

BOOK REVIEWS

demonstration of what one man without help or money can do if he has sufficient determination.

Mr. Izzard is a reporter on the staff of *The Daily Mail*. The 1953 British Mount Everest Expedition had sold exclusive rights to the story of the expedition to the London *Times* and the competitive spirit of journalism inspired *The Daily Mail* to send Mr. Izzard to "gate-crash" the trip. With a hastily organized scratch party, he trailed the Hunt expedition from Katmandu to the Khumbu glacier at the foot of the icefall and then returned to Katmandu while the expedition was at the higher altitudes on the mountain. He supplied *The Daily Mail* with very readable articles from time to time on the way up and down, and apparently succeeded quite well in "scooping" the *Times'* exclusive story. The book has all the merits and demerits of journalism. It is written with a facile pen and dwells particularly on personal adventures and human idiosyncracies. It repeats all the standard statements about the people and the country, and sometimes makes categorical statements on questions which have been the subject of debate for years.

The ninth chapter is devoted to a review of all that has been said and written about the Abominable Snowman. Since the book was written, Mr. Izzard in 1954 headed a second expedition to the Everest area on behalf of *The Daily Mail*, to pursue the Abominable Snowman to his ultimate lair. This doubtless presages a second book.

OSCAR R. HOUSTON

Everest: The Swiss Expedition in Photographs, compiled by the Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research. XV pages of Introduction, 6 plates in color and 144 full page illustrations in black and white, and various sketches. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1954. Price, \$7.50.

The Picture of Everest, by Alfred Gregory. 43 pages of colored illustrations with brief explanatory text. Great Britain: Hodder and Stoughton, 1954.

Since the recent improvements in photography and the reproduction of photographs, it has become customary to publish a picture book of every important expedition (sometimes two of