

dent there. Not being blessed with anything higher than a haystack in their immediate environs, they have recourse to an abandoned lime stone quarry not far away and "do all sorts of possible and impossible climbs" on its rugged walls, some of which though necessarily short are reported to be distinctly fancy. Membership is confined to graduates, undergraduates and members of the staff of the University of Manitoba. The qualifications for active membership include proficiency in skiing (2 years) and in mountaineering (2 years) and a season in the quarry climbs. The purpose of the skiing requirement is to develop ski-mountaineering. Several of the members have given an excellent account of themselves on rock work in the mountains. The club motto is "Pares cum paribus facillime congregantur."

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The 20th Annual Meeting and Dinner of the New York Section of the Alpine Club of Canada was held at the Hotel Brevoort, March 29th, 1930, Mr. F. N. Waterman presiding. One hundred members and guests attended. An entertaining talk on last summer's camp at Rogers Pass in the Selkirks was given by Miss M. Helen Smith. The feature of the evening was the story of the first ascent of Mt. Sir Alexander (Mt. Kitchi) 10,900 ft., July 31st, 1929, by Newman D. Waffl, Helen I. Buck and Andrew J. Gilmour. Four previous attempts by other climbers had failed and several had expressed the opinion that because of snow conditions on the summit the mountain would never be climbed.

Mr. Frederick K. Vreeland spoke on his early explorations in the region, his pictures showing how the great peaks Sir Alexander and Ida dominate the surrounding mountains.

Mr. Waffl told of the climb. A high camp was established at an altitude of about 7,400 ft., and the climbers were out twenty-two hours from this camp. The summit was reached late in the afternoon and a different route was followed on the descent.

For the closing number Mr. W. Osgood Field showed some striking reels of the higher Caucasus and of skiing in the Alps, remarkable both for their thrill and the great beauty of sun and shadow and drifting clouds over snow peaks.

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Possibly the earliest mountain fatality in the United States, was that of Elisha Mitchell in 1857. While exploring the mountains of North Carolina, he was killed by a fall from a precipice. It was in

his honor that Mt. Mitchell (6,711 ft.) was named. He was state surveyor and was the first to announce that these peaks are the highest east of the Mississippi River, *not* of the Rockies, as is so often stated. Harney Peak (7,242 ft.) in the Black Hills of South Dakota possesses that distinction. Dr. Mitchell was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, in 1793 and later became professor of chemistry and mathematics in the University of North Carolina. It is interesting to note that he was also a Doctor of Divinity.

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There has recently appeared in the *Revista Mensile* of the C. A. I. (Vol. XLVIII, Sept.-Oct., 1929, No. 9-10, pp. 213-223) a very interesting article by one of our members, M. Strumia on the northern Canadian Rockies, giving an account of the climbing done there in 1928 by the author in conjunction with Messrs. Thorington, Hainsworth, and Hillhouse.

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Those interested in the history of the exploration of the Eastern Alps will read with interest the article on "The Oetzthal Glaciers in History and Cartography before 1800" by Dr. J. M. Thorington in the *Geographical Journal* for March, 1930.

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There appears to be a renaissance of interest in the Himalaya. Last summer a German expedition from Munich attempted Kanchenjunga and was only prevented from reaching the top by the onset of bad weather, when they had overcome the greatest difficulties. A new and much larger expedition has just left under the leadership of Prof. Dyhrenfurth and composed of Austrians, Germans, and English to attempt the mountain again. The present plans are to attack from the east, by way of the Zemu Glacier which is the same route of approach as that used by the Bavarians last year. It is expected to place the base camp near the Green Lake on the left bank of the glacier and work up a series of high camps from there. Profiting by the experience of last year's party, some 4,000 feet of rope has been taken, in the expectation that it will be necessary to rope up a considerable portion of the northeast ridge to make it possible for loaded coolies.

The Bavarian expedition, led by Dr. Bauer, included young climbers from the Munich section of the German and Austrian