no ignoble death, and surely so  
 Attained their heart's desire. It is well.

A.F.W.

1931 - 32.

President:- J.V. Durden.

The Easter Meet of the Club took place at Capel Curig in North Wales. Eight members were present and enjoyed a series of good climbs on Tryfan and the ~~the~~ Lanberis face of Snowdon.

During the Summer vacation, a few members went to Skye, Arran and the Lake District.



1932 - 33.

President:- J.V. Durden.

The Christmas meet was held at Ogwen and, despite very adverse weather conditions, was very successful. One day was spent on Clogwyn-y-person.

The summer meet was held at Turtagrø in the Jotunheimen, Norway.

During the session, lectures were delivered by Professor Boswell, F.R.S., who gave a paper coupling Geology with Mountaineering, and Professor Finch lectured on "Everest". Mr. E.E. Shipton of the Kamet and 1933 Everest Expedition gave an informal lecture and display of lantern slides on his recent Kamet ~~climb~~ climb.

The activities of the Club during the session 1933 - 34 do not seem to have been recorded, apart from the fact that the President was R.M. Shackleton. In Phoenix for March, 1934, a poem entitled "Tirol" was printed.

"Tirol"

The silver lighted snow  
of midday mountain-tops,  
fades in leisurely decline,  
mingles with the evening mistiness  
a colour harmony divine,  
opens up the golden gates of night,  
cavernously silent, rich in sight.  
  
Echoes down the valley, soft and low,  
the semi-silent sound of animals.

T.A.A.R.

1934 - 35.

President:- T.R. Wilson.

The Christmas meet took place in North Wales at Idwal and was a greater success than some previous meets, owing to the encouraging influx of mountaineering enthusiasts. At Easter, climbing was enjoyed in the Lake District. On March 29th, two members went to Grasmere and were joined next day by two others. For three days, some excellent climbing was done in the neighbourhood of Langdale and, on April 1st, the party moved over to Ennerdale. The weather was excellent and an enjoyable time was had until April 3rd. One party was then involved in an accident on Great Gable, the leader suffering a dual fracture of the skull and other injuries. The meet was brought to a close, both for this reason and for the reason that on the next day a blizzard plastered the rock with snow and ice.

During the Summer vacation, a meet was held in Skye, when members of the Club camped in Coirelagan. They enjoyed ten days climbing in mixed weather, or rather Skye weather, with bright intervals, until in an unfortunate accident the leader was injured and the meet was abandoned.

During term time, a number of week-end meets or day trips were made to Harrison Rocks.

Sunday, October 14th. A joint meet with the Mountaineering Section of Camping Club.

November 11th. A meet was held at Harrison Rocks<sup>xx</sup> "whose attractiveness is the vignette climbs to be found". A camping party was to have spent Saturday at High Rock

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<sup>xx</sup> Candidates for election who had missed the first meet of the term were especially invited to attend this meet.



nearby, but the member who did finally camp despite the weather "found the Rocks intensely dirty and slippery and also devoid of straightclimbs, most of the climbs being chimneys".

Sunday, December 9th. "A well attended meet" was held at Harrison Rocks, "rather damped by rain in the morning".

On Saturday and Sunday, February 23rd and 24th, a camping and climbing meet was held at Harrison Rocks. Eleven members were present and a great number of severe climbs were done, "the brilliant sunshine being only occasionally broken by showers". On March 9th, a camping party was arranged, but rain put off the majority of members; however, two went down and camped in snow. Despite the night's low temperature, most of the snow had disappeared by the next morning, but much of the Rock was iced. Nine members turned up on Sunday to enjoy the dry rock.

An interesting series of lectures was held during the year and included talks by Mr. Millican Dalton, a well known figure in the Lake District, Professor Finch again and Miss G. Stevenson, a member of the Club. Finch showed a film taken on a previous meet of the Club. The snow and ice technique was closely studied by members, and one member from abroad (R.S.R.?), whose experience of the Club's activities had been confined to repeated visits to Harrison Rocks, was suitably impressed. Dr. Gilbert Wilson, speaking from the Chair, was delighted to recall this meet, at which he was present, and called attention to the exceptional skill that had been shown in film technique and in mountaineering combined to produce such excellent photographs. Miss Stevenson drew a very able mind picture of the New Zealand Alps, a glorious range of peaks of 12000 ft., with the superb adjuncts of

glaciers, fed by heavy snow-caps. The experiences related to a journey across this range in the neighbourhood of Mt. Cook. *A lecture was also given by Gen G.C. Bruce on 18/5/35*

A meeting of considerable interest was held on February 7th, when a discussion was held to decide whether "in the opinion of the Club, the use of Pitons was not in the spirit of mountaineering". Professor Boswell attended as a member and, in the absence of Professor Finch, the President, T.R. Wilson, took the Chair. An explanation of the Piton was given by E.L. Cohen, a member with experience of its use. The meeting was declared open to discussion at 5.45 p.m. and at 5.45 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the club assumed appearance of several hostile parties converging on a point - the table. Mr. P.H. Hicks suggested the Piton should be used only as a safety device, as a belay in dangerous and unavoidable circumstances. Mr. H.S. Hopf, as representative of the opposition, demanded unrestricted use of Pitons on the grounds that "if ice axes and crampons are allowable, why not pitons?" The anti-piton school suggested that a limit must be imposed somewhere. The discussion was not helped by the suggestion that one "should climb without a rope; without boots, because use of bare feet is said to harden them and make the owner become more reliant on small holds, and without clothes, because the body will then become more resistant to cold". The meeting was closed on a disturbed note at 6.30 p.m., with the safety valve just lifting.

The activities for the year were concluded by the Annual dinner of the Club.



IMPERIAL COLLEGE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB.

As a result of the wishes expressed by members on many occasions, the Committee has decided to arrange a meeting open to all members and a few guests of members at which the main business will be

" A DISCUSSION ON THE USE OF PITONS "

Mr. E. L. Cohen, a candidate for membership, has been asked, as one who has had experience of their use, to give a short preliminary talk on Pitons and their use. Professor Finch has agreed to be Chairman of the Meeting, and will also speak from his experience of pitons.

When the explanatory talks have been given, members are free to discuss the matter and try to reach a settled opinion on the subject as to whether the indiscriminate use of pitons is objectionable to mountaineering, and so clear up a doubtful point in the minds of several members.

It has been arranged that the meeting should commence with a tea at 5 o'clock on Thursday February 7th in Committee Room A, and the discussion carried on more or less informally afterwards. It is desirable that the number of guests invited should be very strictly limited, and should be confined to those with deep interest or experience in mountaineering. Please inform the Secretary if a guest is invited.

A charge of 8d. will be made for the tea, and will be collected by the Treasurer, H. S. Hopf.

ITEMS SUCH AS ICE-AXES,  
GLOVES, NAILED BOOTS OR PITONS  
COLLECTED AT THE DOOR.

P. H. HICKS  
Hon. Secretary.



1935  
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ALL SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT  
TO COME.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB.

There will be a CLIMBING MEET at Harrison Rocks on Sunday  
February 24th. The anniversary of the discovery of the rocks  
one year ago will be celebrated with as much joie de vivre as the  
owner of the Estate will allow. A Presidential address is

to be given - - - the President to take the 'Air' at <sup>10.45 a.m. at</sup> ~~██████████~~  
the 'Crack and Cave' (?)

All those who intend to join the Mountaineering Club are  
invited to attend the Meet, and 'learn the ropes'.

DIRECTIONS:

Bring sandwiches in rucsack or pocket. Old breeches, of  
leather, are desirable for climbing, and rubber soled 'gym' shoes  
are the only form of footwear for the gritstone rock. All  
those who have Alpine ropes should bring them.

Take the 8.50 train from Victoria to Groombridge (usually  
from platform I6 or I7) There is no other train till mid-  
morning, so dont risk missing it. Get a Cheap Day Return  
ticket at 4/3d.

Tea at 4.30 at the 'Crown', Groombridge, cost 1/-  
. . . . .

This will in all probability be the last Meet at Harrison  
Rocks before the long Climbing <sup>Meet</sup> at Easter. (to be discussed at  
General Meeting on 21st.)

P.H. Hicks  
Hon. Secretary

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SIGNIFY ATTENDANCE



Phoenix, February 1935.

Welsh Adventure.

There were three of us, Patrick, Elijah and I, standing at 5.30 a.m. on a foggy morning outside South Kensington Station on the day after Boxing Day. In the car, three rucsacks, an ice-axe, and two ropes occupied four-fifths of the rear portion - Elijah was to take possession of the remaining fifth.

The tank was full, 250 miles in front of us, and the air chill, so without more delay than was required to fill an insurance form and post it, we set off. A beauty she seemed, although slow in acceleration, but the fog trouble for the first twenty miles kept all attention focussed. Lights were all very illegally extinguished and progress made by the process of keeping the right hand edge of the road near the off fore wheel.

At seven the fog lifted, and by 7.30 when we picked up another five gallons, we had passed the 56-mile mark. When light came, we roared along Watling Street at maximum, and steadily crept northwards. The journey was unworthy of comment till Shrewsbury by-pass was reached, when a succession of roundabouts brought short tempers to boiling point. They reached an incredible density in about half a mile of main road.

At Llangollen (Thlangothlen, B.B.C. please note), we stopped, and while Elijah bartered for a thick vest for spare wear, I picked a pair of gloves that might be handy against cold. Time was panning out well, and we saw that our schedule which had allowed for a low average with one or two punctures and mechanical troubles thrown in, was about five hours in hand. There was, then, of course, time to climb the Milestone Buttress on Tryfaen when we

arrived, and in preparation we changed in turn in the space at the back. The last stage was driven through a gale and part hailstorm over a corkscrew road. The swerving always occurred when the individual at the back was cautiously balancing during the process of hauling on a pair of breeches!

We arrived at two o'clock and bundled out of the car in a hurry to get to the "Milestone". We roped up and went quickly up the "Ordinary" route, surmounted the final chimney and then worked down to the right - an hour and a half's work. And then to the Hostel to stake claims on the best bunks.

By evening the rest of the roughs and toughs of the Mountaineering Club had shuffled in and the party was complete. According to tradition, the drying hut stove refused to function, chiefly owing to an almost total absence of chimney. And carrying out an honourable tradition, we accordingly slapped some putty and cement here and there in the cracks, blew violently up and down the flues, and the stove re-functioned, emitting its usual quantities of thick smoke, and belching like a miniature volcano. The temperature of the hut is thermostatically controlled owing to the tendency of the stove to asphyxiate itself (and the poor blighter looking for a lost sock) before the odd etceteras hanging round burst into flame.

Talk was made at supper on the possibilities for the next day, and according to plan, on the Friday, while six stout souls (which included our 25 per cent of fair members) departed for the "Slabs", Fritz, Elijah and I made tracks for Tryfaen. Of the Slabs party, the story was short. An ascent to the top by one route, descent and fresh ascent - all in a very luxurious fashion.



The Tryfaen party in a fit of zeal captured two and a half peaks that day (of the half an explanation will appear). We reached the top of Tryfaen in a biting wind, completely enveloped in mist, and hardly staying long enough to spit "a'looard", we worked down the other side, located the saddle across to Glyder Fach, and then scrambled to the top. We sneaked a compass bearing now and then to help direction, but once a lift in the mist, which lasted five seconds, gratuitously corrected a bad misjudgement.

We located the right peak after some trouble and dossed down behind a rock to swallow a hasty sandwich. Noses and ears gradually grew purple in the wind and it was a relief to move off again. When we had at last come to the conviction that our bearings were hopelessly wrong, we descended, located Llyn Bockllwyd (only pronounceable with a mouthful of Bass), and re-ascended. This time we aimed for Glyder Fawr, where according to the plans hatched the night previously we might run across the others. But when we reached Castell-y-Gwynt (a Welshman's joke for Windy Street), and, by Jove, it was! we mistook it for Glyder Fawr, mislike the idea of going up and coming down that last little bit, and decided to get down out of the mist before dark. We chose, as it happened, a rather steep, nasty-looking gully, which widened and finally shook us out on to a steep loose scree. Altogether, taken by and large, it was not a place that one would recommend to one's grandmother for a Sunday stroll, particularly with loose rocks liable to play fast and loose with one's feet and a chute-like surface tending to catch one a clip in the seat of the breeches at every opportunity. We later discovered that the last patch was the so-called Nameless Cwm - our only point of disagreement was which

name was most appropriate out of the selection at the tips of our tongues. These Welshmen always were unimaginative.

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The next day the parties changed over, and while the rest tramped off to Tryfaen we went along to the Slabs and stood in doubt before "Faith", "Hope" and "Charity". "Faith" finally won on points, and we set up it with determination. Comments became loud and to the point at one pitch where I ran out my sixty-odd feet of rope on a long smooth face and needed another twenty. So Elijah came up twenty feet and exercised faith in the friction of his pants, while Fritz coiled loops of rope round every projecting knob in sight. It may have taken a quarter of an hour or perhaps it was really only about two minutes, but it was a relief to reach the end of the pitch and rest on the thin ledge offered. The description of this ledge demands amplification. It was not a simple, common or garden ledge, it was a blighted little right angle for seat and back to rest on while a sheet of evenly flowing ice-cold water ran over the rock through coat, breeches and all in a continuous stream. An entry in the diary states "... an icy drop came through and then a frozen -- deluge. -- ! -- ! -- !

In due course we reached the top. Our plan was then to get round to the right and climb a gully to the top of Glyder Fawr. Unfortunately we went too high and immediately struck difficulties. We were finally brought to a standstill by an awkward place. In a right angle corner of rock, a small ledge sloped down and gave a stance sufficient for one and a half people at most - the next step being to seize a handhold three feet up and two feet to



the left out of reach over a sheer bit of wall. By exerting a complete lack of belief in the normal laws of gravitation, I managed to tire myself trying to reach the hold. Finally Elijah came up and somehow we shuffled round and he gave me a knee and breeches lift, and there I was clinging to a slimy little knob of rock with cold-numbed and powerless fingers. There was perhaps sufficient material above to have interested a particularly agile flea, but a hampered and numbed climber had no other alternative than to return, which was impossible.

There must be many small boys now chanting Ovid's "Facilis descensus est Averno", but when this particular line occurs to you as your fingers are slipping and the second man would be sure to go with you, it sounds positively crude. For a split second before fingers and rock parted, there was a million to one chance of old El. doing the right thing - he did. I felt my knee gripped, oscillated slightly on my right foot on the extreme edge of the "ledge" and finally remained in unsatisfactory equilibrium closely hugging and being hugged by Elijah, who was doing his celebrated best in the two-dimensional way with his back crammed into the angle.

When, in the course of re-shuffling our positions, we had laboriously and stiffly climbed back to the start, discretion distinctly said "get", and we accordingly got. Wet rock lubricated by a species of oleaginous black mud is most discouraging.

We met a fresh wind round the corner that stifled the breath and cut its way with an arc flame through our entirely soaked clothes. We were promised a warm drink from Fritz's spirit stove earlier in the climb, and the time seemed auspicious when I heard Fritz ask ominously

if anyone had brought matches. A lizard basking (?) on that ledge would have been skinned with a taxidermical neatness by the concise remarks passed in the next split second. What might have been a tense situation passed like magic to an exquisite finish when a flat, squat and homely looking bottle appeared from Fritz's pocket. It was a brand of Cherry Schnapps with a violent taste of prussic acid, but by all that is holy, it sent a wave of warmth down the stomach.

We found a sheltered (?) spot for lunch, and had settled down to a cold sandwich, when a pointed exclamation from Fritz brought to light the fact that the matches had appeared after all. In a few seconds the stove was lighted and a brace and a half of Frankfurten sausages gently floated in their liquid.

It would be difficult now to describe their flavour, but, to misquote an inspired author, "By Allah! He who hath not in his hunger tasted a hot Frankfurten sausage hath not lived!" The brace and a half had only to be split between  $66\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. of those present, as Elijah, true to his custom, remained a vegetarian.

As a result of the warm sensation round the belt, we crossed the Cwm in spirits and went up Y Garn by a predetermined route - an altogether unpleasant experience on a very rubbishy scree. The mist was very bad on top, and it took some time to choose a point of descent. Coming down, the only difficulty encountered was a waterfall, but it was soon avoided and we came out on the shore of Llyn Idwal, within a short distance of the Hostel. And so to bed .....

"CLIMBER".



Phoenix, March, 1935.

Wales.

Sunday broke with a day of heavy rain and terrific gusts of wind, combined with mist and low clouds. By general consent, all plans for climbing were dropped and fresh plans devised. The final fruit of thought and discussion between mouthfuls at breakfast was this. Namely, that the party entire should split up into two parties of five and four respectively, one of which would drive by car to Pen Y Pass by Snowdon on the other side of the Glyders, leave the car there and footslog it over the top back to the Hostel. The other party would take the same route there from the Hostel and drive back. Accordingly Fritz, Elijah, the Geologist and I bundled into the car and in a terrific series of squally gusts slowly followed the switchback road to Pen-Y-Pass. On arrival, the car was duly parked and we set off on a four mile tramp down the road before breaking off to the right, where the saddle between Y Garn and Glyder Fawr is lowest. It took an hour and a quarter's upward struggle over a tiring tussock and gorse slope before the top began to be in sight. The wind and rain blew miserably down our necks and the ground grew boggy as the wet flat top of the saddle was reached.

It was a soaked and rather despondent quartet that finally reached Llyn Cwn, lashed to furies by the wind, but a good bearing to get. The wind at that point seemed to bottle up in the shallow neck formed by the two peaks and rush with a penetrating frigid air action through the small of one's back. We huddled behind a small rock while Elijah tried to empty his boots of water and squeeze his socks slightly, but finally Fritz

brought out his stove and we crouched round the crevice while a life-giving brew of Frankfurten sausage (another two and a half brace) was stewing. The sausages went in due course, and the scalding but precious hot water was shared out.

Slightly warmer inside but fearfully chilled outside, we hurried to get over the saddle into shelter from the wind. At the last point, before turning downwards to the "Devil's Kitchen", the wind reached its pitch and blew each about unmercifully. Then the dip began to shield us and finally we began to thaw out as we hurried down. In the Hostel, soaked and chilled clothes were thrown off and without further delay a brew of cocoa made. Standing round the stove in nondescript garments, we poured half a tin of cocoa, followed by butter and sugar, into a saucepan and made a thick and satisfying liquid, hot enough to skin the proverbial lizard.

On Monday we decided to drive round to Snowdon and have a look at the climbs on Lliwedd (= Sleweth, by-the-bye), but when Fritz looked at his boots and found that all but a few disheartened nails hanging by their tips had worked out, we decided to go into Bethesda and get them nailed at once and then, according to how the time worked out, we could make further plans.

As soon as rumours started circulating that a car journey was to be made to Bethesda, commissions began to pour in from all sides and, before we could escape, we had everything to buy from a pound of nuts to a pair of socks. When it came to starting the car, the first trouble began. Up to date the car had stood the rain with the perfect p[er]flect of an Austin Twelve, but

apparently a pint or so of rain water had sorted out of the terrific rainstorm of the night before and, drop by drop, trickled into the magneto. We ran it down the slope and tried to coax it to start, but with no success. In time a couple of vans pulled in, and shortly a heated interchange of diagnoses went back and forth over the bonnet and through the windscreen, as nuts were loosened and wires pulled about. Finally, in a furore of triumph, the trouble was traced to the motor switch and, putting a fresh lead in, we were soon listening to the pleasant music of the exhaust. With a few words of thanks, and nearly two hours late, we turned and drove rapidly to Bethesda.

"CLIMBER".



Phoenix, May 1935.

The Great Dog of Ennerdale.

(A translation of an old Cumbrian manuscript,  
now in the possession of John Rudd of Swinside.)

The night was still and the fellside deserted save for the lone climber who plodded wearily on. Softly ascended the sound of the Liza from the distant valley, blending with the winds soft crooning in the pine trees. Close at hand came a faint plaintive croaking, a queer sound. It came repeatedly from the boulder strewn fellside. It was the sound of ptarmigan.

Rounding a rock, suddenly, McRadzean halted, unable to believe his eyes.

She sat alone in the moonlight, an adorable creature full of the gentler passions of life; her young body throbbing with freshness and innocence; her glorious form moulded into a thrilling symphony of seductive outlines by the soft opalescence of the night. Her eyes were as two pools hidden behind long lashes, unfathomable and mysterious - her mouth a passionate, moist, red blaze of quivering ecstasy - her nose a small artless thing set in the centre of a perfect oval framed by a glory of golden waves softly tinted by the moonbeams.

His soul hungered for the caress of those enticing lips. Fondly he gazed with eyes full of torment upon her scintillating loveliness, her vibrant beauty, poignant as the lilt of music.

Awkwardly he clasped her hand in his, but with a murmur she gently withdrew it.

Moved by the intensity of his gaze her lashes drooped and her lips parted in a smile of acquiescence. He yearned

to clutch her with gentle savagery. Restraint was impossible. Ruthlessly he gathered her to himself. Somewhat frightened she withdrew but overcome by romance surrendered herself.

He drew her close and their lips met in a pulsating duet of satisfaction.

They heard in the valley, for the third time that year, a queer, high-pitched barking, born faintly on the wind from the direction of the Pillar. A noise which sent shudders down the spine of the bravest man and which caused the curs to slink into the furthest corners of the byres. That night no one slept in Ennerdale, and on the morrow they buried the mutilated remains of Alistair McFadzean in the tiny churchyard at Ennerdale Bridge.

Phoenix, December 1934.

"An Interesting Case of Allotropy  
is afforded by Snow Crystals."

A scientist and a layman were walking in the snow.  
The scientist was shocked at what the layman didn't know;  
He said that snow was water in a simple crystal form  
Solidified by freezing - it would melt when it got warm.  
He said 'twas monoclinic, crystallising from the vapour,  
And he worked out some equations on a dirty scrap of paper.

The layman said but little, he just gazed upon the snow  
And marvelled at its starry beauty, and its whiteness on  
the ground below.

He looked upwards to the white trees, drank deep of glory there  
And pondered how, the day before, they'd looked so cold and  
bare.

The scientist talked on about the sort of things he knew,  
Of pressure curves, and hoar frost and depositing of dew;  
He explained the anticyclone and the 'Northwind that doth  
blow';

With a long discourse on spectra he dismissed the sunset  
glow.

In fact there wasn't anything on which he couldn't talk:  
He was a mine of knowledge - but he spoilt the layman's walk.

D.A.S.



1935 - 36.

President:- P.H. Hicks. Hon. Secretary:- Miss Greta Stevenson.

Over the New Year, a very successful meet was held in North Wales, when climbers rallied from the corners of England and one even from the snow-buried wilds of Scotland. The weather though cold was mostly fine and sunny. On the best day of the meet, one party made a circuit of the Snowdon Horseshoe. There was snow all the way high up and, while this party were sitting sunning themselves on the rocks at the foot of one of these snowfields "watching the shadows from the cold face of Lliwedd darken the ice bound tarn below", they were able to watch a second party attempting a climb from which it subsequently had to turn back. A meet was held in the Lake District during the Easter vacation and the Phoenix for April 1936 contained the article "Climbing in Lakeland" describing part of it.

There was a full and varied lecture programme during the session. On October 29th, travel talks were given by two members, A.J.M. Smythe and Mr. Hans Hopf. Mr. Smythe, who had cycled from Gibraltar to Munich during the long vacation, showed an amazingly diverse selection of slides. Mr. Hopf's photographs were all taken in the vicinity of the Dolomites, where he had had some good climbing. Mr. Scott Russell gave a lecture on November 1st describing some of his recent ascents in the Southern Alps of New Zealand, and dealt with some lesser known parts of South Canterbury and Westland. On the 11th November, the club was honoured to entertain and be entertained by that distinguished mountaineer, Dr. T.G. Longstaff, a pioneer of travelling and climbing the Himalayas. The lecturer gave a rapid and stimulating survey of the whole Himalaya.

Mr. Eric Shipton was entertained to dinner on February 11th on the eve of his departure with the Everest expedition. Mr. Shipton showed a very fine series of slides and gave an account of his very remarkable expedition which succeeded in reaching the Nanda Devi basin. Subsequently, Mr. J.V. Durden, a former president of I.C.M.C., gave a combined lantern lecture and film show dealing with some of his mountaineering experiences in South Africa. The film illustrated in the most graphic way possible one of the difficult rock routes up Table Mountain.

In Phoenix, the Secretary reported that efforts were being made to get permission from the Goldsmith Co. for small parties of students to visit Harrison Rocks again. The July meet in Skye had to be abandoned, owing to failure of transport. In spite of this, two members quickly organised a meet in the Lake District under ideal weather conditions. Thus prepared, one of the party spent a fortnight in the Kaunergrat district of the Austrian Alps, climbing peaks of 1100 - 1200 metres.

Phoenix, December 1935.

"To Great Gable".

Though clouds of sad misfortune hang about  
 my life, or black depression take her turn  
 among the smaller troubles of the day,  
 then may I thank the fates that I have stood  
 upon thy granite head, uncrowned by cloud.  
 I, too, have seen but never climbed thy face  
 precipitous, where only those who dar'st  
 offend thy pride, are bold enough to tread.  
 For oft thy wrath does not restrain her hand  
 and then who shall be saved? But on this morn  
 the sun, still low above the spined back  
 of Glaramara, pierced white fleeting clouds  
 that were alone in all the Summer sky.  
 Almost beneath my feet, from Styhead Tarn,  
 the infant River Derwent playfully  
 ran down through Borrowdale, to form the lake  
 beneath Cat Bells. So, mountain after mountain  
 leads the eye towards the west, where streams  
 uniting forces, flow towards the sea  
 past Buttermere and on. Then Ennerdale  
 and Pillar Rock, the eagle passes o'er  
 winging her restless flight towards the south,  
 to blue Wast Waters underneath the screes,  
 where with one fatal plunge, the mountain falls  
 into the lake. There too the grim Sca Fell  
 peers o'er the shoulder of his taller kin,  
 the Sca Fell Pike. At Langdale ends the tale;  
 the circle is complete and downward leads



the path from cairn to cairn, while mountain sheep  
gaze with sad eyes or give one cheerful bleat  
to help the hungry traveller on his way,  
till Brandreth's grassy slopes blot out thy face  
uncovered by the veil of mountain mist.

1936 - 37.

President:- R. Scott Russell.

By kind permission of the Climbers Club, two meets were held this year at Helyg in North Wales. At Christmas, stormy weather generally necessitated keeping to familiar routes, but members gained much valuable experience. The presence of much new snow prevented climbing on some of the more sunless faces during the week after Easter, but it greatly added to the enjoyment of the meet and several interesting climbs were made on Tryfan buttresses and the Idwal Slabs. "No new routes were intentionally accomplished".

Again the club had a full programme of lectures. The meetings were preceded by tea in one of the committee rooms and one lecture each term was followed by an informal dinner. Efforts were again made to obtain permits for parties to visit Harrison Rocks.

October 27th.	Professor G. I. Finch.	Alpine Films.
November 10th.	Mr. E.H.L. Wigram.	1936 Everest Expedition.
November 24th.	Mr. R.A. Hodgkin. (Pres. O.U.M.C.)	Norway.

(Afterwards Messrs. Hodgkin and Wigram were entertained at dinner, together with Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Young.)

January 28th.	Mr. G.R. Speaker.	Technique of Rock Climbing.
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Subsequently, three interesting lectures were given by members of the club.

Mr. Milverton.	Exploration in Newfoundland.
Dr. Shackleton.	Exploration in Fiji.
Mr. Lowey.	Climbing in the Alps.

The final lecture of the session was held on May 5th, when Mr. Gerald Seligman, an authority on snow and ice and a

well-known skier, was the speaker. The lecture was followed by a Club dinner at which Brig.-General the Hon. C.G. Bruce, Mr. Seligman, Mr. G. Bartrum of the Climbers Club, and Professor Finch were the guests of the Club.

The former secretary of the club, Miss Stevenson, who was a postgraduate student in the Botany department and a graduate of Otago University, Dunedin, was elected President of I.C.W.A. for this session. In an interview with a Phoenix reporter, printed in the Phoenix for December 1936, she makes the interesting statements that "I think the general standard of physique is very poor and the number of weedy specimens is much greater than in New Zealand" and that "the Mountaineering Club may be considered the best society in the College".

In May 1937, the following poem appeared which may well have been born of experience in an Alpine valley:

"Awakening".

Quiet in the valley, all is still  
 Save for the faint rustle of the breeze  
 As it stirs the dead brown leaves  
 Loth to be moved from their winter sleep  
 Catching the faint mist in wisps. Chill  
 From the stream's dark, sombre bed to creep  
 Up the leaf-moulded slope.  
 Then like a ray of hope  
 In dark, damp, cheerless places  
 Tingeing with gold, the brown leaf's dry, curled stalk  
 Making the snowdrop even, seem to lift her head,  
 Comes the Sun, golden in splendour,  
 Flooding with kind warmth this dead  
 Once winter dulled domain  
 Of snow and rain.



The green array of herbage turns its face  
To bathe in welcome warmth.  
The mist dissolves; new life among the dead;  
The birds awake again from winter's bed;  
Their song is heard at last.  
Spring has arrived, the snows have gone and now  
The clouds have passed.

J.K.H.W.



G.M.H.

FURTHER DESECRATION OF OUR MOUNTAINS?  
THREATENED DESIGN FOR MOUNTAINEERING CLUB TIE.

PHOENIX, MARCH '37

Phoenix, April 1936.

Climbing in Lakeland.

Many people despise rockclimbing and ask what is the use of getting to the top of a rock by the most difficult route. Further, they suggest that it would be pleasanter to attain the object in view without any possibility of physical danger. Towards such people I feel like the man recently portrayed in 'Punch' who had an irresistible desire to throw the other man off the top of a mountain. It is doubtful whether such people would enjoy and enter into the true spirit of rockclimbing and mountaineering. But for those who enjoy grappling with physical difficulties and, in particular, with the unequalled feeling of elation following success, rockclimbing is a most enjoyable sport. Mountaineering, which is only met with on a small scale in England, is ideal for those who enjoy exercise and exploration.

For one who has never been to the Lake District before, the journey by road after Kendal was exciting enough on a sunny Sunday afternoon, but the arrival at the foot of Scarth Gap Pass with the orange sun dipping into Buttermere was quite awe-inspiring.

By the time I reached the top of Scarth Gap with a heavy pack on my back and all the extra clothes necessary when motorcycling 280 miles into a north wind, I began to consider the possibility of sleeping the night out on the rocks. My chief source of light was now the moon and I had not the least idea how far I had to go to the Youth Hostel where the party was staying. However, twenty minutes later I was considerably relieved to see an old



stone forester's hut, which proved to be the Youth Hostel, appear out of the foothills of Ennerdale.

Over a good hot meal, I heard with envy how Nape's Needle had been conquered that day, and the Arrowhead Arête also climbed. The rest of the party consisted of three other I.C. men, one of whom had unfortunately to leave the next day, and a member of the New Zealand Alpine Club, whom we were very fortunate to have with us. They seemed to have found Nape's Needle quite difficult and I certainly was disappointed not to have had the opportunity of climbing it myself. However, it is not a very difficult climb, but has one very exposed pitch.

Our enjoyment of the meet must, to some extent, be attributed to the marvellous weather we were fortunate enough to have. Monday woke us without a cloud in the sky and I was able to see at its best the wild country I had stumbled into the night before.

One of the party had to go into Keswick to get another rope, so the three of us went off down Ennerdale towards Pillar Rock. Here we spent the day doing several short practice climbs, mostly in rubbers because the rock was so dry.

It was decided that the next day should be spent going over to Scafell, going up the Pike and perhaps doing a short climb if time and energy permitted. Again it was a clear sunny day, but really warm this time, and, when we got to the foot of the Pike and stood on the large cairn on the summit, I personally felt like 'Stout Cortez' - the whole of the countryside within a radius of thirty miles or more was laid before us like a map. The sea could be clearly seen and made the coastline stand out in relief as it filled the estuary north of Barrow-in-Furness; the sun shone on the roofs of that smoky

town and showed us where the sea came inland further south in Morecambe Bay.

After lunch, after rather too much discussion, we decided against climbing Seawfell Pinnacle so late in the afternoon as we had intended, and had to be content with a short climb on the other side of the mountain. Before doing this though, we had the pleasure of surveying the notorious Central Buttress climb, reputed to be the most severe one in the country.

We descended a large part of the way down to Wasdale Head on screes. This is one of the most enjoyable parts of mountaineering; you tear down the mountainside at twice the ordinary rate, being careful not to pitch forward, nor to go so fast that you cannot stop when larger pieces or rock are reached. Continuous concentration is also necessary to prevent ankles from turning over. This particular scree was not so good as some on Gable, but we arrived at a farm in Wasdale Head, feeling very hungry having descended nearly three thousand feet. After a large tea, we stumbled back over Black Sail Pass and arrived at the Hostel in the dark about two hours later.

Wednesday again was a glare of warm sunshine and we decided to climb on Great Gable. So we made for the southern side of the mountain, selecting the Needle Arête for the first climb. This is only classified as difficult; it leaves the Needle well below it after the first two pitches and has some quite pleasantly sheer drops of three or four hundred feet on the Wasdale side. We climbed four on one rope, the pitches being quite short.

After completing this, we glissaded down a scree to the foot of Chantry Buttress, not too pleasant a descent in rubbers. Here we had the pleasure of meeting some

FELL and Rock

distinguished members of the ~~Rock and Fell~~ climbing Club, who made the ascent in front of us. We climbed two on each rope.

That evening there were only two members of the party left, and we were the only visitors in the hut. Next day, our last, again brilliant sunshine but a very bitter wind, we started off at 9 o'clock for Pillar Rock going by the lower route. This was certainly, as far as I was concerned, the best day of the lot. Keeping round to the west side of the Rock, we ascended a semi snow-filled gully, which had to be abandoned half way up. With the aid of the guidebook, we eventually found the foot of the New West climb and began the ascent in rubbers. The climb is a delightfully varied one, having two traverses, several chimneys, and slabs, and, I think, two arêtes. One of the traverses is notoriously exposed and has very low handholds; it is followed by a tricky chimney. We found this climb very good for practising rope work, the belays sometimes being difficult and it being necessary to change positions at the end of a pitch under rather awkward conditions.

Pillar is one of the few rocks that cannot be ascended without climbing, so we descended High Man by the West Jordan Gap, and climbed up onto Pisgah, a short climb, but needing some bold steps and tricky balance. During lunch, we had the pleasure of watching another pair of climbers ascend the New West. The afternoon was spent in doing some of the shorter climbs on High Man.

Next evening saw me down south of London again, feeling very fit and pleased with myself. I had spent a holiday, every moment of which I had enjoyed, because of a sport I might never have considered had I not been at the I.C. I had, too, that delightful feeling of having really accomplished something.

M.B.



1937 - 38.

President:- D.F. Ashby. Secretary:- S.L.S. Thomas.

The first Phoenix for the year included the following paragraph in a report of Mountaineering Club activities:

"We heartily invite all who have any inclination towards mountaineering or ski-racing to get into touch with us, however diffident they may feel of their abilities, and so help the club to promote good fellowship in the College through the love of mountains. In the attainment of this ideal, we are conscious of a particular debt of gratitude to many members of the Staff."

During the year, the Club was fortunate in obtaining permission to use Brackenclouse and Helyg, and meets at these centres were supported by a large number of enthusiastic members. Five Sunday meets were held at Harrison Rocks by permission of Mr. A. Turner. Several prominent mountaineers honoured the Club with an account of their experiences. A particularly vivid account of the difficulties encountered on the south face of Ushba was given by Mr. J.R. Jenkins of the Oxford University Mountaineering Club. He encountered even greater difficulties in dealing with the Caucasians, where the moral code left much to be desired apparently.

The secretary concludes a report of the activities for the year with the paragraph:

"I feel that we should congratulate Mr. A. King on his enterprise in arranging a scientific expedition to sub-arctic regions. Several members of the Club, including Dr. Scott-Russell and the President, are taking part, and valuable observations on life in these areas are being made."

In addition to the Jan Meyen Expedition, made in the long vacation of 1938, the successful Finnmark Scientific Expedition was also undertaken. A party of six, led

R.E. Rattle of Magdalen College, Oxford, spent eight weeks in the vicinity of Kunes, Laksfiord, Finnmark. During the course of the expedition, Messrs. Milverton and Rattle went up the river Tana to visit Karasjok, the Lapp capital, climbing Rastigaissa (3629 ft.) en route, the highest mountain in the region, and being the first Englishmen to do so. An account of the expedition is published in the Phoenix for November 1938.

The following is a reprint of the account of the Jan Meyen expedition, printed in Phoenix, December 1938. Another account is given by R. Scott Russell in his book "Mountain Prospect", a fine book written in a Japanese prison camp. The author's best way of ensuring against mental inactivity was to recall in detail the memories of his mountain explorations, an activity far removed from his confinement.

Phoenix, December 1938.

Imperial College Expedition to Jan Mayen, 1938.

For several years the possibility of sending out an expedition from the College to some arctic region has been discussed and much work done in selecting a suitable area which offered important geological and biological problems. The Island of Jan Mayen was thus chosen essentially because of its scientific possibilities and its reasonable accessibility.

Jan Mayen is situated in the Greenland Sea 250 miles East of Greenland and 300 miles North of Iceland; it may have been used by the Vikings as a halting place on their journeys between Norway and Greenland. At the beginning of the seventeenth century when the Dutch and English were rivals in the arctic whaling grounds, the Island was probably discovered independently by several ships, but, owing to economic considerations, the secret of its existence was guarded. Several names have therefore been put forward as discoverer of Jan Mayen, the most famous of which is that of Hudson, but credit is now generally given to Jan Jacobsz May, who landed there in the year 1614 and after whom the Island is named.

By 1619 Jan Mayen had become a thriving whaling station with vats built on the shore for the boiling down of blubber. Some remains of the Dutch factory are still to be seen on the Island. In the winter of 1633-34 a party was left on the Island to guard the Dutch possessions from the English, but all perished of scurvy before the spring.

With the decay of whaling in the arctic, Jan Mayen became once more deserted, visited only by a few curious travellers who reported volcanic eruptions or brought



back fantastic accounts of the height and shape of its dominating mountain, the Beerenberg. The most famous of these visits is recorded in Lord Dufferin's classic "Letters from High Latitudes" in which there is also an impressionistic drawing of the Beerenberg's summit seen through a gap in the clouds, as it were in the zenith.

During the polar year 1882 - 83, an Austrain party wintered on Jan Mayen, carrying out magnetic and meteorological work and constructing a map which has since received only a few minor corrections from later explorers. We found this map very unsatisfactory, especially at the extremities of the Island where it became quite useless. Scientific expeditions to Jan Mayen have been infrequent and, with the exception of J.M. Wordie's short expedition in 1921 and C.J. Bird's visit in 1935, there has been very little systematic work.

In 1921 the Norwegian government established a wireless station on Jan Mayen. The Island, situated to the North of Iceland, is in a region in which much of Europe's weather develops. Weather reports from Jan Mayen are thus very important, especially to Norway, whose fishing fleet is off the Lofotens in winter and vulnerable to storms from the North-West. It is unlikely that Jan Mayen will be of use for any other purpose since it is devoid of economic minerals, has no harbours and could not be made to yield any crop.

Sufficient funds being available, it was decided to send an expedition during the present year and the following were chosen as members:-

Alexander King (R.C.S.)	Leader, chemist and physicist.
R. Scott Russell (R.C.S.)	Deputy leader and in charge of botanical work.
D.F. Westwood (R.C.S.)	Botanist.
P.S. Wellington (R.C.S.)	Botanist.

- D.F. Ashby (R.C.S.) Geologist.
- W.H. Ward (C. and G.) Surveyor.
- J.M. Willcox (Middlesex Hospital) Doctor and Ornithologist.
- O.R. Seligman (Caius College, Cambridge) Ornithologist.
- J.N. Jennings (St. Catherine's College, Cambridge.) Glaciologist.
- S.R. Nutman (University College, Exeter) Marine Biologist.

The party left London on the 25th of June and proceeded to Tromsø where the expedition ship, the "Fortuna", was joined.

Favourable winds brought us to Jan Mayen in four and a half days. Our first sight of the Beerenberg was not unlike Lord Dufferin's vision except that the summit appeared dazzling white in a blue sky, the rest of the Island being concealed behind a lambent mist. We carried with us the new wireless operators - they are relieved once a year - and so we cast anchor off the wireless station in the central part of the Island. Calm weather favoured the landing of our goods, which was difficult enough on the steep beach of volcanic sand, completely lacking in any sort of shelter. A base camp was quickly established beside a large patch of melting snow as water supply. Water is one of the problems of life on this wet, but excessively porous Island. We transformed an old Austrian hut into a laboratory; calor gas was used for heating and it was possible to carry out normal scientific work with reasonable efficiency.

A few days later a botany camp was established a few miles away in one of the few vegetated valleys of the Island. A sealing hut on the other side was also much used during the latter half of our visit.

Jan Mayen is about thirty-five miles long and, in spite of its completely volcanic nature, is divided into three distinct parts. The central part where the wireless

station is situated is as narrow as two miles across in one place and consists of many large lava flows and volcanic sand deserts; there is practically no vegetation. There are a number of long beaches of dark volcanic sand mixed with shining crystals of olivine and strewn with driftwood from the great rivers of arctic Siberia. In this region, also, there are two lagoons, fresh water lakes separated from the sea by narrow sand bars. Within a mile of the wireless station Egg Bluff rises 500 ft. sheer from the sea. On the top of this prominent cliff there are a series of steam blows to remind one of the Island's volcanic past. During the earthquakes of Autumn, 1935, large portions of Egg Bluff fell into the sea.

The Southern portion of Jan Mayen to which we made several expeditions, is seldom free from mists for more than a few hours at a time and, even when clear, is a dark forbidding country quite devoid of any colour. It consists of a mass of irregularly placed peaks and volcanic craters of rugged outline, rising to nearly 3,000 feet. In most places it falls steeply into the sea, although there are a few bays, especially to the South West. Here and throughout the Island there are frequent cliff falls, the volcanic rock being everywhere unsafe. Transport over this irregular and crumbling country is excessively slow and exhausting, there being no regular valley systems; progress has to be made up and down over innumerable loose screes which look for all the world like gigantic heaps of uncemented ashes.

The Northern portion of Jan Mayen is occupied entirely by the Beerenberg, its ice fields and glaciers. This mountain which rises 7,680 feet out of the sea is one of the world's most impressive volcanoes; it dominates the view from practically every part of the Island and is visible more than 100 miles off at sea.



The most remarkable feature of the Beerenberg is its ice-filled crater which our surveyor established to be a mile wide and which forms the neve of the Weyprecht glacier. On the Northern side of the crater this glacier passes through a huge gash, walled by sheer rock faces, and descends by an almost continuous series of icefalls to the sea. The highest peak across the glacier is the second summit (Northeast Peak). These two peaks are joined by the crater rim, a serrated horseshoe ridge two and a half miles long. The Beerenberg was first ascended by Mr. J.M. Wordie during his 1921 expedition. Climbing parties of the Imperial College expedition ascended the Northwest Peak twice and the hitherto unclimbed Northeast Peak once. Seven members of the expedition took part in one or more of the climbs.

It was important that we should climb the mountain as soon after arrival as possible as we had an apparatus for cosmic ray investigation which had to be exposed on the summit for as long a time as possible. Our first climb was ~~to~~ made on the 12-13 July from the botany camp near the South Glacier. Crossing the lateral moraine we reached the South Glacier at a height of 800 feet. In front of us the glacier rose gradually to 5,000 feet whence steep slopes led to the crater rim. To the East the upper slopes looked forbidding with two rock ribs overhanging with threatening shelves of ice; to the West an easier ridge seemed to offer a satisfactory route. After a few hours tedious march up the glacier we reached a rock outcrop beneath the steeper slopes and halted for a meal. Here we made the discover that our sugar and raisins had been left behind, but we proceeded hungrily to devour sardines and army emergency rations. Conditions on the upper part of the mountain were becoming progressively worse. Thick mist made route

finding difficult and the snow was treacherous and soft so that we sank in above the knees. Great care had to be taken on the broken slopes owing to dangerous and concealed crevasses. Snow was falling when we reached the summit. The cosmic ray apparatus was deposited and we descended in worsening snow conditions, reaching the camp in heavy rain after a climb of eighteen hours duration.

To recover the apparatus we again ascended the peak towards the end of our stay on Jan Mayen. This time we started from the base camp and followed a route well to the West of the badly crevassed South Glacier. A heavy blanket of cloud lay on the lower slopes, but above 2,500 feet the mountain rose clear of the mist and the weather was sunny and windless. It was now so late in the season that the sun was below the horizon at midnight; at sunrise, the great ocean of cloud stretching uninterrupted to the horizon was of a texture and colour never seen in temperate regions. Snow conditions were perfect during this climb.

In the interval between these two ascents we planned a visit to the almost unknown north-east extremity of Jan Mayen - an expedition expected to last some six days, during which time we hoped to complete the circuit of the Beerenberg. Very little information was available as to the conditions we should expect. Our aims were very varied; glaciological, botanical and ornithological records were to be made and a sketch map prepared. There was also a possibility that we should find the figurehead left by Lord Dufferin in 1856 and, if weather permitted, we hoped to climb the Northeast Peak. Accordingly, a party consisting of King, Russell, Jennings, Ward and Seligman set out. The greater part of the coastline consists of cliffs as high as 2,000 feet and nearly always unclimbable. Along the South coast progress was easy above the cliffs on

gentle slopes which are, botanically, the richest in the Island. As no such route was possible on the steeper East coast, we scrambled down gullys of loose rock to the shore and followed the narrow beach. The threat of rock-falls made us hurry past the steeper cliffs and in some places stones fell almost continuously. From the ice edge, just visible beneath the clouds, many glaciers descended in distorted ice falls to the sea between cliffs shattered into fantastic shapes.

At Clandeboy Creek, no trace of the famous figurehead was to be found. In all probability a rock fall carried it off decades ago.

We reached the flatter country at the North East of the Island after 14 hours hard going and spent the next day in examining this section under unfavourable weather conditions. As weather in these parts is most uncertain, it was decided that Russell and Jennings should attempt to complete the circuit of the mountain and that the others should therefore return to the base as quickly as possible so that the remaining food could be left to enable the climbers to await favourable weather.

The return journey of King, Seligman and Ward was extremely unpleasant. They had to wade in the surf under the walls of glaciers just about to calve, were seriously threatened by rock falls and, after climbing the gully to the top of the cliffs had to strike home by compass over difficult country in a very thick mist.

Russell and Jennings were fortunate in the weather conditions and managed the ascent of the Northeast Peak. The main problem here was to find a way up the cliffs, but eventually a satisfactory route was found in a steep snow



couloir, two miles west of their camp. Above the cliffs an ascent was made to an easy ridge commanding a fine view of the North face. 3,000 feet above, the Weyprecht glacier poured out from the crater and fell to the sea in a vast icefall. Lower down the angle of the glacier was certainly less steep, but almost everywhere the ice was riven into innumerable pinnacles and chasms. From the end of the glacier, washed by the sea, a flotilla of small icebergs drifted slowly with the tide. East of the upper ice-falls rose steep rock faces capped by the graceful conical summit of the Northeast Peak. Finally after a long, ascending traverse on fairly steep snow, the summit was reached. Descent was without incident.

The most difficult part of the circuit was still before them. Food was limited and it was important to cross the Weyprecht in fine weather. A few hours after the ascent of the Northeast peak, the weather showed signs of breaking, so Russell and Jennings decided to push on at once although it was already late afternoon. By 10.30 p.m., the Weyprecht Glacier was reached a few hundred feet above sea level. The surface was very broken and much step-cutting was necessary. Frequent retreats had to be made as the surface was convex and only a short distance ahead could be seen. A few hours later, the easy slopes beyond the glacier were reached and the tent pitched. Next day base camp was regained after a long, monotonous march.

A word should be said about Jan Mayen weather. The wireless operators tried to persuade us that last summer had been an exceptionally good one and, according to Island standards, this was probably true. Nevertheless,

conditions were such as to make camp life uncomfortable. During the last three weeks of July there was almost continual mist at the base camp, broken only by fierce gales and heavy rain. The first half of August saw some improvement but a glimpse of the sun was always an exciting exception. One night we went to bed in a thunderstorm of almost tropical intensity and were wakened in the morning by an earthquake. Towards the end of August we had a hurricane of 48 hours duration during which time our tents collapsed, their poles broken like matchsticks. Storms of volcanic sand are common and unpleasant features of Jan Meyeh life; ships several miles out at sea often collect inches of this sand on their decks.

At the end of August, when the Polarbjörn came to relieve us, the sea was so high on our side of the Island as to make any thought of embarkation impossible, and we knew well that it might be three weeks before it subsided. Accordingly we had to carry all our apparatus and equipment to the weight of almost 2 tons right across the Island to the more sheltered South West coast, where we managed to get aboard. After carrying the heaviest of packs for three days we regarded the voyage to Norway as a rest cure.

By far the largest proportion of our time was occupied in carrying out the scientific programmes. Our surveyor, Ward, was the least fortunate of the party. Weather conditions were far from ideal for surveying, but he made detailed maps in co-operation with the glaciological and botanical work, established the height of the Beerenberg as 7680 ft., measured its crater and made many corrections to the map. Ashby completed a geological map of the central part of the Island on a 1:25000 scale. He concludes that Jan Mayen originated entirely by volcanic processes since

the main glacial retreat. A feature of considerable interest is the discovery of inclusions of crystalline rocks in some of the lavas and ashes. It is hoped that these will yield evidence relating to the formation of crystals in lavas. J.N. Jennings studied the glaciers of the Island with detailed work on the retreating South Glacier.

Scott Russell, assisted by Westwood and Wellington, carried out an ambitious botanical programme. Extensive collections of flowering plants, mosses and lichens were made and the herbarium lodged with the British Museum. Many of the species had not previously been recorded on the Island, and one appears to be new to science. Collecting was, however, not by any means the most important part of the botanical work. Several physiological problems were investigated, especially the effect of the continuous daylight of the arctic summer on growth processes. For this purpose much elaborate apparatus was required, a fact firmly impressed on those who acted as porters for the botanists. In addition, ecological surveys accompanied by soil analyses were carried out.

Ornithological work was done by Seligman and Willcox, but the bird life of the Island was so fascinating that we all became bird watchers before the end of the expedition. S.R. Nutman studied plankton variation with environmental factors as well as the flora and fauna of the shore, the lagoons and various lakes of the interior.

Apart from this work described above, magnetic measurements were made, cosmic ray records taken from the summit of the Beerenberg, insects collected and bacteriological plates exposed.

This is the first expedition to the Arctic to go out from the University of London. We had hoped that by taking



a party of this size, fully provisioned and thus not wasting time trying to live off the country, to be able to accomplish during the short arctic summer more work of scientific importance than can be done by a smaller wintering party. We feel that our results have justified this policy.

The expedition was made possible by generous contributions from the administrators of the Leverhulme Research Fellowships, the central research fund of the University of London and the Imperial College Union, and we would like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks. We are also very grateful to many manufacturers who supplied us with provisions either free or at reduced cost. Special thanks are due to the Rector of the Imperial College, Sir Henry Tizard, for his advice and encouragement, to many professors of the College, to Dr. Adolf Hoel of the Norges Svalbard og Ishavs-Undersøkelser and Mr. P. Thrane of the Vaervarslingen for Nord-Norge, who arranged our transport, and finally to Mr. G. Blackman, who undertook the thankless job of secretary to the expedition.

A.K.

Phoenix, November 1938.

Fell-Walking.

"An age of increasing pace" is the verdict of innumerable writers on the time in which we live, and perhaps in no sphere has man's development been more remarkable than in his attitude to mountains. In 1750 a mountain was an unnecessary protuberance on the earth's surface, barren, desolate, useless to humanity and a bugbear to commerce. Not till 1800 were the earliest of the pioneers penetrating into such forgotten tracts, professedly to learned ends. They returned to civilization with a few scientific spoils and exaggerated descriptions of the hazards of their travels. But by 1900 the elders of the Alpine Club and the popular writings of Whymper had given to the mountains a new and unprecedented role as the home of sport and adventure. An in 1938 we find ourselves in an era in which the dangers of mountain travel are conquered and even scorned, in which not merely the easiest route up the most difficult peak, but the most difficult, is the goal of attainment.

So rapid has been the advance in this respect that the typically English pastime, fell-walking, has become a philosophy and not a sport. In the 1860's and '70's, when innumerable guide-books to the English Lakes were being published, in which the ascent of Great Gable from Sty Head was considered the province only of the athletic male, the fell-walker might regard his pursuit as something of a physical art; but nowadays, when the Snowdon Horseshoe ridge is "just a walk", he takes refuge in other justifications of his accomplishments. Nevertheless,

pleasure is not only to be sought in the forefront of progress; and while some bivouac on the Eiger Nordwand or drive their pitons into the overhangs of Bavaria, others will still seek enjoyment among the hills and valley of Britain, and find the greatest philosophic peace.

Indeed, the incentive to this modern pastime, mountaineering, may be regarded as double. It is compounded of the urge for adventure and for superficial thrills and the need of philosophic escape from the distractions of city life. That the latter is the more important component appears probable, since the growth of mountaineering has been coincident with the growth of large industrial communities: at any rate, few will deny that it is the higher aim. In fell-walking, the former feature is absent, but the latter is at its highest. For the thrills of mountain technique arise largely from the dangers by which the climber is surrounded, and the greater these dangers the more difficult it is to maintain the peace of mind necessary for the true appreciation of the scenery. The Chinese have a term, to "ling-lueh", meaning approximately to "accept into the understanding". This process which requires perfect mental ease, is the essence of the fell-walker's philosophy.

The process of overcoming the nervous horror with which mountains were universally regarded up to the end of the eighteenth century has been a gradual one. As an example of the early attitude, take Joseph Cradock's description in 1777 of the Pass of Aberglaslyn:

"How shall I express my feelings! The dark, tremendous precipices, the rapid river roaring over disjointed rocks, black caverns, and issuing cataracts; all serve to



make this the noblest example of the Finely Horrid the eye can possibly behold: the Poet hath not described, nor the Painter pictured so gloomy a retreat, 'tis the last Approach to the mansion of Pluto through the regions of Despair."

At this time the exploration of the British highlands was the province only of the heroic pioneer. "A stream of stones", wrote Pennant in 1783, "each of monstrous size, points towards the Cwm (Idwal); and are to be clambered over by those only, who possess a degree of bodily activity, as well as strength of head to bear the sight of the dreadful hollows frequent beneath them."

Much quaint advice was offered to the early travellers. Thus, Hutton, the historian, in 1799. "In ascending, if a man falls, it must be upon his hands, which I did several times; if in descending, upon his back or rather his right side, which I did once."

Yet Pennant himself had at times heard the call of the mountain scene. He was now and then learning to appreciate that its grandeur can be beautiful, not awful. For instance, take his description of the descent of Snowdon in 1784:

"A vast mist enveloped the circuit of the mountain. The prospect down was horrible. It gave an idea of numbers of abysses, concealed by a thick smoke, furiously circulating around us. Very often a gust of wind formed an opening in the clouds, which gave a fine and distinct view of lake and valley. Sometimes they opened only in one place; at others, in many at once, exhibiting a strange and most perplexing sight of water, fields, rocks, or chasms, in fifty different places. They then closed at once, and left us involved in darkness; in a small time they would separate again, and fly in wild eddies round the

middle of the mountains, and expose, in parts, both tops and bases clear to our view. We descended from this various scene with great reluctance; but before we reached our horses, a thunderstorm overtook us. Its rolling among the mountains was inexpressively awful, the rain uncommonly heavy. We remounted our horses, and gained the bottom with great hazard. The little rills, which on our ascent trickled along the gullies on the sides of the mountain, were now swelled into torrents; and we and our steeds passed with the utmost risque of being swept away by these sudden waters. At length we arrived safe, yet sufficiently wet and weary, to our former quarters."

Forty years after this was written, men were beginning to walk in the hills, not as pioneers, but as pleasure-seekers. The Rev. G.J. Freeman, in 1824, expressed the growing spirit.

"It was Sunday; and our manner of passing that day was unusual to both of us; yet we were conscious of offering in a silent worship, the depth and fervency of which is unknown to the church-goers of the peaceful plains of England."

By 1850, the advent of the railway with its speedy, cheap travel, had brought these experiences within the reach of many. Snowdonia and the Lakes were beginning to be thronged with tourists. George Borrow, at this time, thus described the scene on starting an ascent of Snowdon:

"We were far from being the only visitors to the hill this day: groups of people, or single individuals, might be seen going up or descending the path as far as the eye could reach."

Today the enjoyment of fell-walking is widely appreciated and understood. British hills have, in fact, provided solace for many successive generations of Englishmen. Their unchanging quality is perhaps their greatest delight. Between two visits to the hills, no matter how distracting or absorbing the urban occupations of a man may be, he will find an identical peace. The effect is sudden and complete. Perhaps in the morning he will be boarding a train, his mind a chaotic whirl of impressions and problems of work, of philosophy, of love: and in the evening "stretching his legs" up one of the smaller peaks, with that mental chaos only a memory in the background. In a week his whole attitude has changed. Complexity has given place to simplicity. In the long hours of tramping, in which his mind has occupied itself only with simple thoughts, each subject of his acquaintance has found its pigeon-hole, and order has emerged from confusion.

For, on the hills, his problems are few, and his pleasures many. The clouds he watches with the eye of an artist; not anxiously, anticipating the future they foretell. His route is obvious and simple, and requires little study; his rests are taken when and wherever he wills, and rests mean much to him, for in them he smokes his pipe, he philosophizes, he "ling-luehs" the scene.

Many have trodden the mountain ways, and in the future many more will tread them. Those of us who know them, are thankful for their joys.

M.

1938 - 39.

President:- E.W.K. Walton. Secretary:- C.B. Snodgrass.

A New Year meet was held at Wasdale. Favourable weather, deep snow and a full moon all contributed to the success of the meet. Several interesting climbs were made under very severe winter conditions. The Easter meet was held at Helyg from 30th March until 6th April.

Lectures were given on November 8th by J.T. Holloway, who described the exploration of the Olivine Alps in New Zealand, and on November 29th by C.W.F. Noyce, president of Cambridge University Mountaineering Club, on climbing in the Alps. During the winter term, A. Stevenson delivered an exceedingly interesting lecture to the club on the British Graham Land Expedition of 1934 - 37. The annual dinner was held in the Upper Dining Hall, where the guest of honour was Professor P.G.H. Boswell. The toast of the club was proposed by the Rector, Sir Henry Tizard.

Rock climbing activity in North Wales between the two wars is reviewed in a chapter, written by H.E. Kretschmer, in the 2nd Edition of Carr and Lister's book, "The Mountains of Snowdonia". While pointing out that among undergraduate climbers it was those of the northern universities that particularly flourished, he remarks that some from the south, "notably the Imperial College Club", became very active.

When the I.C.M.C. was formed, there had been discussion of formation of a University Club, but the matter was dropped owing to lack of support. The matter was revived in 1939 at I.C. and, as the result of a decision taken at a general meeting of the club, a committee consisting of E.W.K. Walton, Professor G.I. Finch, C.B. Snodgrass and R. Scott Russell, was set up to investigate the matter.



The committee communicated its ideas to the Academic Registrar in a letter dated 26th February 1939, and Snodgrass subsequently discussed the matter with Mr. S. Worsly. In May, other colleges and schools of the University were circulated and any members interested were invited to an informal dinner at Imperial College on May 15th. Among those present were Professor G.I. Finch, Mr. Geoffrey Winthrop Young and Professor Chorley. After several speeches had been made stressing the desirability of such a club, a committee was set up consisting of:-

Professor R.S.T. Chorley.	L.S.E.
Michael Wood.	Middx. Hospital.
C.B. Snodgrass.	I.C.
Basil Johnson.	K.C.L.
M.W. Lipp.	U.C.L.
G.J. Freeman.	School of Tropical Hygiene.
John Avering.	London Hospital.

to explore the possibility of forming a University of London Mountaineering Club. After some deliberation, it was unanimously decided that there was enough support to found the club in the near future. The suggestion was put forward to the general assembly and it was carried unanimously that the club should be formed. Dr. R. Scott Russell proposed that the above committee be elected and then proposed that Mr. G. Winthrop Young, Professor G.I. Finch, Professor R.S.T. Chorley and Professor van Hayak be elected foundation vice-presidents. This was also carried unanimously. The committee was empowered to co-opt any members and it was asked to investigate the possibility of an inaugural meet in the Long Vacation. A discussion arose as to whether membership should be open to men only and

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varying opinions were voiced. The meeting was then closed by Professor Chorley who thanked Imperial College Mountaineering Club for its hospitality and complimented it on its initiative. The outbreak of war prevented further activity and the matter was in abeyance until after the cessation of hostilities in 1945.

1939 - 40.

President:- C.B. Snodgrass.

1940 - 41.

President:- C. Reid. Secretary:- W. Gilpin.

As usual, meets were held during the Christmas and the Easter vacation and, on both occasions, were in N. Wales at Helyg and Idwal respectively. In addition, a highly successful meet was organised on Whitsunday, when the rocks were dry and the weather was warm. The President led parties on the East face of Tryfan, where several climbs were done on the Terrace Wall and an ascent of the 'Munich Climb' was made.

Throughout term, meets were held regularly at Stone Farm and Harrison Rocks and, during summer term, a weekend's camping was enjoyed by six members at Groombridge. A meet was organised in conjunction with the Manchester University Mountaineering Club at Stanage. The only indoor activities were two lectures by Professor Finch, one on "Snowcraft" and one on "Alpine Climbing".

1941 - 42.

President:- W. Daviø.

Having lost at the end of the previous year the keen nucleus that had been both committee and club, it seemed

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that the year would be difficult. However, successful meets were organised during both the Christmas and the Easter vacations at Idwal.

1942 - 43.

President:-

1943 - 44.

President:-

Secretary: A.L. Levy.

Several successful camps were held at week-ends at Harrison Rocks. In the Christmas and Easter vacations in North Wales. During the summer, two parties went to the Lake District at different times for about three weeks each.

It was during this session that the "Half-fares" refund for Harrison Rock meets was brought into operation and, in a letter dated 29th March 1944, the secretary of the I.C.U.C.C. says that "in addition to Harrison Rocks meetings, fare refunds may be made for all organised club outings in term time", but that fare expenses in excess of 10/- must first have the approval of the chairman and the committee before being incurred.

Phoenix, June 1943.

## AIMING HIGH.

### A Himalayan Mountaineering Expedition.

What is the idea of climbing mountains? It is not so easy to explain it to somebody who is not affected himself by this disease. Some will say that it is good for you, because it takes you away from the towns and from civilisation and brings you back to nature; others will claim it to be good physical exercise and a good school of character. Still others will think a lot of climbing, because it gives you the opportunity of striving at something other than money and position, of fighting the forces of nature instead of your neighbours.

Whatever view we take, one thing remains certain; it is a good to climb! The steeper the climb is, the harder, the higher it takes you, the better! A serious mountaineering expedition, having as its objective a high, hitherto unclimbed peak, is one of the finest experiences there are. Months, and sometimes even years, of planning and preparation are behind you; for weeks on end you live away from human habitation, you struggle hard with only one aim before your eyes - the Top. Everything else is subdued to this aim, which in itself is nothing more than a mathematical point. You have set your mind on getting there, to this very point of the earth's crust, just because it is so remote and difficult of access, just because the idea of getting there is so absurd. Yes, absurd is the word! A feeling of absurdity is the one that occurs to me while clinging on to a small hold amidst a steep, rock wall, or



standing in footsteps I have just cut with my ice-axe in a slope with a drop of many hundred feet below.

But surely, the reader will butt in here, mountaineering conceived like this is an absurd and senseless pursuit! That may well be, but so is any other human pursuit if considered from a sufficiently high viewpoint. It is only a matter of the scale you apply to it. You may well shrug your shoulders, but unless you have tried climbing for yourself, you do not know what you are shrugging your shoulders at; so let's leave it at that.

--ooOoo--

In April, 1939, four climbers, set out on a Himalayan Expedition. All of them were Polish, all came from Warsaw, and - by some peculiar arrangement of fate - all were Mechanical Engineers by profession. The eldest was 42, the youngest 29, and the years of their mountaineering experience totalled over 50. Its objective was Nanda Devi, the most prominent mountain of the Central Himalaya. The Goddess Nanda - for such is the meaning of this name - has twin summits in the shape of magnificent rocky pyramids plastered with ice and snow. The West Peak, the higher of the two (c. 25,000 ft.) was climbed in 1936 by Odell and Tilman; the East Peak (24,390 ft.) had never been climbed before.

Bombay, Kathgodam and Almora, a small hill town in the United Provinces, India, were the stations on a journey by boat, rail and road. From Almora the approach march proper began over 120 miles of tracks and paths of the Himalayan foothills. All the luggage of the expedition, amounting to two and a half tons, was carried by coolies - seventy of them. There were also six high-altitude porters, whose task was to begin higher up, on the mountain proper.

These high-altitude porters came from the borders of Nepal and Tibet and belonged to the Sherpa tribe. They were splendid fellows, these Sherpas; small, sturdy and cheerful, always ready for work and for a joke. Carrying a load of forty pounds at an altitude of 21,000 to 23,000 feet was no joke, but really heavy work. They did this work spendidly.

After an eleven-day march, the caravan arrived at its destination, the highest meadow in one of the tributary valleys of the Goriganga river. Here, at an altitude of 14,000 feet, the base campé was established. The coolies were discharged and the expedition could now set to its task proper. The summit of Nanda Devi East was at a distance of 3 miles from the base camp and 10,000 ft. higher but first a col 19,000 ft. high had to be climbed and then a ridge 2 miles long followed up to the summit. This does not sound much, but five weeks were needed to cover this distance.

Why so slow? The mountain was none too easy for one thing. Besides, it was too big to allow for the use of rush tactics: siege tactics had to be used. This meant erecting a number of camps at distances which could conveniently be covered in a day when going upwards, even under the worst snow and weather conditions. Each camp consisted of a tent or two and was supplied with a small store of food and fuel. Five camps were needed on our mountain, not including the base camp.

In the early period of the ascent the expedition worked in two teams; the advance party and the supply party. Those in the advance party went ahead, finding the route, tracking in snow, cutting steps in ice; in places they had to safeguard steep and crumbling rocks by

fixing ropes to assist the heavily laden supply party. These had less excitement; their part was a heavy and monotonous trudge, up and down, bringing in relays all the necessary loads. The record number of such repeated journeys done by one of the members of the party over the most difficult part of the ridge was seven times up and down.

Not all went smoothly and easily. There were various troubles and delays in this period of establishing camps. One of the climbers was taken ill immediately upon arrival at the base camp with amoebic dysentery. At first it seemed that the patient would be out of the hunt for the rest of the time, but owing to excellent treatment by the doctor of the expedition, a retired Medical Officer of the Indian Army, he was again fit for climbing in less than a fortnight. Then there was trouble with the weather; a week after the base camp had been established the monsoon came, rather earlier than it does usually. The period of steady, fine weather was over and snow kept on falling heavily for three days in succession. This initial snowfall was so heavy that the party had to descend from the height to the base camp for a few days. Later on, the weather settled to some extent and, although it snowed slightly practically every night, it was possible to do a little every day.

Camp 4 was arranged as an advanced base, and was accordingly supplied with food sufficient for about ten days. This precaution proved useful, because soon after this camp was established a period of bad weather came, compelling the party to wait. It was out of the question to attempt to climb the summit enshrouded in clouds and swept by high winds. Then one of the porters fell down

when climbing and, although held on the rope by his companion, sustained some slight injuries and had to be accompanied down to the base. Then again one of the climbers was taken ill and had also to be brought to the base.

But eventually the chance came: three climbers assisted by some porters established Camp 5 at an altitude of 23,000 ft. After another day of delay caused by bad weather, they started to the final attempt. The summit was only, 1,500 ft. higher. A snow ridge led up to it, interrupted in two places by steep rock. Half-way up one of the party decided to retreat, as he was feeling unwell; he returned to the Camp together with a porter and only two climbers continued the attempt. They faced a steep rocky part. After what seemed at first to be a stalemate, they managed to find their way up the rocks and continued on the snow ridge. They did their best to keep pace; it was a race against time. But the pace remained painfully slow. The atmospheric pressure at that altitude was two-fifths of that at sea-level and four breaths were needed to every step, even on a comparatively easy snow slope.

It was already 4 o'clock in the afternoon when they faced the last obstacle, another rocky step, over 100 ft. high. After another hour of scrambling over rock and step cutting, the slope in front of them leaned back and a big snow field, windblown into rifts and dunes, appeared before their eyes. The hard crust formed by the wind on the snow surface was in places not strong enough to support the weight of a man. The two men staggered, sometimes walking on the surface of the snow, sometimes falling deeply into it. They were very exhausted and very, very happy when they got to the highest point of the snowfield. This was



the summit, their summit. After years of planning, after months of preparations, after a journey of several thousand miles, after weeks of strenuous effort on the mountain - they had succeeded.

There was a magnificent view: the sky was clear and there were cloud billows 5,000 ft. lower down, from which hundreds of Himalayan summits emerged. Visibility was perfect, one could see well over 100 miles away. Close at hand, at a distance of two miles stood the main summit of Manda Devi.

During the descent the sunset came; and, as the sun sank lower and lower, the shadow the mountain cast on the cloud billows grew longer and longer, until it stretched many miles in length, reaching to the horizon.

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What was the making of the success? Very much the same as in tackling any other great problem successfully - thorough study of the object and careful initial preparation; sub-division of the great whole into smaller parts (establishing camps); a good deal of "sticking to it"; and one great thing - teamwork. And (to be quite honest), one thing more - that bit of luck, without which the best preparation, the grimmest determination and the finest teamwork just won't do.

J.Z. Buzak.

1944 - 45.

President:- A.L. Levy.

During the year, the club recovered from the effects of its period of inactivity at the beginning of war. It had a keen membership and has held frequent weekend climbing meets in Kent and Surrey, and longer, well-attended and highly successful vacation meets in the Lake District and North Wales. In 1944, the British Mountaineering Council was formed to represent the common interests of the various mountaineering and rock climbing clubs of Great Britain, and I.C.M.C. was one of the founder clubs and has since supported the council in its various activities.

During this year, there was some correspondence between P. Wilkinson and J.H. Young, Hon. Secretary of the Mountaineering Section of the Camping Club of Great Britain, about joint meets of the two clubs and members of this club received a general invitation to any walks or meets arranged by that club in London or the Home Counties.

1945 - 46.

President:- Peter Wilkinson.

The president convened a meeting in the rooms of the Alpine Club, 74 South Audley Street, on Saturday, December 1st 1945, to discuss the revival of the U.L.M.C. Mr. Geoffrey Winthrop Young took the chair and senior members of the University who were present included:-

Professor Lord Chorley.	L.S.E.
Professor G.I. Finch.	I.C.
Professor Huggett.	St. Mary's Hospital.
Dr. Pryce.	" " "
Dr. C.B.M. Warren.	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Dr. R.S. Russell.	I.C.

and good wishes and assurances of future support were received from Dr. Pye, the provost of U.C.L., Dr. N.S. Finzi, of Barts, and Professor Carr Saunders, principal of L.S.E. 40 people were present, including seven women, representing Birkbeck, Borough Road Training College, Imperial, London Hospital, Q.M.C., University and Woolwich Polytechnic.

The Chairman delivered a fine speech, stressing the great importance of mountaineering in the universities as a means for a student's self-realisation and self-expression. He then called on Dr. Scott Russell, who outlined the previous attempts in 1939 and went on to outline the objects and advantages to be obtained by this new attempt. He particularly stressed the need for the Club to be run by present active members of the University, a sentiment in which he was strongly supported by Professor Finch. The two motions "that immediate steps be taken to make U.L.M.C. a reality" and "that a Provisional committee should be appointed, consisting of a representative from each interested college; with the convener as secretary, to draw up a provisional constitution for the club" were put to the meeting and carried nem. con. Imperial College was represented on the provisional committee by Miss M.J. Thornley and another member of it, J. Dodwell (Woolwich Poly.), subsequently became an active member of the club. The business of the meeting being concluded, by Professor Finch showed an excellent film of an ascent of the North Ridge of the Piz Bernina by a party of young climbers led by himself.

A general meeting of U.L.M.C. was held at University College on January 30th, 1946, when the committee's recommendation that Officers should be appointed to draw up a constitution and arrange Club activities was accepted.

The officers were:-

President.	Peter Wilkinson.	I.C.
Vice-Presidents.	G. Winthrop-Young.	Past K.C.
	Prof. Lord Chorley.	L.S.E.
	Dr. D.R. Pye.	U.C.
	Prof. G.I. Finch.	I.C.
Hon. Treasurer.	Dr. Pryce.	St. Mary's H.M.S.
Hon. Meets Secretary.	Miss Eileen Pyatt.	U.C.
and Hon. Secretary.	D.W. Humphries.	Q.M.C.

and I.C.M.C. was again represented on the committee by Miss M.J. Thornley.

Then followed a most interesting lecture entitled "My Latest Alpine Holiday", given by F.S. Smythe.

From these beginnings, the U.L.M.C. has prospered and is now a flourishing club of the University. The mountaineers of I.C. have not always taken an interest in the club, but in 1948-49 A.J. Brooker was Meets Secretary of U.L.M.C. However, in 1950, a committee was formed representing U.L.M.C. and the climbing clubs of individual colleges to co-ordinate the indoor activities of the clubs and it was proposed that each club should entertain the others in turn at lectures.



In copies of Phoenix subsequent to this, only very brief reports appear.

December, 1946. "Several week-end camps at Harrison Rocks and other outcrops have been held. Before Christmas, the Club was climbing at Stanage, near Sheffield. J.L. Longland will speak at the annual dinner in the Spring term, and the Easter meet will be on Ben Nevis."

March, 1948. "A regular series of meets has been held in the Tunbridge Wells - East Grinstead area. An ex-member, Wing-Comdr. A.J.M. Smythe, gave an illustrated talk on climbing in Kashmire, and several members spoke on recent climbing on the Continent. The annual dinner was held in the Union and was preceded by a lecture by Mr. P. Bicknell on "The History of English Rock Climbing". Sixteen members attended a Christmas meet at Helyg and "a good time was had amidst rain, hail and snow".

June, 1948. With "traditional disregard for adverse weather conditions", the Easter meet was held at Lagangarbh in Glencoe, when six members enjoyed ten days climbing with sufficient snow to produce an approved alpine effect.

During the session 1947 - 48, lectures were given by G.A. Dummett, N.E. Odell, A.J.M. Smythe, R.P. Mears and J.V. Durdenn.

A more vivid picture of club meets from 1944 onwards may be formed by reading the present copy of the club log-book.

Phoenix, Summer 1949.

Kashmir, May 1945.

MAHADEO, wreathed in cloud -  
Summit clad in snowy shroud -  
Overlooks, remote and proud,  
The shady Shalimar.  
There the plashing fountain showers  
Along between the beds of flowers;  
Kashmiris pass idyllic hours  
Beneath some tall Chenar.

Below, from placid Bodal lake,  
Where lotus-buds dream half awake,  
The darting, azure Halcyons take  
Their silver - glistening prey.  
The summery sky is mirrored here,  
Where languidly shikaras steer;  
In fronded depths of crystal, clear,  
The rippling shadows play.  
Beyond the lake the willows sigh;  
Long avenues of poplars high  
Athwart the plains and marshes lie,  
Where irises abound.  
Glacier-fed, the Jhelum flows;  
And far beyond, faint tinged with rose,  
Pir Punjal, clothed in virgin snows,  
Rims the horizon round.

A.B.R.

Appendix 1.

- Phoenix December 1931 "Account of Accident on the Jungfrau"
- " " "Accident on Great Gable, 3<sup>rd</sup> April '35"
- " " "Accident on Skye, 30<sup>th</sup> September '35"

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Phoenix, December 1931.

The Accident on the Jungfrau.

The Summer Meeting of the Imperial College Mountaineering Club had been climbing for fourteen days in the St. Gotthard and Bernese Oberland Ranges. Throughout this period the general division of the party had been into four ropes as follows: Finch, Durden, Sutton minor; Ford, Robertson, Jenkins, Sutton major; Peto, Kershaw, Downey; the first named in each group being the group leader. Finch's party led throughout on all climbs, and Peto's rope came last.

The parties left the Jungfrauoch at about 7.30 a.m. on August 19, about 1 to 1½ hours after three other parties who could then be seen approaching the Rottalsattel. The weather was fine, with a moderate west wind blowing. The preceding three parties were about to leave the summit when the four I.C.M.C. parties arrived in the Rottalsattel. In order to avoid all danger from falling stones dislodged by the parties above, who were descending by the rock rib overlooking the Rottal (the usual summer route), Finch led straight up from the Sattel, thus following the normal winter route. Step-cutting was required practically throughout, for the most part in excellent but hard snow. Near the top of the slope an upward traverse calling for about thirty steps in ice had to be made. The summit was reached at about 10.30 a.m. On the descent, there being no danger of falling stones, the parties, maintaining the same order as on the ascent, but with their respective rope leaders now bringing up the rear, followed the well-trodden track leading down the rock rib to the Rottalsattel. The conditions on the rib were excellent. The



first two parties had already reached a point, the agreed-upon rendezvous, just below (30 ft.) the Rottalsattel. The third party was just preparing to descend through the corniche on the Sattel. This party (Jenkins and Sutton), before embarking on the well-known traverse from the foot of the rock rib to the Sattel, had seen the fourth party leave the rock rib at a point about 120 ft. above the traverse and start to take a descending traverse towards the Rottalsattel. There were no tracks along this course, and the surface consisted of a thin layer of poor snow on ice. All members of all four parties wore crampons. It was seen by the third party that Downey, later followed by Kershaw, proceeded down the slope without cutting steps; Peto was not seen to leave his secure stance on the rock rib. At this moment, though out of sight from them, Peto was heard by the first party, who had just arrived at the rendezvous below the Sattel, giving directions to his companions. A few seconds later, Jenkins, who was paying out Sutton through the corniche, happened to turn and saw the fourth party sliding down towards the edge of the Rottal Cliffs, over which they disappeared. The cause of the actual slip, which was not seen, is entirely unknown. The three men, when seen sliding, were one above the other, the rope taut between them, and they were endeavouring to stop themselves with their axes. As they slid down they made no sound. Jenkins immediately told the parties at the rendezvous what had happened and descended to the full extent of his rope down the Rottal side. It was at once clear that no hope could be entertained of the fall of the fourth party having been arrested. The accident occurred at 11.30 a.m.

One of the three other parties of climbers who were about to descend from the rendezvous was given a note addressed to the manager of the Jungfrauoch hotel. The latter reported immediately on receipt of the note to the Rettungsstation, Lauterbrunnen, which at once organised a search party. This party, consisting of three guides and a porter, left Lauterbrunnen at 2 p.m. and were in the Rottal hut that night. On August 20 bad weather interfered with their search, and they were unable to find any trace of the lost climbers beyond a rucksack and a crampon, which they retrieved from the surface of a fresh avalanche just below the bergschrund at the foot of the Rottal couloir. On August 21 they were forced to return to Lauterbrunnen by continued bad weather. On August 22 a second search party, consisting of the guides Peter Von Allmen, Fritz Wyss, Fritz Huggler and Christian Gertsch, together with Herr Urfer (Chief of the Rettungsstation, Lauterbrunnen), Messrs. Smith, Barry, Lauper, Robertson, Durden, Ford and Finch, proceeded to the Rottal hut. At daybreak on the 23rd, the bergschrund at the foot of the Rottal cliffs was searched. It was snowing. The search in the bergschrund was soon rendered impracticable by avalanches which fell and choked it up. A systematic search by means of iron sounding rods was then made of the avalanche below the bergschrund. During this work two men were detailed off to give warning of avalanches. The body of W.E. Downey was located at 8 a.m.; those of R.H.K. Peto and R. Kershaw at 11 a.m. The rope between Downey and Kershaw had broken. The bodies were in an avalanche, which in its turn had been covered by another and larger one. The bodies were brought to a safe place near the

moraine and covered with fresh snow, whereupon an advance party went down to Stechelberg to arrange for transport. The porters left Stechelberg shortly after 2 p.m.

On Monday, August 24, the bodies arrived in Lauterbrunnen. Peto and Downey were buried in the village on August 25. Kershaw's remains were sent to England and interred at Brighouse, Yorks., on the 30th.

To the above brief account I wish to add the following:-

The work of the Rettungsstation, Lauterbrunnen, was splendid. The actual recovery of the bodies was attended by considerable danger, and under these circumstances special mention should be made of the fine work effected by Herr Urfer and the guides named above. We are also deeply indebted to Herr Direktor Liechti (Director of the Jungfrau Railway), Herr Stahel, Herr Direktor Sommer (Manager of Jungfrau Hotel), the Fuhrer-Obmann of Lauterbrunnen, and Herr and Frau von Allmen of the Staubach Hotel.

G.I.F.



67, Gordon Road  
Ealing  
London W.5

II th April 1935

Dear Professor Finch,

I am writing to let you know details of an accident that you have already probably seen in the news-papers. There were six of us, of the Imperial College Mountaineering Club, staying at Blackswill Hostel for a week from the 1st April.

One member and myself set off to the Pillar Rock several miles from Great Gable on the 3rd April, while Oliver Cockerell and the other three went to Great Gable. The details of the accident that happened soon after they had commenced climbing are these.

Cockerell and Smythe, tied on the ends of a 120 foot rope ( I think that was a mistake.) intended to climb Abbey Buttress, classified Very Difficult, avoiding the Severe Variation, but unfortunately Cockerell discovered that he had brought the wrong guide-book. However he located the Buttress correctly, and also the Arrowhead Arete for Scott and Kagan, the remaining two.

When we inspected the climb later we came to the conclusion that he had finished the first two pitches correctly but had then gone on to the wrong climb. How this happened we imagine was due to the fact that at that point he had to traverse 12 feet to the left and continue the climb round a corner not obvious without knowledge. The severe route converges at this point and presented the obvious continuation.

He accordingly went to the right and found himself in difficulties. He called out to Smythe that holds seemed very scarce. He should have normally been capable of climbing a severe route with justification, but an extremely cold, strong wind and portions of iced rock must have proved too much. He was visibly failing and exhausted. Smythe noticed this and said that he was expecting at any minute to see him fall. He then tried to return and while doing so his foot slipped and he fell outwards. As he fell, his head struck a rock, and he finally landed in the gully having fallen a sheer distance of 60 feet. At the moment, he had run out 30 feet of rope, and on the jerk, Smythe held firm to save a further run out. The result was that he had his hand out through the sinews to the bone, and was left rather helpless to climb down alone. He tied the rope to the rock and abseiled down with one hand somehow, but while coming down he saw Cockerell slip down another 30 feet.

Scott and Kagan, seeing the accident from their climb, hurried down. Smythe ran off to fetch help, but fell and fainted once or twice, and Kagan accordingly ran after him to make sure. Scott kept Cockerell quiet and still and tried to keep him warm. It was three hours before a stretcher could get him down to a waiting ambulance at Wasdale.



2.

From Wasdale, he was taken to Whitehaven Hospital 15 miles away, together with Smythe to get treatment to his hand.

Later in the day, the two of us who were climbing on Pillar Rock (where we also encountered a bitter wind and plenty of ice) came across to Great Gable to meet the others. We came across the gully and saw the blood and signs of an accident, but there was nothing to tell us that it was our own party.

It was not till 8.0 pm that evening that Kagan came over Blacksail Pass with two ropes on his shoulder and the terrible news. We left for Whitehaven early next day, and found Smythe quite fit and due to leave at once. Cockerell, however, was still unconscious, his condition critical but more hopeful than we were expecting. He had injuries to his head, elbow and ankle.

They had not yet found whether it was a dual fracture or serious concussion. The elbow injury was not serious, but there is a bone broken in his ankle which might always give him trouble.

His improvement has been slow. As far as the news has reached, he was still unconscious on Monday afternoon (8th). It seems to me rather disturbing as the accident occurred at 11.30 am on the Wednesday previous.

From our reconstruction of events, we can see no obviously careless point that might have avoided the accident on the spot. It was careless, but unlucky, that he should have brought the wrong guide book, and as they are all so similar looking, I think as such it might have occurred to anyone. On the point I personally consider was wrong was that they should have used the whole 120 foot rope. 60 feet only was required (or less), and I think it would have been better to leave the rest in the second man's rucksack. It would not have avoided the direct fall but would have prevented further slipping I think.

Both Smythe and Scott were almost new to mountaineering, and were unfortunate to be implicated in an accident straight away.

The newspaper reports have given a rather garbled account of the whole matter. One went so far as to say that Oliver had 100 yards of rope out.

The meet was brought to an end, both for this reason and owing to the cold weather. All the rock was plastered with snow and ice to an extraordinary degree.

Yours sincerely



IMPERIAL COLLEGE MOUNTAINERING CLUB.

Account of an accident in the Black Cuillin, Isle of Skye.

Miss G.B. Stevenson and E. Cene arrived in the Cuillin on Saturday, Sept. 22nd, 1935 and during the next eight days did the following climbs with Stevenson leading:- Window Buttress on Sgurr Dearg; Inaccessible Pinnacle, up West ridge, down East ridge; North Western Buttress of Sgurr Sgumain; South East ridge of Ghreadaidh; traverse of the main ridge from Gars Bheinn to Bealach Ceire Lagan including the Thearlaich - Dubh gap; a walk round the coast to Ceruisk and back over Ceir an Eich in mistake for Bealach Ceire na Banachdich. During this period the main ridge was traversed from Gars Bheinn to Sgurr a Mhadaidh together with several of the side ridges. We were ~~using~~ using a sixty foot rope.

On Monday Sept. 30 we set off about 2 o'clock to climb the Ciech by the west route which is graded 3A in the S.M.C. Guide book. We failed to find the beginning of the climb but ~~we~~ reached the foot of the Ciech by a route which was only of grade 2 then continued up the direct route to the top of the Ciech. We were both climbing much better than we had been at the beginning. From the top we selected a route down on the east side of the Ciech, going over the steep Ciech slabs and then down Little Gulley. One pitch down this we came to a shallow chimney about four feet wide and six feet high with the back wall slightly overhanging. Stevenson stood at the top of this and passed Cene's rope round a belay. Since Cene had previously complained about the rope sticking while he was climbing down Stevenson let out enough slack for him to reach a ledge at the bottom of the chimney, but as it remained on the ledge above his head Cene did not notice this. He proceeded to swing on a large block of projecting rock near the top of the chimney as this was apparently the only way down. He thinks that he warned Stevenson that the block might come away but Stevenson did not hear him. When Cene's weight came on the block it came away and he fell. The slack ran out, the rope jerked on the belay and this in its turn came away. The rope then pulled Stevenson out over Cene's head and she fell till the rope became taut on Cene when it pulled him out. He stopped and the rope became tight again and broke. Stevenson fell to the bottom of the gulley and Cene to a place about 15 ft higher. Cene was unhurt and was able to climb down and assist Stevenson to walk down to Glen Brittle.

APPENDIX 2.

Lists of Members.





List of Presidents.

1929 - 30.	G. Wilson.
1930 - 31.	H. Nakashima.
1931 - 32)	J.V. Durden.
1932 - 33)	
1933 - 34.	R.M. Shackleton.
1934 - 35.	T.R. Wilson.
1935 - 36.	P.H. Hicks.
1936 - 37.	R.S. Russell.
1937 - 38.	D.F. Ashby.
1938 - 39.	(S.L.S. Thomas. (E.W.K. Walton.
1939 - 40.	C.B. Snodgrass.
1940 - 41.	C. Reid.
1941.	A.G. Maddock.
1941 - 42.	W. Davis.
1944 - 45.	A.L. Levy.
1945 - 46.	P. Wilkinson.
1946 - 47.	D. Newman.
1947 - 48.	D.M. Parker.
1948 - 49.	F.F. Evison.
1949 - 50.	G.W. Lester.
1950 - 51.	W.I. Stanton.



List of Secretaries.

1929 - 30.	
1930 - 31.	
1931 - 32.	
1932 - 33.	
1933 - 34.	O.J. Cockerell.
1934 - 35.	<del>H.S. Hopf.</del> P.H. Hicks.
1935 - 36.	Miss Greta Stevenson.
1936 - 37.	D.F. Ashby.
1937 - 38.	S.L.S. Thomas.
1938 - 39.	C.B. Snodgrass.
1939 - 40.	
1940 - 41.	W. Gilpin.
1941 - 42.}	R.E. Tuckwell.
1942 - 43.}	
1943 - 44.	A.L. Levy.
1944 - 45.	P. Wilkinson.
1945 - 46.	Miss M.J. Thornley.
1946 - 47.	M.P. Robinson.
1947 - 48.	J. Butcher.
1948 - 49.	A.C. Davis.
1949 - 50.	{ P.W.M. Jacobs. J.G. Ramsay.
1950 - 51.	J.G. Ramsay.

Imperial College Mountaineering Club.

Honorary Members:-

Elected

- 1930.           † Brig.-General the Hon. C.G. Bruce, C.B.  
                  Mr. Younger, A.C.
- 1931-35.       Prof. Boswell.  
                  Prof. Bradford.  
                  Prof. Sir Harold Carpenter.  
                  O.J. Cockerell.  
                  J.V. Durden, C.C.  
                  - Hancox.  
                  Prof. Merritt.  
                  Dr. Purcell.  
                  R.M. Shackleton.  
                  G.E. Tidbury.  
                  Dr. G. Wilson.
- 1935-36.       T.R. Wilson.  
                  G.P. Hebden.  
                  F.N. Fox.  
                  E.E. Shipton, A.C. & C.C.
- 1936-37.       Geoffrey Winthrop-Young, A.C. & C.C.  
                  A.J.M. Smyth, O.B.E., D.F.C., C.C.  
                  Dr. T.G. Longstaff, A.C.  
                  Gerald Seligman, B.S.C.
- 1938-39.       Dr. R. Scott-Russell, C.C.
- 1944-45.       R.P. Mears, A.C.
- 1945-46.       Hermann Rosenbaum.  
                  E.C. Pyatt, C.C., J.M.C.S.
- 1949-50.       Miss M.J. Thornley.



Membership List, 1935 - 36.

President:	P. Hicks.
Vice-President:	Prof. Finch.
Secretary:	G. Stevenson (Miss).
Sen. Hon. Treasurer:	Asst. Prof. Merrett.
Jun. " " "	H. Hopf.

Members:-

Professor Sir. H.C.H. Carpenter  
 Professor Boswell.  
 Dr. H.T. Tizard.  
 Professor V.H. Blackman.  
 Professor W.A. Bone.  
 Dr. L.E. Hawker.  
 Dr. T. Scharff.  
 L.R. Rabeneck.  
 - Pullenger.  
 D.F. Ashby.  
 R.S. Russell.  
 B.M.B. Wills.  
 J. Paine.  
 Jean Hall.  
 N. Kesavan.  
 E.L. Cohen.  
 E. Cone.  
 C. Callaway.  
 E. Kagan.  
 J. Jacobi.  
 A.J.M. Smyth.  
 C.A. Hinton.  
 S.L.S. Thomas.  
 J.P. Glasgow.  
 J.W. Whympet.  
 L. Marriot.

Membership List, October 1936.

President:	R.S. Russell.
Vice-President:	Prof. G.I. Finch.
Hon. Secretary:	D.F. Ashby.
Sen. Hon. Treasurer:	Prof. W.H. Merrett.
Jun. " "	E. Cone.
Committee Members:	P.H. Hicks. (Pres. 1935-36)
	G. Stevenson. (Sec. 1935-36)

Ordinary Members:-

Staff.	H.T. Tizard, C.B., F.R.S.
	Prof. P.G.H. Boswell, F.R.S.
	Prof. V.H. Blackman, F.R.S.
	Dr. R.M. Shackleton.
	Dr. L.E. Hawker.
	Dr. C.A. Pratt.
	Dr. Anderson.
	Dr. King.
	Dr. Emeleus.
	Dr. Pincell.
	Mr. Blackman.

Students:	S. Callaway.
	E.L. Cohen.
	C.A. Hinton.
	H.S. Hopf.
	Miss A.J. Hall.
	J. Jacobi.
	E. Kagan.
	N. Kesavan.
	J. Paine.
	S.L.S. Thomas.
	C.M.B. Wills.



Membership List, 1944 - 45.

President:	A.L. Levy.
Vice-President:	Dr. G. Wilson.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:	P. Wilkinson.
Librarian:	Miss M.J. Thornley.
Quartermaster:	B.W.G. Hodds.

Ordinary Members:-

J.A. Dunster.	Prof. H.H. Read.
J. Wilkinson.	Miss M. Platt.
T.A. Gomersall.	D. Garraway.
D.K. Johnson.	G.J. Smith.
T.A.C. Andrews.	E.A. Bridle.
D. Rolfe.	D. Newman.
E.R. Posselwhite.	R. Bentley.
J.W. Bugler.	M. Gawthrop.

Life Members:-

Miss M. Gilbert.	O.J. Cockehill.
J. Doddwell.	G.P. Hebden.
H. Dianant.	T.R. Wilson.
G. Wilson.	C.G. Wickham.
J.V. Dirden.	A.J.M. Smyth.
G.E. Tidbury.	Dr. Scott Russell.
Prof. Bowell.	Dr. P. Alexander.
Prof. G.I. Finch.	Prof. Egerton.

Honorary Members:-

Hon. C.G. Bruce.	Dr. T. Longstaff.
G.W. Young.	Mr. Younger.
E.E. Shipton.	R.P. Mears.

Membership List, 1945 - 46.

President:	Peter Wilkinson.
Vice-Presidents:	Prof. G.I. Finch. A.L. Levy.
Hon. Secretary:	Miss M.J. Thornley.
Hon. Jun. Treas:	Miss M. Gilbert.
Committee:	D.M. Parkes, D.D.E. Newman.
Quartermaster:	M.P. Robinson.
Librarian:	P.P.A. Davey.

## Ordinary Members:-

Mrs. Finch.  
A.J.M. Smyth.  
R. Bentley.  
R. Evans.  
D. Gibson.  
M. Pearce.  
A. Ransome.  
G.C. Gardner.  
B.R. Fuller.



Membership List, 1947 - 48.

- D.M. Parkes. (President)
- Prof. Finch.
- M.P. Robinson.
- J.F. Butcher. (Secretary)
- A.A. Dennis.
- A. Colavis.
- F.C. Ewels.
- M.J. Wilson.
- Miss M.J. Thornley.
- Miss M. Madge.
- Miss. S. Anning.
- R.A. Brooker.
- B. Kay.
- C. Marsh.
- D. Birnstingle.
- E. Whalley.
- J.H. Della-Porta.
- R. Jackson.
- D. Roberts.
- J. Gregory.
- A. Ransome.
- O.C. Critchley.
- G.C. Gardner.
- R.C. Penfold.
- E.C. Cherry.
- W. Davis.
- F.F. Evison.
- F. Sondheimer.

*A.C. Davis*

*A.W. Reece*

*J.A. Greave*

*S. Michaelson*



Membership List, 1949 - 50.

	J. Barnard.	R.C.S.
	G. Benson.	R.C.S.
Sir	S.A. Burdett.	C. & G.
	J.A. Chapman.	R.C.S.
	V.K. Collinge.	C. & G.
	F.F. Evison.	R.C.S.
	J.F. Fleming.	C. & G.
	P. Jacobs.	R.C.S.
	G.W. Lester.	C. & G.
	H.E. Lewis.	C. & G.
	E. Millett.	R.C.S.
	- Mousley.	R.C.S.
	M.R. Piggott.	R.C.S.
	M.P. Poucher.	C. & G.
	- Prentis.	C. & G.
	J.G. Ramsay.	R.C.S.
	S.J. Skinner.	C. & G.
	W.I. Stanton.	R.C.S.
	P.G. Taylor.	R.C.S.
	D. Thompson.	R.C.S.
Miss	M.J. Thornley.	R.C.S.
	D.F. Trowbridge.	R.C.S.
	R.B. Turtle.	C. & G.

Mrs. G.I. Finch.

	<i>G.L. Goolberman</i>	<i>R.C.S.</i>
	<i>- Mousley</i>	<i>R.C.S.</i>
	<i>D.R. Haset</i>	<i>R.C.S.</i>