

editors are teachers of English, have a wide expeditionary experience and will ably interpret the efforts of a new generation of climbers in a period which one hopes will be undisturbed by undue displays of atomic energy.

J. MONROE THORINGTON

#### ALASKA

*Mt. McKinley Park.* Parties travelling from the road near Wander Lake and crossing the McKinley Fork (draining Muldrow Glacier), and then crossing several headwaters of Clearwater Creek, finally turn up Newcomer Creek and cross a ridge at its head by a small pass to reach Muldrow Glacier about 25 miles above its snout. The name of this pass, according to Bradford Washburn who spent most of the winter of 1944-1945 in the McKinley region on work for the Army Air Forces, is commonly misspelled in a number of ways, but seldom spelled as the man for whom it was named spells his own name. Washburn writes: "I met and talked with Charles (Chuck) McGonagall in Fairbanks three weeks ago (end of May, 1945) and he wrote his name for me (probably the only way I've never seen it spelled). McGonagall is hale and hearty at 75 and is still a close friend of Harry Karstens near whom he lives. He is a carpenter and Karstens is employed at Ladd Field." Karstens made the first complete ascent of Mt. McKinley with Archdeacon Stuck in 1913.

Washburn also writes: "I had a splendid talk with Belmore Browne at Chip Lake on the way south. For a good many years I have not been able to picture clearly just how his party crossed the Alaska Range in the winter of 1912 on their way to McKinley. We took some pictures this spring and were able to identify his still unmapped valley and pass with pinpoint precision, using the pictures in his book. Belmore, of course, has a photographic memory and picked the valley out at once even before we had the book open."

Browne's party first worked out the route from the coast at the head of Cook Inlet by dog-sled in the years before 1912, and in that year crossed the range and found the route to the summit of Mt. McKinley (though failing twice in storm to reach the highest point by a few hundred feet of easy walking). This is the one and only route to the summit used by all parties to climb the mountain viz.: the Stuck-Karstens party in 1913 and the Liek-Lindley party in 1932 (only party to reach both peaks), and the U. S. Army equipment testing expedition in 1942, organized and led on the mountain by members of the American Alpine Club, seven of whom reached the summit.

H. S. H., JR.

#### CASCADE RANGE

*Mt. Rainier.* The year 1945 marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the first ascent of Mt. Rainier, which was made on August

17th, 1870, by General Hazard Stevens. General Stevens was the guest of honor of the club and described the ascent at the fourth annual meeting of the Club in Boston, December 28th, 1905. The first ascent of Mt. Rainier by a woman was made in 1890 by Miss Edwina Fay Fuller (Mrs. F. von Briesen), a founding member of the Mazamas (1894) and an original member of the American Alpine Club.

#### HIGH PEAKS IN THE ANTARCTIC

In a previous note\* we questioned the existence of 15,000-ft. peaks in the Antarctic. Perusal of recently issued reports contained in *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia*, 1940 (Vol. 82, No. 5) contain the following: On p. 804 under Fig. 2, it states: "Mt. Nansen rises to a height of nearly 15,000 ft. above sea-level." On p. 838 a profile indicates Mt. Fridtjof Nansen as 4010 meters (approximately 13,175 ft.). In another section of the same profile is shown a Mt. Kilpatrick (4450 m.) which is about 14,600 ft.

Again in the *Proceedings* for 1945 (Vol. 89, No. 1) on the "Reports on Scientific Results of the United States Antarctic Service Expedition, 1939-1941" (Admiral Byrd's third Antarctic expedition) one finds the following: On p. 44 is stated: "... could be seen a huge mountain near the coast. Later intersections indicated that this mountain, named Mount Ruth Siple, was at least 150 miles away at the time of observation. Its location was determined as in the vicinity of latitude 73° 15' S., longitude 122° 30' W., and its elevation was estimated at close to 15,000 ft. In appearance it was very similar to Mount Erebus, being conical in form, but with a rounded dome." On p. 31 there is an air picture from 6000 ft., showing the Barrier in the foreground, and Mt. Siple in the far distance.

Also in the same 1945 report on p. 52 are two photographs which together make a panorama. The central point is a Mt. Bush, perhaps 50 miles from the plane which was flying at 9500 ft. In the text is the statement: "After we crossed the 82nd parallel near longitude 175° W., the lofty peaks of the Austral Cordillera became dimly visible 150 miles to the S. The most outstanding landmark was a huge mountain, due S., which later proved to be Mount Bush. Situated to the N. of most of the range, this gigantic peak apparently rises to an altitude of 15,000 ft., for it was never out of view during the next four hours of flying."

Peaks estimated at over 12,000 ft. were also seen from the air in the southern part of Palmer Peninsula in roughly 65° W. longitude and 73° S. latitude.

Large segments of the Antarctic continent are still entirely unknown.

H. S. H., JR.

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\* *A. A. J.*, iv, 146-7.