

has been hanging, framed, on the American Alpine Clubroom walls for all the 32 years since. We left nothing because Minya Konka's is a narrow, névé-crowned summit without any approachable nearby rock outcrop. It is strongly windblasted with an active working cornice (treacherous too) overhanging to the east. This became evident through field glasses on reconnaissance in advance of the climb. Small objects left on the summit would not survive long. Only an overlapping summit panorama of photographs would provide worthwhile evidence of our visit; and these we did bring back. (See our book *Men Against the Clouds*.) 3. "America's success in distant conquest". We climbed Minya Konka only with the kind permission of the Chinese government at Nanking, carrying with us its emblem (the only one then recognized by all the nations of the world, including the League of Nations and the USSR) which, by prior agreement, we flew first by itself before flying our own. The photograph of this Chinese flag was later carried by the Chinese press as evidence that the Republic of China was in control of our expedition — whose most interesting scientific objective was to investigate and establish or permanently put to rest recurring reports that Everest might be exceeded in height by Mounts Amne Machin or Minya Konka.

One wishes there were some way that this message, together with our congratulations and good wishes, might somehow be conveyed directly to Mr. Shin Chan-Chun and his friends, without intervention of translators.

TERRIS MOORE

EUROPE

First American Ascent of the Grépon. Additional information corrects the note in *A.A.J.*, 1944, 5:2, p. 309. An undated ascent in the period 1900-03 by Charles Robert Cross (A.A.C.). In 1907, Homer A. Rogers (*A.A.J.*, 1959, 11:2, p. 271). In 1909, J. Duke Smith (traverse), undated but probably before Oliver Perry-Smith (first American guideless leader) shortly before August 31. In 1911 Joseph Cooke Smith (traverse).

J. MONROE THORINGTON, M.D.

Rocher du Midi, Massif de la Chartreuse, France. From June 8 to 10, Gary Hemming, with the Scot Stewart Fulton, made a new route of extreme difficulty to the right of the French route on the east face of the Rocher du Midi.

AFRICA

Mount Kenya. The Englishman Barry Cliff and the Austrians Siegfried Aeberli and Dr. Heinrich Klier made the first ascent of the difficult east face of Mount Kenya in August. They have rated this as a grade VI climb, comparable to the most difficult in the Alps.