

were ascended, but not without a few unsolicited thrills. Baruntse, 23,570 feet, and Pethangtse, 22,080 feet, were the two highest peaks climbed. Several passes were traversed for the first time, notably the Imja-Barun crossing. The story of Jim McFarland's fall into a crevasse and his subsequent severe case of frostbite should be an incentive for all mountaineers to study appropriate rescue techniques so that they may be employed quickly and skillfully. George Lowe devotes a chapter to "Dumji, a five-day festival," which is an interesting sketch of part of the Sherpa's environment. Members of the expedition were: Sir Edmund Hillary, Dr. Charles Evans, Dr. Michael Ball, Bill Beavan, Geoff Harrow, Norman Hardie, Jim McFarlane, Colin Todd, Brian Wilkins and George Lowe. Total cost: about £ 8000.

ALLEN STECK

*White Fury* (Record à l'Himalaya), by Ramond Lambert and Claude Kogan. Translated from the French by Showell Styles. Foreword by Maurice Herzog. Appendices by Albert Zimmermann and Dr. Franz Lochmatter. London: Hurst and Blackett, 1956. 175 pages; ill. Price 18 s.

This is a story of a post-monsoon reconnaissance of Gaurisankar, 23,440 feet, and Melungtse, 23,564 feet, and an attempt on Cho Oyu, 26,750 feet, in the fall of 1954. Lambert and Mme. Kogan relate their experiences in alternate groups of chapters, a device that offers the reader a "stereoscopic" view of expedition activities. Although the chapters sometimes overlap, this style is none-the-less a pleasant innovation, especially in view of the authors' varied approaches to description.

Finding access to the summits of Gaurisankar and Melungtse too complex an undertaking, Lambert's party travels to Cho Oyu. Here they are faced with a delicate decision, for Dr. Tichy's Austrian expedition is found to be already engaged in ascending the peak. Lambert lets each member of his party voice an opinion, but it is Lambert who leads the discussion to a decision not to attempt the mountain until the Austrians have had their chance: "In mountaineering there is a kind of law that puts competition . . . out of the game. There is a chivalry of mountains, a moral code none-the-less binding for being unwritten."

The book concludes with an account of the Austrian's climb of Cho Oyu and the desperate attempt on the same peak by Lambert and Mme. Kogan that failed because of terrible winds some 1100 feet below the summit. The story is well told, although it has lost some of its flavor through translation. Among the routine descriptions of expedition life one finds passages

here and there that show a sensitive, lyrical appreciation of the scenes and events which unfold before the author's eyes.

ALLEN STECK

*The Siege of Nanga Parbat*, by Paul Bauer. London: Rupert

Hart-Davis, 1956. 211 pages; 23 photographs; 2 maps. Price 25 s. Paul Bauer, famous for his climbs on Kangchenjunga, was also closely connected with Nanga Parbat. He considered it as a climbing possibility in 1929, headed the rescue party sent to it after the '37 disaster, and was leader of the 1938 expedition. His small book gives a complete, though necessarily condensed, survey of the attempts on the mountain, including everything from the mid-nineteenth-century explorations of Adolf Schlagintweit, the first European to see the peak, to Buhl's solo climb to the summit in 1953. The style is clear, simple, and pleasant, with interesting and valuable comments on the mountain and its problems. The two maps are unusually well drawn and detailed, and the photographs, apparently selected from those of all the expeditions, include some that are outstandingly beautiful. Regrettably, occasional little mistakes have been made in the translation, and there is no index.

ELIZABETH KNOWLTON

*Lonely Challenge*, by Hermann Buhl. Translated by Hugh Merrick. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1956. 318 pages; 19 ills.; 3 maps. Price \$5.00.

Reading about Buhl's amazing solo ascent of Nanga Parbat, many people have wondered what sort of person he is, and what was his previous training. Now he himself supplies the answer. Only a portion of the book deals with the Himalayan adventure. The rest contains Buhl's autobiography as a mountaineer, relating many of his more interesting European ascents—from the Austrian Alps, through the Dolomites, to the Western Alps, and Chamonix. These are tales of magnificent climbs. They also give a vivid portrait of the man himself—a man driven and possessed to an exceptional degree by that familiar spirit of the mountaineer, the urge toward something always more and more difficult. Rock climbs famous for requiring teamwork he must tackle alone; snow routes renowned for their severity in summer he must conquer in winter; in weather considered impossible for climbing he must push through to the highest summits. Always he must drive himself to his limit, test himself at the very edge of the humanly possible. And always he finds intense enjoyment among the mountains—a keen pleasure in their beauties, a