

the following spring, and William Nicholson, by then Dean of Carlisle, replied as follows: "About the English Atlas there were only four volumes finished. I wrote two of them: those that refer to Germany. M<sup>r</sup> Perse [Peers] one of our Esq. Bedels wrote that of the Low Countries. The first volume was by several hands: the Introduction by a Fellow of Pembroke College: Greenland, Russia and the countries under the Pole were described by Obadiah Walker: Sweden by D<sup>r</sup> Todd, then Fellow of University College, now one of our Prebendaries at Carlisle: Norway, Iceland, Denmark and Poland were done by me. D<sup>r</sup> Lane of Merton began a volume of the Turkish Empire: and Moses Pitt (the undertaker) treated with me for finishing that part. In order to which he sent me down the Doctor's sheets, and I had provided such helps as I thought might enable me to bring it to perfection. But soon after my friend Moses fell into decay, and so the whole design was blasted."

#### NOTE ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KARAKORAM MAP TO BE PUBLISHED EARLY IN APRIL

SOME years ago there was much discussion at meetings of the Royal Geographical Society and in the *Geographical Journal* on the question of range names in the Karakoram, and it became apparent that a map of the area drawn with special regard to the representation of the higher relief would be helpful in coming to a conclusion. A map was therefore compiled and drawn at the R.G.S. by Mr. F. J. Batchelor, the senior draughtsman, working under the instructions of a Committee appointed by the Council of the R.G.S. and under the constant supervision of Professor Kenneth Mason.

This preliminary edition had a certain number of peak, pass, and river names, enough to make the country recognizable. It was circulated to many travellers who had contributed to discussion of Karakoram Range and Peak names, and their suggestions were considered by a Conference in London between representatives of the Survey of India and the R.G.S. during the winter of 1936-37. A full account of the preliminary work and the Karakoram Conference Report was published in the *Geographical Journal* for February 1938. The names now shown upon the map accord with the decisions of this Conference, which were subsequently approved by the Surveyor-General of India.

Meanwhile exploration had been active and considerable additions to the first compilation were made, to include all published results up to Mr. Eric Shipton's Karakoram Expedition of 1937. The Map has been drawn on the principles described in a Note communicated to the International Geographical Congress held at Warszawa in 1934, of which the following is a summary:

Our task was to produce on the scale of 1/750,000 a map of the Karakoram with an altitude range of about 3000 to 28,000 feet. Unrestricted by any conventions we have sought the most graphic method of representing the relations of the high mountains and great glaciers to one another and to the deep valleys which divide the different massifs.

After many experiments we have abandoned the layer system. The strong red or brown warm colours of the normal scale combine badly with the blue and white required in the representation of *névé* and glacier. We tried without success to find a colour scheme which should pass into cold greys for the higher altitudes below the snows. And we concluded also that no layer tints are satisfactory when the contours are close. Unless the distance between contours is at least 5 mm. the tint of the layer is affected by the colour of the contour. Hence we renounce the use of layer colours for the heights, reserving the possibility of using them in the valley bottoms.

In principle we accentuate the mountain slopes, colouring those which are bare in brown on a ground tint of yellow with blue shading of the snows and in addition a general oblique purple shading. The hill shading is in principle cast from the north-west, as is usual; but we reserve the liberty to vary its direction somewhat to suit the ground, as was done long ago by the Swiss cartographers. The system much resembles that used in recent Norwegian maps, adapted to the higher altitudes.

For the valleys we have adopted tints of greyish green and have been careful not to carry the hill shading down into the valley bottoms. The idea was derived from the old habit of the Austrian cartographers in colouring *Thal-sohlen* green on maps otherwise uncoloured.

For the names we adopt the new Ordnance Survey alphabet as nearly as we can, and use the one style of Roman and sloping throughout. Peak names are distinguished not by a different character but by writing them along the arc of a circle above the summit, with the height symmetrically below, so that the position of the summit is always in the same relation to the name and the figures. By analogy we write pass names above the pass symbol in the general direction of their route, with the pass height below. The framework of the map is the triangulation of the Survey of India; their topography has been modified and extended by the results of recent expeditions.

The map is printed in eight colours on a sheet with engraved surface 22·7 by 20·0 inches. The scale is 1/750,000 or 11·8 inches to 1 mile. The price of the map is 7s 6d or 5 Rupees to the public, to Fellows of the Society 6s. Copies of the preliminary edition, without mountain names, may be bought from the Office of the Society for 2s.