

ward but descended the next day and found the body on the glacier where they buried it at a height of 4,200 m. In spite of this mishap, the rest of the party afterward crossed the range and effected fourth ascent of Ushba.



*A French Expedition*, sponsored by the G. H. M. and the C. A. F., was also in the Caucasus this past summer. It was composed of Raymond Gaché, Jacques Lagarde, Robert Tézenas du Montcel, and Lucien Valluet. They arrived in Naltshik on August 8th and their objective was to explore the peaks in the vicinity of the Ullu-Auz Glacier. Their first climb was a long traverse which resulted in the first ascent of Tiutium-Bash (East Peak 4,500 m.; West Peak 4,551 m.), Gortü-Bash (4,437 m.), and Breithorn (4,246 m.). Two of the party with a Russian, G. Marietsky, then made the first ascent of Kilmet-Bash (3,906 m. and 3,965 m.), while the other two effected the first ascent of the square tower of Koshtantau and were in a fair way to make a new route on this latter peak by way of the north ridge when they were forced to turn back on account of an accident which fortunately was not serious.



#### MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION DURING 1933

Interest in mountaineering and mountain exploration in the Soviet Union has been increasing from year to year. It is looked upon not only as a valuable form of recreation but also as an activity through which much scientific research can be conducted. Practically all the work is done under the joint auspices of the Society of Proletarian Tourism and the Academy of Sciences. The following information was obtained in Tiflis and Moscow from reports and lectures as well as through personal interviews with members of the various expeditions. It is believed that this data in its important details are substantially correct.

During 1933 many first-class ascents were made in the various mountain ranges including the Caucasus, Altai, Tian Shan, and Pamir. Soviet citizens who now include among their number several expert alpinists accounted for nearly all the big climbs accomplished.

*The Caucasus.* Winter ski expeditions into the highest sections of the Caucasus which were begun in 1931 were continued during the winter of 1932-33. Three mountain skiing expeditions composed of both men and women were sent from Tiflis into the main range. The first of these visited the districts of Racha and Lower Svanetia in the Central Caucasus, the second crossed the