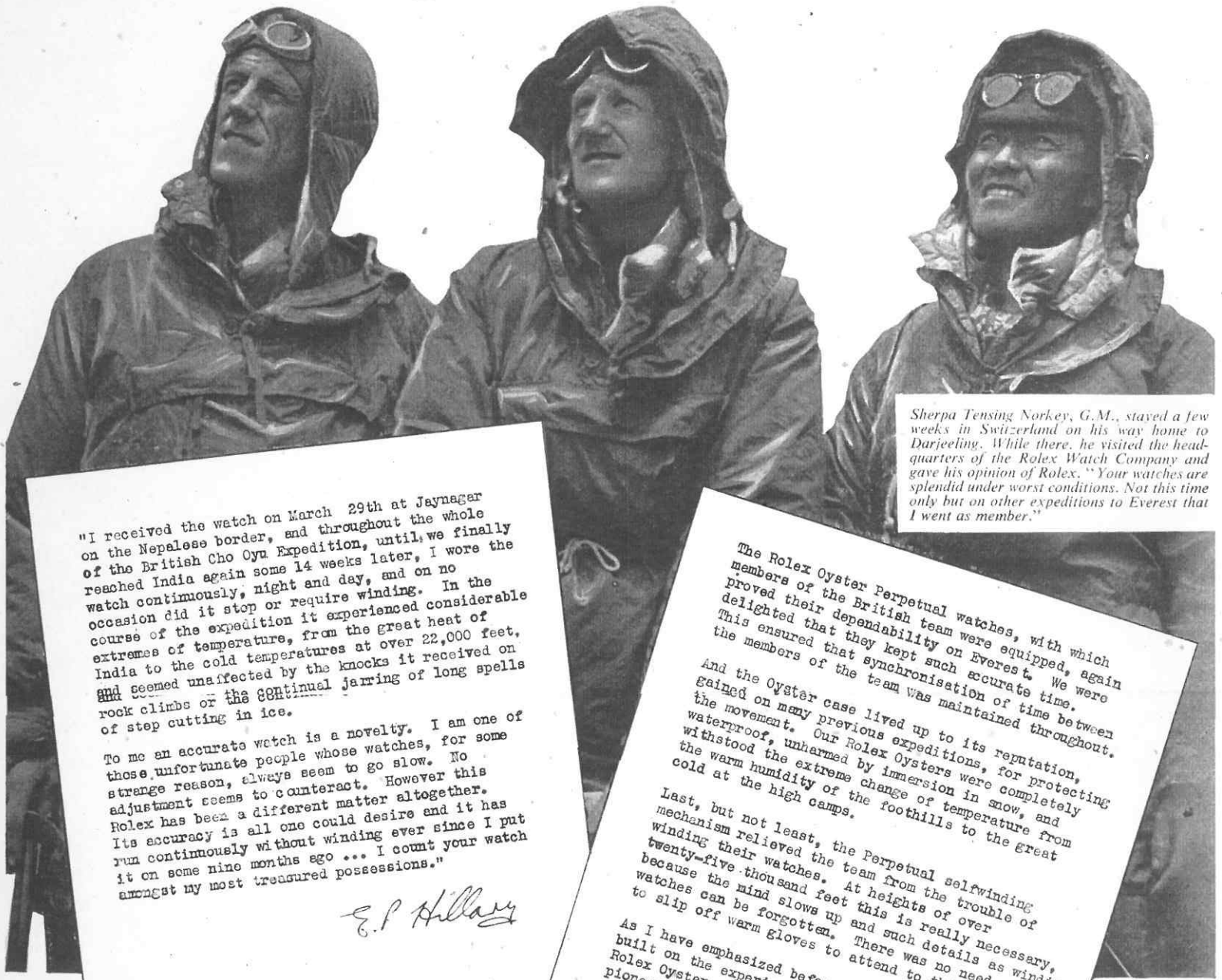


# Climbers pay tribute to Rolex



Sherpa Tensing Norkey, G.M., stayed a few weeks in Switzerland on his way home to Darjeeling. While there, he visited the headquarters of the Rolex Watch Company and gave his opinion of Rolex. "Your watches are splendid under worst conditions. Not this time only but on other expeditions to Everest that I went as member."

"I received the watch on March 29th at Jaynagar on the Nepalese border, and throughout the whole of the British Cho Oyu Expedition, until we finally reached India again some 14 weeks later, I wore the watch continuously, night and day, and on no occasion did it stop or require winding. In the course of the expedition it experienced considerable extremes of temperature, from the great heat of India to the cold temperatures at over 22,000 feet, and seemed unaffected by the knocks it received on rock climbs or the continual jarring of long spells of step cutting in ice.

To me an accurate watch is a novelty. I am one of those unfortunate people whose watches, for some strange reason, always seem to go slow. No adjustment seems to counteract. However this Rolex has been a different matter altogether. Its accuracy is all one could desire and it has run continuously without winding ever since I put it on some nine months ago... I count your watch amongst my most treasured possessions."

*E. P. Hillary*

On his return from the 1952 British Himalayan Expedition, Sir Edmund Hillary sent to Rolex these comments on his Oyster Perpetual

The Rolex Oyster Perpetual watches, with which members of the British team were equipped, again proved their dependability on Everest. We were delighted that they kept such accurate time. This ensured that synchronisation of time between the members of the team was maintained throughout.

And the Oyster case lived up to its reputation, gained on many previous expeditions, for protecting the movement. Our Rolex Oysters were completely waterproof, unharmed by immersion in snow, and withstood the extreme change of temperature from the warm humidity of the foothills to the great cold at the high camps.

Last, but not least, the Perpetual self-winding mechanism relieved the team from the trouble of winding their watches. At heights of over twenty-five thousand feet this is really necessary, because the mind slows up and such details as winding watches can be forgotten. There was no need either to slip off warm gloves to attend to this detail.

As I have emphasized before, this expedition was built on the experience and achievement of others. Rolex Oyster watches have accompanied many previous pioneering expeditions. They performed splendidly, and we have indeed come to look upon Rolex Oysters as an important part of high climbing equipment.

15th June, 1953.  
Khatmandu

*John Hunt*

From COLONEL SIR JOHN HUNT

## HIMALAYAN ROLL OF HONOUR

Rolex Oyster watches were worn on these historic Himalayan Expeditions

- 1933 British Everest Expedition that reached 28,150 feet.
- 1933 Houston Expedition that flew over Everest for the first time.
- 1934 Expedition to Nanda-Devi—Eric Shipton and H. W. Tilman.
- 1935 British Everest Reconnaissance Expedition led by Eric Shipton.
- 1936 British Everest Expedition led by Hugh Rutledge.
- 1937 British Reconnaissance Expedition to Shaksgam led by Eric Shipton.
- 1938 British Everest Expedition led by H. W. Tilman.
- 1939 Expedition to Karakoram led by Eric Shipton.
- 1947 Swiss Alpine Club Expedition to Gangotri.
- 1949 Swiss Himalayan Expedition to Garhwal.
- 1952 French Himalayan Expedition to Garhwal.
- 1952 Swiss Alpine Everest Expedition led by Dr. Wyss-Dunant.
- 1952 Swiss Alpine Everest Expedition led by Dr. Chevalley.
- 1952 British Himalayan Expedition led by Eric Shipton.
- 1953 BRITISH EVEREST EXPEDITION LED BY COLONEL SIR JOHN HUNT.



The ROLEX OYSTER PERPETUAL that accompanied the victorious British Everest Expedition. Waterproof, self-winding, and a miracle of accuracy, this watch is the highest achievement of the watchmaking industry.



# ROLEX

A landmark in the history of Time measurement

THE ROLEX WATCH COMPANY LIMITED (H. WILSDORF, GOVERNING DIRECTOR)  
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