

finds himself in heaven when climbing in his beloved mountains and in hell when struggling with the problem of making a living. In chronological sequence Hiebeler takes us through the most important years of his mountaineering activities, culminating with the first winter ascent of the northwest face of the Civetta. This, by necessity, involves some duplication of certain material heretofore presented in other Hiebeler books. Even so, it does not detract from the novelty of this book which is written in a fluid narrative style. While following Hiebeler on his climbs, which are not all sixth grade, we learn to know the author, his family, his friends from the human side. There is never a dull moment, the book makes fascinating reading and will also be enjoyed by the non-technical climber.

HORST VON HENNIG

Ce Monde Qui N'Est Pas Le Nôtre, by Robert Tezénas du Montcel. Paris: Gallimard, 1965. 201 pages. Price: 10 F.

This slim volume by the former president of the Groupe de Haute Montagne (G.H.M.) of which he has been a member since 1924, is most refreshing reading in a mechanical age of crowded cable cars and Alpine summits teeming with humanity. Robert Tezénas du Montcel achieved his major climbs between the two wars. In this book he shows us his discoveries of the mountain world, his first palpitating meeting with those Olympian personages, the members of the G.H.M., his adoption into the fraternity and a few of the outstanding moments in his climbing career. He takes us with him on the first ascent of the north slope of the col de Blaitière, a moonlight ascent of the southwest couloir of the Aiguille Verte, a descent of the Brouillard ridge of Mont Blanc. The last chapter shows him immediately after the war, climbing the great wall of the Drusenberg in the Vorarlberg with two Austrians who by chance had fought opposite him on three different fronts in World War II. There are no illustrations; the writer is mainly recapturing in poetic and sometimes almost mystical language his reactions to "this world which is not ours."

Perhaps the deepest meaning of his message is expressed in the chapter on "beloved solitude." "There are no more summits, whose routes are not so minutely described in guide books that there is not a crack capable of holding a piton which is not mentioned, not a movement of the climb which is not submitted to complete analysis. Where can one exercise, amid all this rigorous regimentation, not only strength and flexibility, but an individual spirit of invention, initiative and decision . . . ? One tries to protect nature. Isn't it time also to respect the desire for mystery in the heart of man? I sometimes dream of a mountain guidebook which would

answer this wish . . . Each mountain and each route would be the object of a general description based not on its acrobatic values but on its Alpine or even quite other interest. The difficulties would be presented with tact and discretion: for the artist . . . for the business man . . . for the audacious . . . for the brave . . . Who knows if in the last analysis, the best guidebook would be one in which all the pages are blank?"

This is no book for the acrobatic climber—pitons are hardly mentioned. But it is good reading for all that.

URSULA CORNING

Alpes et Neige 100 Sommets à Ski by Philippe and Claude Traynard.

Paris: B. Arthaud, 1965. About 220 pages; 101 full-page photographs about 7½" x 9". No price stated.

This book by the Traynards contains 101 one-page descriptions of winter ascents in the French Alps, from Faucigny to Vésubie. Each page is in the style of a climbers' guide, and each is faced by a splendid photograph of the region that is being described, usually including the summit. The routes, of course, are by skis wherever the terrain is skiable. The authors dedicate their work to all skiers. The photographs, many of which are by Félix Germain, are sufficient to justify the book. Most of them arouse our longing to escape to a place that is free from atmospheric pollution.

THOMAS H. JUKES

High Country Names. Rocky Mountain National Park, by Louisa Ward

Arps and Elinor Eppich Kingery, assisted by Hugh E. Kingery. Denver: The Colorado Mountain Club, 1966. Illustrations, maps; paper cover. Price, \$4.95.

Although the Rocky Mountain National Park includes only a part of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, it is the portion most frequently visited and is perhaps the most interesting historically. *High Country Names* is much more than a mere gazetter; it gives a lively account of how peaks, passes, and other topographical features came by their names, their significance, and, in the case of personal names, what is known of those for whom the names were given. Although the authors disclaim "scholarship," the evidences of their research would clearly justify that appellation. They are professional librarians, wise in the ways of documentary materials both printed and manuscript; moreover, they have consulted living authorities; and above all, they have drawn upon their own very considerable knowledge of the region. The thoroughness of research and the excellence of presentation lead one to hope that the team of Arps and Kingery will carry on and cover in a similar way the rest of Colorado's High Country. It should be added that this place-name book makes good