

parties, whenever the rocks to the right of the upper icefall are reasonably clear of snow.

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#### ALPS

*Grandes Jorasses.* The past summer witnessed a veritable epidemic of attempts to climb the north face of this mountain, at one point three different parties being on the peak at the same time. One of these attempts ended fatally when retreat was forced by a snow storm. A vivid account of this climb written by the survivor appeared in *Der Bergsteiger* (January, 1935).



Cav. Guido Rey has been awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honor by the French government for his activities on behalf of mountaineering. The presentation was made at Turin on December 1st, 1934, in the presence of officials of the French and Italian Alpine Clubs.



#### CAUCASUS

*Swiss Expedition.* A Swiss party under the leadership of Lorenz Saladin and composed of, in addition to the leader, Hans Graf, Walter Frei and Otto Furrer made a successful trip to the Caucasus this past summer, effecting the first ascents of Skat-tükom Khokh (14,600 ft.), Karagom Khokh (14,805 ft.), and Mischirgi Tau (16,408 ft.), as well as making a number of other climbs, among them Vologata (*ca.* 13,675 ft.), Kasbek and Elbruz.



#### PERSIA

*The Italian Expedition* to Persia made a number of climbs of 13,000-ft. peaks in the Zardek-Kuh Group, among others the Shahan Kuh (13,225 ft.) and the Kuh-i-Dinar (14,800 ft.), and found a new route to the summit of Mt. Demavend.



#### HIMALAYAS

*Mt. Everest.* The past year witnessed the attempt by a lone climber to reach the summit of this mountain which had a year ago repulsed the well equipped party of English climbers. Capt. Maurice Wilson of the Royal Air Force succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the frontier guards, dressed as a Tibetan and pene-

trated into Tibet with several coolies. He followed the route of the previous year's expedition but could not persuade the coolies to go above Camp III with him. He left them here with some letters and instructions to wait two weeks for his return. They waited a month and were then forced to leave because of a scarcity of provisions. Captain Wilson was last seen on the slopes above the North Col.



*International Himalaya Expedition.* Prof. and Mrs. G. O. Dyhrenfurth again led an expedition to the Himalaya, composed this time of Marcel Kurz, Dr. Winzeler, André Roch, James Belayeff, Hans Ertl, Albert Höcht, Piero Ghiglione and a number of cinematographers, the expedition being financed to some extent through the resultant film. The necessity of subordinating climbing to photography resulted in fewer climbs being made than might otherwise have been possible, but the members of the expedition need make no apologies on this score. Kurz was unfortunately injured on the way in to the Baltoro Glacier, the scene of this summer's activities. An attempt was made on Hidden Peak, and the Golden Throne and the four summits of Mt. Queen Mary successfully ascended. On August 3rd, Höcht and Ertl with the porter Hakimbek, and Prof. and Mrs. Dyhrenfurth with the porter Rodji made the first ascent of the west peak of Queen Mary (24,370 ft.), while on the same day Ghiglione, Roch and Belayeff made the first ascent of the east peak of the Golden Throne (24,000 ft.). A week later, August 10th, the latter party made the first ascent of the middle peak of Mt. Queen Mary (24,190 ft.). Two days after this climb, Höcht and Ertl made another climb and reached for the first time the east peak (24,350 ft.) and the main summit (25,174 ft.) of Mt. Queen Mary.



*Nanda Devi.* Messrs. E. E. Shipton and H. W. Tilman explored the Rishi Gorge in an attempt to find a feasible route on this seemingly inaccessible mountain.



*Nanga Parbat.* The German expedition of this last year, composed of W. Merkl, leader; Peter Aschenbrenner; F. Bechtold; A. Drexel; P. Müllritter; W. Welzenbach; U. Wieland; W. Bernard, doctor; H. Hieronimus; and E. Schneider as climbers made a gallant attempt to reach the summit but succumbed to one of the great disasters of Himalayan climbing. The party followed the same route as the previous expedition in 1932, and arrived at the base camp on May 15th. In establishing the advanced camps, Drexel was taken with a chill and descended to