

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Everest 1952*, by André Roch. 72 pages of black and white and 8 of color photographs with commentary. Preface by Lt. General E. F. Norton, 9-page introduction by Dr. Edward Wyss-Dunant, map, and end papers. Geneva: Editions Jeheber, 1952.

The members of the magnificent Swiss expedition to Mt. Everest in the spring of 1952 should be proud of this handsome book of pictures which tells their story. The quality of the photographs is high and the book documents the human side of the expedition particularly well. Throughout, it gives the impression of close friendships and teamwork of the highest order. Dr. Wyss-Dunant's introduction gives a clear account of the history of Mt. Everest and comments modestly on some of the accomplishments and discoveries of the Swiss. Though more text would be welcome, this is an important book, for the splendid contribution of the Genevan expedition to the British success in 1953 should not be forgotten. As on other mountains and in life, we climb upon the shoulders of the past.

ROBERT H. BATES

*Everest*, by La Fondation Suisse pour Explorations Alpines. 198 pages, including 136 pages of black and white photographs, 8 of color photographs, and 16 pages of introduction by Othmar Gurtner. Geneva: Jeheber, 1953.

This picture book of the Swiss expedition to Mt. Everest in the fall of 1952 is a superb example of the photo-engraver's art. The quality of reproduction of the black and white illustrations is so extraordinary that artistically this clothbound volume far surpasses *Everest 1952*. Some of the best pictures of the earlier book appear here along with many new ones, especially those of André Roch and N. G. Dyhrenfurth. The close-ups at the end are outstanding, while Herr Gurtner's introduction is interesting for its analyses of closed-circuit and open-circuit oxygen apparatus. Telling a story primarily through pictures and captions, however, has limitations. One does not get the "feel" of the full expedition. Some things cannot be photographed and the true flavor of an enterprise may be lost if one presents it through illustrations alone. *Everest* lacks some of the warmth of *Everest 1952*, but for polished, artistic presentation it ranks among the most beautiful books of mountain pictures.

R. H. B.