

would leave an observation on the wrong side of the line. Hence the line is broken here and there.

The difficulties which the observations present to the map-maker are evident, and no simple solution of them is possible; but it does not seem to the writer that the solution now adopted is the best: deflections quite as large as those actually made at certain points along the isogonals could with equal justice have been made elsewhere along them. The fact is, there seems to be much in favour of combining the old plan, of much-curved isogonals taking detailed account of the observations, with the new plan carried however to its logical conclusion, of quite plain lines disregarding *all* small anomalies. That is, one may suggest that future editions of these maps should give isogonals like those of the 1928 edition (of course embodying any corrections indicated by further observations) together with bolder isogonals, at 1° intervals, showing the general trend of the isogonals. These might be accompanied by a rubric similar to that now introduced in the 1933 maps, though preferably with the omission of the prophecy contained in the last sentence.

One new feature in the 1933 edition which seems to be wholly commendable is the indication, by shading, of the magnetically disturbed regions where great anomalies are probable, rendering it useless to draw isogonals in those regions.

S. C.

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PROGRESS OF THE ORDNANCE SURVEY, 1931-32

The year under review in this Report was marked by the publication of the first sheet (Plymouth) of the new Fifth Relief Edition of the 1-inch map, and also the Special District Map of Aldershot North. These sheets have already been discussed in the *Journal* (vol. 78, p. 353, and vol. 80, p. 358). From this Report of Progress it appears that another sheet in this edition has been completed for reproduction, and four further sheets and Aldershot South are nearing completion. Eight sheets are in process of compilation and drawing. Two special 1-inch District Maps of the Chilterns and the Norfolk Broads have been published. It is interesting to note that the number of sheets sold was greater than in any previous year: this was largely due to the popularity of the 1-inch maps, for there was a falling-off in the sale of 25-inch plans. A considerable amount of time was given to work for the Land Valuation scheme and for the review of county administrative boundaries.

A Gravity Survey was carried out in the west of Scotland with the pendulum apparatus lent by the School of Geodesy, Cambridge. The result was to treble the number of precise gravity stations in Great Britain, which is now thirty. Greater gravitational anomalies than any in Southern England were recorded. The stations along the west coast gave small, those in the Outer Hebrides somewhat larger, positive anomalies.

In the section on archaeology it is noted that the collection of air-photographs, now numbering nine thousand, is in constant use. Detailed study is to be made of air-photographs of Salisbury Plain, to determine the plan and purpose of the prehistoric fields and earthworks. For the series of historical maps, which already includes Roman Britain and Stuart England, two more are being compiled—Early Scotland and Anglo-Saxon England. A catalogue of the four hundred photographs of old cadastral plans has been printed.