An Introduction to

*Regional Surveying*
A reduced facsimile of a mounted photographic illustration.
An Introduction to 

*Regional Surveying*

By

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PREFACE

A PAMPHLET entitled *An Outline Scheme for Local Surveys* was prepared by one of the authors and issued by the Regional Survey Section of the South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies in 1920 and was shortly afterwards out of print. Since that time the authors have been collecting material for a comprehensive manual of regional surveying. They have felt, however, that while the projected manual would require several years for its completion and would necessarily be a costly volume, there is at the present time a widespread and rapidly increasing need for a less ambitious handbook which, within its scope, will give to field workers, teachers, training-college students, and senior pupils in schools some practical guidance in the organisation and carrying out of regional surveys. It is their aim in the present volume to satisfy this need.

In place of the larger work which the authors had in view it may be found more desirable to issue from time to time smaller handbooks dealing with the various branches of regional study, each being prepared by an author who combines the qualification of expertness in his subject with a full comprehension of the aims and methods of regional survey in education and research.

Lest readers who have not had experience of regional survey work should be overwhelmed by the apparent magnitude of a regional survey undertaking, it may be pointed out in the first place that in a well-organised survey many hands and many heads will contribute to
the work, and in the second place that no time limit need be set for its completion. It may be found desirable at a given time to publish a selection of the material of a survey but in the nature of things the survey itself will never be completed. The great thing is that it shall be commenced and this may be done at any points which appeal to the interests of the individual workers. One of the chief aims of a regional survey is to co-ordinate all the special branches of field study in relation to a given region, and the great value of organising a survey upon a basis such as that laid down in this Introduction is that whenever a single piece of local research is accomplished it will fit into its proper place in the scheme as a whole.

Readers who are intending to engage in survey work of any kind are strongly advised to get into touch with one or other of the national societies that pay particular attention to regional survey. These are the Geographical Association, Marine Terrace, Aberystwyth, which has many local branches throughout the country; the Institute of Sociology, Leplay House, 65 Belgrave Road, Westminster; and, for Scotland, the Outlook Tower, Castle Hill, Edinburgh.

The question of colouring base maps which are printed on various qualities of paper has in the past presented some difficulty. The authors have been fortunate in obtaining the co-operation in this matter of Messrs Winsor and Newton, Ltd., who after experimenting have produced a satisfactory series of colours to their specification. These are now obtainable at a reasonable cost under the name of “Regional Survey Colours,” the particulars of which are given in Chapter v.

The authors wish to express their thanks to the Council of the South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies for
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permitting them to make free use of papers that have been published from time to time in *The South-Eastern Naturalist*. In the case of one such paper which is here reprinted verbatim, namely that on “Making Photographic Prints for Regional Survey”, their thanks are due also to the authors, Messrs E. A. Robins and J. H. Pledge. They are especially indebted to The Director General of the Ordnance Survey, who very kindly read the first draft of Chapter iv and made many valuable comments all of which have been incorporated in the text. Figures 3, 3a, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 21 are either reproductions of, or based upon, Ordnance Survey Maps by permission, and the block for Figure 19 has been kindly lent by the Royal Meteorological Society. Lastly, the authors are pleased to take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of many helpful discussions with fellow workers in the regional survey movement during the progress of the book, and in particular with Mr Alexander Farquharson of Leplay House who has kindly rendered the additional service of reading the proofs.

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