

serious damage to the King Memorial Hut and the Sefton bivouac, the heavy weight of snow crushing in the roof, breaking many of the rafters and stays. New material had to be procured and carried up to repair the damage and to strengthen the buildings. All the material is now on the spot, and the work of repairing is being effected.

The chamois and thar liberated on the reserve have been seen several times during the summer. A near view of a herd of thirty-two thar, including eight young ones, was once sighted on the Sealy Range at the back of the Hermitage, and all the animals appear in splendid condition. Four young thar from the Wellington Zoo were liberated during the summer near the locality, which should infuse new blood and strengthen the herd.

The chief climb during the season was the solitary ascent of Mount Cook by Mr. S. Turner, F.R.G.S. He is the first unaided amateur to make the ascent. It is a splendid achievement, and is the reward of pluck and perseverance.

Besides the climbs recorded in the following list, one ascent was made on the Hochstetter Dome, one of Mount Kitchener, two of Mount Annette, five of Mount Wakefield, one of Barron's Saddle, one crossing of Graham's Saddle, and four ascents and six crossings of the Copland Pass.

*List of High Ascents at Hermitage during Season of 1918-19.*

| Date.    | Name of Peak.                                                                                | Height, in Feet. | Climbed by                                            | Name of Guide. | Route and Remarks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1918.    |                                                                                              |                  |                                                       |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| April 15 | Unnamed twin peak (end of Malte Brun Range)                                                  | About 7,542      | Miss E. Joachim ..                                    | P. Graham      | Ascent and traverse by west face from Ball Hut and Tasman Glacier.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dec. 18  | Minarets Peaks ..                                                                            | 10,058           | Mr. McKenzie, Miss E. Marshall                        | J. Lippe       | Ascent and descent by east face from Malte Brun Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Dec. 18  | Minarets Peaks ..                                                                            | 10,058           | Mr. S. Turner ..                                      | R. Young       | Ditto.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Dec. 27  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Miss D. Theomin ..                                    | P. Graham      | Traverse—ascend by eastern arête, descent by west face from Mueller Hut.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec. 30  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Miss I. Thomson, Miss Barnett, Mr. Barnett            | A. Cowling     | Ascent and descent by west face from the Mueller Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dec. 30  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Miss Digby ..                                         | R. Young       | Ditto.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Dec. 30  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Mr. W. Graves, Mr. E. P. Lee, Mrs. Lee                | Guideless      | "                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1919.    |                                                                                              |                  |                                                       |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jan. 6   | Unnamed triple peak on the spur between the Grey and Maud Glaciers (Godley Glacier district) | 7,995            | Mr. W. A. Kennedy ..                                  | J. Lippe ..    | Ascent was made from a camp at the end of the Godley Glacier and thence up the Grey Glacier to the west side of the mountain.                                                                                                                   |
| Jan. 6   | Unnamed twin peak (end of Malte Brun Range)                                                  | 7,542            | Mr. H. A. Hall, Miss Lorimer                          | J. McDonald    | Ascent and traverse by west face from Ball Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jan. 9   | Mount Sturdee ..                                                                             | 9,000            | Miss D. Theomin ..                                    | P. Graham      | Ascent made from the Hooker Hut by the south face from Hooker Glacier.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Jan. 9   | Minarets Peaks ..                                                                            | 10,085           | Mr. E. P. Lee, Mr. W. Graves                          | R. Young       | Ascent and descent by south face from Malte Brun Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Jan. 9   | Mount Johnston ..                                                                            | 8,858            | Mr. H. A. Hall, Miss Lorimer                          | J. McDonald    | Ascent and descent by the north-west arête from the Bealey and Tasman Glaciers from Ball Hut.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Feb. 11  | Mount Johnston ..                                                                            | 8,858            | Dr. E. Teichelmann, Mr. K. Garrick                    | P. Graham      | Ascent and descent by the west face from the Dorothy and Tasman Glaciers from Ball Hut.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Feb. 21  | Nun's Veil and Priest's Cap (Mount Biretta)                                                  | 8,975 and 8,761  | Miss A. Humphreys ..                                  | P. Graham      | Complete traverse. From a camp in Gorilla Creek the ascent was made by the south face to the summit of the Nun's Veil, and thence by the main north arête to the Priest's Cap, and down north side to the Murchison Valley and to the Ball Hut. |
| Mar. 6   | Mount Cook ..                                                                                | 12,349           | Mr. S. Turner, F.R.G.S.                               | Guideless ..   | Ascent and descent by Green's route from the King Memorial Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Mar. 11  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Mr. Smith, Mr. Orange, Mr. Lane                       | J. Stout ..    | Ascent and descent by west face from Mueller Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mar. 11  | Mount Sealy ..                                                                               | 8,651            | Miss A. Barton, Miss Annette Barton, Miss S. Johnston | P. Graham      | Ascent and descent by west face from Mueller Hut.                                                                                                                                                                                               |

*TE ANAU—MILFORD TRACK.*

There was a considerable increase in the traffic on this track, and as arrangements have been made to bridge the Whitestone and Mararoa Rivers before next season starts, there will be the necessary improvements in the motor service, which has acted as a deterrent to many intending visitors. More than one reliable motor firm has expressed a desire to take up this run, provided the rivers and the road are attended to.

*OVERSEAS AGENCIES.*

Various causes have contributed to keep these agencies very busy, more especially, however, for other Departments than the Tourist, and the Sydney Agent in particular has had a very strenuous time.