

after the fire to lease two houses in a suitable position for the purpose of a sanatorium, and the establishment has been kept going, though under great disadvantages to the staff. As the whole of the furniture in the old building was totally destroyed in the fire, a considerable expenditure has been necessary to equip the temporary premises, but the furniture has been bought with a strict idea of its suitability for the new sanatorium. The plans of this are now in the hands of the Public Works Department, and will provide for a sanatorium on the most up-to-date lines possible.

HERMITAGE, MOUNT COOK.

The returns for this resort are very satisfactory. The erection of the new building (of which a photo is shown in the report) has had a very stimulating effect on the traffic. As I predicted in my last report, even the new building has at times been sorely taxed to find accommodation for the number of visitors, and the question of preparing plans to provide for an annexe to an extension of the hostel is now before the Public Works Department. The question must be faced sooner or later, and I am certain that the traffic to the alpine regions is now only in its infancy. Many improvements have been and are being effected which will add to the convenience of visitors and the attractions of the district. Chief among these was the erection of a convenient hut on the Mueller Glacier. This work, of the most arduous nature, was carried out entirely and in a most satisfactory manner by the members of the guiding staff. The hut commands a most comprehensive view of the whole glacier and surrounding peaks, and forms a base from which sixteen to eighteen fine ascents can be made, and also is the site of a splendid ski-ing ground. A Norwegian gentleman who visited the hut considered the runs up the Mueller and head of the Tasman were equal to the best in Norway. Had it not been for the unusual circumstances, a programme of winter sports would have been inaugurated at the Hermitage and Mueller this season. A high bivouac has also been erected at the Almer Rocks, at the head of the Franz Josef Glacier in Westland, and will be a great convenience and help to people crossing from the West Coast by way of Graham's Saddle. A number have already done this striking trip, returning to the Hermitage by way of the Copland Pass, and a largely increased number is looked for next season. The hut at Welcome Flat (Copland Track) has also been fully equipped with bedding, cooking utensils, and other necessary articles.

The guiding staff at the Hermitage has had a very strenuous season, and the work performed has been admirably carried out under great disadvantages. The guides (W. Brass and R. Young) who were filling the places of those lost in last season's fatality (D. Thomson and J. Richmond) both volunteered for service at the front, and one of them (Corporal William Brass) fell in action at the Dardanelles. Mr. Brass was one of the most promising and popular guides in the district. During the season the Chief Guide (Mr. Graham), who was recovering from a severe illness contracted in the course of his duty, and was therefore not able to do much high climbing, was ably assisted by Mr. C. Kain, Chief Guide of the Canadian Alpine Club, and a substantial record of climbs was made. Following is a list compiled by the Chief Guide :—

LIST OF CLIMBS ON SOUTHERN ALPS, SEASON 1914-15.

Date.	Name of Peaks.	Height.	Climbed by	Name of Guides.	Remarks.
		Ft.			
June 21	Sealey	8,651	F. Milne and R. Young .. ..	.. ..	First ascent.
September 23	Elie de Beaumont	10,200	C. Kain and F. Milne .. ..	.. ..
November 8	Footstool	9,073	C. Kain and R. Young .. ..	.. ..	First ascent.
December 23	Unnamed peak	7,000	Mr. Suttin Turner	C. Kain.	
" 28	Sealey .. ..	.. ..	Messrs. E. P. Lee, M.P., and Scannall and Walton	" ..	
" 29	Unnamed peak on Sealey Range	8,200	Messrs. Slowman, Maughan, and Rev. Mr. Fisher	" ..	First ascent.
January 1	Footstool .. ..	.. ..	Messrs. Lee and Walton .. ..	.. ..
" 2	" .. ..	.. ..	Messrs. Slowman, Maughan, and Rev. Mr. Fisher	" ..	
" 12	Mount Sealey .. ..	.. ..	Miss Lorimer and Mr. Wright	P. Graham.	
" 19	Mount Mabel .. ..	.. ..	Rev. Mr. Fisher	C. Kain.	
" 28	Mount Maunga Ma	8,335	F. Wright	" ..	Also Eagle Peak, 8,500 ft.
February 3	Mount Beattie	9,000	Messrs. Hugh Chambers and F. Wright	" ..	First ascent made on same day as St. David's Dome.
" 3	St. David's Dome	10,443	Ditto	" ..	
" 5	Mount Sealey .. ..	.. ..	Professor Robinson and Mrs. Robinson	Without guide.	
" 5	Unnamed peak on Mount Sealey	8,000	Mrs. J. Thomson	C. Kain.	
" 5	Unnamed peak on Mount Darby	8,287	"	" ..	
" 6	Mount Munga Ma .. ..	.. ..	" .. ..	" ..
" 8	Mount Walter	9,507	Messrs. Wright and Robert- son	" ..	
" 11	Mount Darwin	9,715	Ditto	" ..	
" 11	Aiguille Range	9,731	Professor Robinson and Mrs. Robinson	" ..	
" 12	Coronet Peak	8,265	Professor Robinson and H. Chambers and Wright	" ..	
" 16	Mount Meeson	8,704	Ditto	" ..	
" 16	Footstool	9,073	Professor Robinson	F. Milne.	
" 16	Munga Ma	8,335	H. Chambers and Miss B. Holdsworth	C. Kain.	