

On Sunday, September 22, 1940, Mr Henry Iain Ogilvy and Miss Lucy Scott Robson suffered fatal injuries as a result of an accident on the cliffs of Sgòran Dubh. Mr Ogilvy was a member of the Cambridge University Mountaineering Club and a very capable climber. It is unlikely that the cause of the accident will be established.

#### NOTES.

Members' subscriptions are due and payable on January 1, and resignations must reach the Honorary Secretary *before* that date. Members are requested to send payment of subscription promptly on the first reminder to avoid incurring unnecessary work and expense.

Assistance in compiling a roll of members on military service will be appreciated. Any member who can assist in making the roll as complete and as accurate as possible should send details to the Honorary Editor.

#### HIS FIRST THOUSAND.

Mr J. A. Parker ascended his one thousandth hill over 1,000 feet in height in July 1939. The hill is the Wishach Hill, 1,375 feet, in the Foudlands. When he climbed it Mr Parker believed that it was No. 999, but a subsequent and very careful check-up of his list of ascents proved that it was actually No. 1,000. This was unfortunate for some of us, as a more important hill had been reserved for No. 1,000, to be climbed later with suitable ceremonies! Wishach Hill is of a somewhat retiring nature, but it may be seen from the railway near Wardhouse. In addition to the thousand hills over 1,000 feet, Mr Parker has climbed many under that height and has repeated many ascents. His most frequently climbed hills are Lochnagar and Ben Macdhui, with fifty-four and thirty-one ascents respectively.

Members will be interested to know how it all started. In his father's house in Glasgow hung a picture of the mountains at the head of Loch Long, and during his last year at school he was allowed to decide where the summer holiday would be spent. Pointing to the picture he had sat opposite for many years he said, "There." And there he climbed his first thousander.

W. A. E.

#### AN OLD-TIME GLENGAIRN SHEPHERD.

The Gaelic monthly *An Gaidheal* has published some recollections of conversations with an old-time Glengairn shepherd, John Michie. The writer is Rev. Cyril Dieckhoff, of Fort Augustus Abbey, a Russian, who writes his account in excellent Gaelic.

Michie, who died some thirty years ago, sought refuge at Fort Augustus in his old age. He was born at Ardoch in Glengairn, and after a long life's work he set off one day across the hills on foot for Fort Augustus. When he reached Strath Faragaig, says the account, he asked his way to Cill Chumein. (To all Gaelic speakers Fort Augustus

is Cill Chumein, *i.e.*, Cumin's Church.) They directed him down to the lochside at Foyers to take the boat, at which he was much annoyed, for he had always made all his journeys on his own legs. "Michie had a withered hand, but the other was the biggest hand I have ever seen." Once, when sleeping in a barn at Braemar he was wakened by something on his chest. He put out his hand and seized it; it was a rat, which he killed with a squeeze of his fist. He had frequently driven sheep from Braemar to Edinburgh before there were any railways. Glengairn got its chief sporting interest in those times out of the contests of wits between the whisky makers and the gaugers. Michie had known men who had been soldiers in the American War of Independence. At the Lonach Gathering he had once seen Jerome Bonaparte, Napoleon's brother, and he described him as being very noticeable for the extreme whiteness of his hair and beard. He knew Ewan MacEchan, the priest at Braemar who compiled one of the early Gælic dictionaries, and he described him as always going about with a Spanish cloak upon him.

W. M. A.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

- "A Guide to Chamonix and Mont Blanc," by Edward Whymper, 1896. Purchased.
- "A Guide to Zermatt and the Matterhorn," by Edward Whymper, 1897. Purchased.
- "Always a Little Further," by Alastair Borthwick. (1939. Faber & Faber. 7s. 6d.)
- "Narrative of an Ascent to the Summit of Mont Blanc," by John Auldjo, 2nd edition, 1830. Purchased.
- "Braemar Octotoddle," Anon., 1939. Presented by Dr W. A. Reid.
- "British Hills and Mountains," by J. H. B. Bell, E. F. Bozman, and J. Fairfax Blakeborough. (1940. Batsford Press. 8s. 6d.)
- "English Lakeland," by Doreen Wallace. (1940. Batsford Press. 8s. 6d.)
- "Guide to Aberdeen and Eastern Scotland." Presented by Ward, Lock & Co.
- "Guide to Inverness and the North of Scotland." Presented by Ward, Lock & Co.
- Revue du Club Alpin Suisse*, Vols. I.-XV., 1925-39. Presented by Mrs R. M. Williamson.
- "Rock Climbs on the Cobbler," by J. B. Nimlin, B. H. Humble, and G. C. Williams. (Reprint from *S.M.C.J.*, 1940.)
- "Songs for Climbers," by B. H. Humble.
- The Alpine Journal*, Vols. LI. and LII., May 1939 to November 1940.
- "The Cairngorms," by Sir Henry Alexander. *S.M.C. Guide*, 2nd. edition, 1938.
- The Rucksack Club Journal*, Vol. IX., No. 3, 1940.
- The Scottish Geographical Magazine*, Vol. LV., and Index; Vol. LVI., Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

*The Scottish Mountaineering Club Journal* :—

Index to Vols. XI.-XX., by R. M. Gall Inglis and others. N.D., 1939. Purchased.

Vol. XX., Nos. 128-130, November 1939 to November 1940.

*The Mountaineer*, Vol. XXXII, No. 1, 1939. (The Mountaineers, Inc., Seattle.)

“Unclimbed New Zealand,” by J. Pascoe, 1939. Presented by E. B. Davies.

“Visitors’ Book from Thistle Cottage, Inverey,” 3 vols., April 1897 to February 1939. Presented by Miss Gruer’s heirs.

LANTERN SLIDES.

Ten excellent slides of the Cairngorms, many of historic interest. Presented by Mr George McIntyre.

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**FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

The Fifty-second Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Palace Hotel, Aberdeen, on November 23, 1940, Mr Hugh D. Welsh, President, in the Chair.

Accounts for the year were read and approved. Mr J. A. Parker’s resignation from the post of Librarian and Custodian of Lantern Slides was received with much regret.

Payment of subscriptions by members serving with H.M. Forces is to be optional.

A Sub-committee (E. W. Smith, W. Lawson, E. Davidson, and R. Jackson) was appointed to arrange other excursions as and when possible. Members interested should hand their names to the Honorary Secretary so that they may be notified of any arrangements made.

At the conclusion of the Business Meeting some fifty members met in the Palace Hotel, musical entertainment being provided by Mrs Garden, Misses McRonald and Thomson, and by Messrs D. Wilson and A. S. Middleton.