

give way to Western ways and the pack animal makes his appearance. There is some first-rate pioneering in the mountain regions of Idaho and Montana, together with a number of first ascents among hitherto unapproached summits. Ranchmen and woodsmen are introduced and prove themselves close kin to the villagers and guides of the Alps. And the bears: "'Look down there!' I gasped. 'Grizzlies, all right,' said Bob in a whisper. . . . At once I was keenly conscious that there were no bars or barriers of any sort between them and me. No zoo, this. Here the Underhills and the grizzlies stood on an equal footing, each of us free to go wherever we like all over this mountain and the country around."

Finally, there are some thoughts, well put, for us to share and keep with us on our own journeys among the hills: "I enjoyed once more that glorious sight of miles upon miles of rosy peaks. I like to be high. Why is it that climbers feel uplifted in spirit as well as in body when they have climbed to heights? . . . Perhaps there is a relationship between the satisfaction gained and the effort expended." The book closes on a characteristic O'Brien-Underhill note: "Some time it would be fun to be with Adolf [Adolf Rubi, Grindelwald guide] in Montana and watch him cope with the underbrush and the pack-horses. We have been trying our best, with tales, to put him in the proper frame of mind—terror—about those grizzly bears." Thanks for the book, Miriam.

FRANCIS P. FARQUHAR

Starlight and Storm. The Ascent of the Six Great North Faces of the Alps. By Gaston Rébuffat. Translated by Wilfred Noyce and Sir John Hunt; technique section translated by Ronald Le Grand. Foreword by Sir John Hunt. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1957. 189 pages; ill.; map; diagrams. Price \$5.50.

Club members satiated with hundreds of books on the Alps will be delighted and thrilled with this one—as is attested by the redoubtable translators. It describes only the toughest climbs of them all. With shivering fingers and shivers down the spine the reader works his way past verglas and overhang, facing numbing bivouacs which culminate in a series of hard-won victories on six of those famous north faces that used to make the headlines back in the 1930s. And it is all told with a charm and a modesty sure to appeal. The author, certainly unique among guides, has gained fame from the glaciers of Annapurna to the pages of *Life*, and is the producer of a moving picture film bearing the same title as this volume. Those who have met him on his recent visits to this country are to be envied.

Besides the basic fact of translation, the make-up of this book, from the Anglo-American viewpoint, has been greatly improved from the original French edition previously reviewed in these pages, *AAJ*, 1956. It also includes a substantial section, "The Beginning Climber—The Technique of Mountaineering," not found either in the original French edition or in the London edition.

ROGER S. WHITNEY

Mont Blanc to Everest, by Gaston Rébuffat, with a preface by Wilfred Noyce. London: Thames and Hudson, 1956. 158 pages; 69 photographs, including 8 in color. Price 35 s.

This is the English edition of Rébuffat's *Du Mont Blanc à L'Himalaya* translated by Geoffrey Sutton from the French. The text is brief and the style difficult. It is by no means a continuous story, but rather, occasional incidents with an attempt to draw a word picture therefrom: why men climb, or the beauty to be found in mountains. These word sketches are rather too attenuated to produce fully their desired effect and are apt to leave the reader gasping for imagination. What the text lacks, however, is made up by the pictures. Except for eleven reproductions of nineteenth-century illustrations in the text, they are full page or even double page, bled to give the largest possible picture area. The subject matter covers everything from hut life, an early start, and bivouacs, to some of the finest Alpine, Himalayan, and Alaskan scenery. Those who enjoy interesting and beautiful pictures of the mountains will find this book a real delight.

K. A. HENDERSON

Kangchenjunga: The Untrodden Peak, by Charles Evans, London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1956. 187 pages; 5 pages of color and 32 pages of black and white illustrations; 5 large diagrams; 2 maps. Price 25 s.

Kangchenjunga is a great mountain book. Unpretentious, it has to an extraordinary degree the feeling of expedition life on a great mountain. Charles Evans shows himself to be an observant, colorful writer, as well the best kind of leader. The story moves ahead—vigorously. We get the smells and sounds of camp life as the Sherpas push toward the mountain. From the time when Norman Hardie sights through the theodolite to learn the altitudes of different rock outcrops on the Yalung Face until he and Tony Streather, blue from lack of oxygen, return to meet Charles Evans above Camp V, the book is superb. It is full of the sound of ava-