Every step taken by Herzog and his companions was charged with adventure. The days of travel through Nepalese jungle, zigzagging through a wilderness of gorges and torrent streams. The preliminary explorations of the approaches to "The Goddess of the Heavens" as the Nepalese call Annapurna. The back-breaking task of establishing a chain of camps: Base Camp at 14,750 feet. Camp 1, about 2,050 feet above; Camp 2 another 2,050 feet up and on to Camp 5 at a height of 24,300 feet.

Snow whirring into their faces, cold stifling their clothes; the glass of the tropical sun blinding them, their bodies and brains sluggish from fatigue and lack of oxygen. Finally a jubilant sense of victory and then the discovery that the worst was still ahead. A long series of mishaps during the descent which plunged the expedition almost into total disaster.

Annapurna by Maurice Herzog is one of the great adventure classics of all time. It is also an enduring tribute to the spirit of man which is indomitable and against which nothing can prevail.

Ovville Percott in The New York Times says: "To read ANnapurna is to remain for a number of hours in a constant state of admiration and wonder."

Printed in the U.S.A.