experimental work found full scope and Mr. Field laboured incessantly for a decade to adapt experimental methods of the West to suit Indian conditions. It is to him that we owe the splendid collection of standard meteorological data of the upper layers of the free atmosphere over India. His investigations on the relation between the monsoon and the upper winds and the standard exposure of instruments in India will long be remembered in the meteorological history of India.

Mr. Field's activities were interrupted by the Great War during which he went to Britain and joined the Admiralty Research Station at Shandon, Scotland. Here he designed an electrical depth recorder for paravanes on mine sweepers. After the conclusion of the War, Mr. Field returned to India and resumed his upper air investigations. In 1922 his services had to be requisitioned in the Director-General's Office at Simla. Mr. Field knew that his duties would be mainly administrative but did not flinch. On the contrary he brought with him his impressive enthusiasm and convincing advocacy to lubricate the adminnistrative machine at Simla. Mr. Field's predecessor in the Office of the Director-General was Sir Gilbert T. Walker, a mathematician of repute. Under Sir Gilbert's direction the mathematical and physical work done in the India Meteorological Department had received world-wide recognition. It was in the fitness of things therefore that, after the retirement of Sir Gilbert, the mantle of the Director-Generalship fell on Mr. Field, a born experimentalist.

Mr. Field did not relinquish his meteorological work even after his retirement. His services were requisitioned by the Air Ministry, London, to investigate the cause of the so-called "Gibralter plume". In this work also he exhibited his characteristic thoroughness and foresight by preparing a clay model of Gibraltar and experimenting with it in a wind tunnel before proceeding to determine the characteristics of the wind circulation on the spot.

His example has been a constant source of inspiration to the staff of the India Meteorological Department who received such guidance in a critical time of intense activity as financial facilities allowed. For this service alone the Indian Meteorologists can never be sufficiently grateful to him. The India Meteorological Department will ever remain indebted to Mr. Field for the tireless patience and critical acumen which have characterised both his scientific and administrative activities.

Nanga Parbat Expedition, 1937.

AS we go to the press, our attention has been drawn to an Associated Press message dated June 20th, concerning the ill-fated Nanga Parbat Expedition which was overwhelmed by an avalanche. Eight of the nine climbers, including the intrepid mountaineer leader Dr. Wien, perished. Nine Gurkha porters are also reported to have been killed. The news of the disaster will be received with the greatest dismay; the mountaineer experts opine that the season was not propitious for the ascent of the peak which is considered more accessible in autumn.

Two unsuccessful attempts on Nanga Parbat (26,629 feet) have been recorded. The first of these was made in 1895, and the second in 1934. The latter was led by Willi Merkl. The present expedition arrived in Bombay on April 30, and established their base camp at an altitude of 10,650 feet on May 18. Camp 2 was reached on May 25 but owing to the unfavourable weather conditions the climbers had soon to return to the base camp. Weather having improved they proceeded rapidly reaching camp 2 on June 3, camp 3 on June 4 and camp 4 on the next day.

The porters all belonged to the Himalayan Club and had been on several expeditions including the Everest.

The members of the ill-fated expedition included Prof. C. Troll and Dr. H. Hartmann, eminent geologists who proposed to collect scientific data during the climb.
