

He was concerned over the lack of contact between members of the AAC in different parts of the United States and did much to bring about the highly successful A.A.C. 1951 summer camp in the Wind River Range of Wyoming. One of his greatest hopes was for the continuation of these camps and the further broadening of A.A.C. friendships.

Oscar's life, although extending over only thirty-two years, was wide in its interests. In addition to teaching, research, and mountaineering activities, he organized and coached the California Aggies swimming and water polo teams which, incidentally, were league champions in 1950. He gave unselfishly of his time in order to encourage others to enjoy the out-of-doors and served on the Rock-climbing and Mountaineering committees of the Sierra Club, as well as the California Himalayan Committee. He was an outspoken advocate of active rather than passive participation in both sports and organizations. We can still hear him saying "What all sports need is more players and fewer spectators."

It is not span of years, but what is put into those years that counts the worth of life. Surely Oscar put the full measure of life into his few years. We who are fortunate to have known Oscar will always remember him for his quiet humor, and a very gentle and kindly perceptiveness of other people's needs and wishes, which made him not only a good expedition man but a far more skilful organizer than one might suspect from his unobtrusive ways. It is almost characteristic of him that his companions did not know that he was becoming ill, that he went without a word of complaint. And it is through his shy, unflinching sympathy for others that the world is poorer for his having gone.

KENNETH D. ADAM

DONALD WINCHESTER BROWN

1910-1952

Donald Brown died on 21 December 1952 in a tragic automobile accident near Poughkeepsie, New York. Thus ended a career into which a love of mountains and travel were inextricably woven.

Donald was drawn to the mountains, as are so many others, through the good fortune of attending preparatory school in Switz-

erland. As early as 1921 he rambled among the trailed summits of the Vaudoise Alps and, as his experience and enthusiasm grew, he tasted the delights of the Bernese Oberland, Pennine, and Mont Blanc ranges.

In 1929 he entered Harvard College and, during his residence there, his love of the mountains found a sympathetic response among the young mountaineers who have since blazed such distinguished trails across the high ranges. Thus it was that he joined college companions in summer excursions to the Alps in 1930 and 1932. Upon graduation in 1933 he passed several weeks in the Coast Range of British Columbia, where poor weather and bad luck restricted his climbing activities.

The high peaks alone could not lay full claim to Donald's enthusiasm for the out-of-doors. He was as content to wander across the lake-dotted tundra of Finnish and Swedish Lapland, or through the sub-Arctic reaches of Norway, the Outer Hebrides, or Iceland, as he was to seek the granite of the Chamonix Aiguilles or the snows of the Combin. And during the greater part of these excursions he traveled alone, living with isolated groups and studying their customs.

Undeveloped country held a particular fascination for Donald, and in 1937 and 1946 he accompanied Wiessner on reconnaissance trips to the Stikine Ice Field of British Columbia and Alaska, during which especial attention was given to the approaches to Kate's Needle.

In World War II he served with the Army Ground Forces, and, rising from a private soldier at the Mountain Training Center, he was relieved of active duty with the War Department General Staff, having attained the rank of Major.

During the post-war years Donald's law practice permitted fewer opportunities to climb, yet he was able to visit the Tetons in 1947, and in the following year he paid a final visit to the Alps, during which he travelled on foot from Klosters to Zermatt via Pontresina. This trip, a noteworthy accomplishment in itself, included many notable ascents along the way and in the vicinity of Zermatt.

A strong and enthusiastic climber, Donald sought the mountains not alone for the satisfaction of physical accomplishment, but especially through an intense desire to understand and appreciate

the fullest expression of nature. That he succeeded in such large measure and in so short a life is a tribute to his boundless energy and determination, qualities that he brought not only to his avocation but to his professional life as well. His sense of humor, dynamic companionship, and loyalty to his friends are assets that mountaineering can ill afford to lose, but they stand as bright monuments that will long be remembered and respected.

WALTER A. WOOD

JOHN BUCHAN CHURCHILL

1922-1952

John Buchan Churchill and his fiancée, Jocelyn Moore, lost their lives early last July while ascending Mont Blanc from the Italian side. They were climbing by way of the Arête de l'Innominata from the Gamba Hut and had reached the Eccles Peak Bivouac (4000 m.) when they were caught by a large rock slide. Evidence at the scene indicates that they had just arrived at the bivouac and were resting when the slide started. The avalanche of rock completely demolished the bivouac and trapped the two climbers before they could escape.

John was an enthusiastic mountaineer for most of his thirty years. Born in Berlin, New Hampshire, he got his start in the nearby White Mountains at an early age, and from that time on, his love for climbing grew steadily.

A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, John attended Dartmouth College until, in the middle of his senior year, he was called to serve with the Army Air Force. He flew a P-47 fighter plane over Germany until shot down by ground fire on his 29th mission. He eluded capture for ten days in an attempt to return to the U.S. lines but was finally taken prisoner.

Following the war, John received a master's degree at Yale and did further graduate study at Columbia. Meanwhile, he worked for the Federal Reserve Board at Washington and for the ECA in London and Paris. He had accepted a teaching position which would have begun last fall at Lahore Christian College in Pakistan.

Johnny's climbing career, while short, was exceedingly energetic. His impressive and detailed mountain log, which reveals the full-