

OBITUARIES

G. A. P. KNAPP

George Austin Peter Knapp joined the M.A.M. in 1953, at which time he had already been a member of the Cave and Crag Club from its earliest days. In the climbing circles in which he moved he was invariably known as Pete, and those who knew him rightly treated him with affection and respect, both for his climbing prowess—he was capable of leading routes of marked severity with competence, ease and style—and for the distinctive way in which he was wont to express his views. He had a natural delight in the argument that has no bitter springs, which despite its often provocative nature was never insincere, and with this went the rare quality of being absolutely incapable of bearing malice towards anyone.

It was a great shock to his friends to hear that he had been killed on Ben Nevis this Easter. Among his friends he will be sorely missed, and to his parents we offer our sincerest condolences.

M. F. H.

CHRISTOPHER SOUTHALL

1875-1957

The passing of Christopher Southall was for those who knew him best a most grievous loss, and only less so for an extremely wide circle of friends and acquaintances in many various walks of life. Wherever he went, both at home and abroad in many countries, he was at once recognised by those he met as one whom it was a joy and privilege to know. Perhaps no man was ever more anxious and ready to assist unselfishly those with whom he came in contact.

Throughout his long life he maintained a keen though not in later years an active interest in mountaineering. He played association football, golf and lawn tennis; he skated whenever there was ice. He was an early skier, using the single poles now superseded by the two sticks. He climbed early in the Lake District, and had some school years in Switzerland and many summer and winter holidays there. He continued skiing until the war put an end to his active mountaineering.

When it was proposed to form a local mountaineering club in Birmingham, Christopher Southall at once gave it his support and continued as a member and showed his interest in its activities throughout.