

**A Suggestion for the Improvement of Mathematical Tables.**

By **W. J. MACDONALD, M.A.**

If in Tables such as Chambers' the differences were given for a second instead of for a minute, they might be arranged (and used) as follows :

30°	Lsin	Diff.
0'	9 6989700	1" 36
1'	9·6991887	2" 72
2'	9·6994073	3" 108
3'	9·6996258	4" 144
4'	9·6998441	5" 180
5'	9·7000622	6" 216
6'	9·7002802	7" 252
7'	9·7004981	8" 288
8'	9·7007158	9" 324
9'	9·7009334	
10'	9·7011508	

To find  $L\sin 30^{\circ}4'29''$

$$L\sin 30^{\circ}4' = 9\cdot6998441$$

$$\text{correction for } 20'' \quad 720$$

$$\text{,, ,, } 9'' \quad 324$$

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$$L\sin 30^{\circ}4'29'' = 9\cdot6999485$$

To find the angle whose

$$L\sin = 9.7005632$$

$$L\sin 30^\circ 7' = 9.7004981$$

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651

$$10'' = 360$$

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291

$$8'' = \underline{\underline{288}}$$

∴ the angle is  $30^\circ 7' 18''$ .

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The following Resolution, moved by Mr DUTHIE, was unanimously adopted :—

“Considering that in the tables of lineal and square measure the fractional measures—viz.,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  yds. = 1 pl., and  $30\frac{1}{4}$  sq. yds. = 1 sq. pl.—are of no practical value, and in their premature appearance in arithmetical study involve a grievous and unnecessary burden in teaching, this Society appeal to the Scottish Education Department to exercise its authority with a view to their abolition in schools, and to this end to allow no questions involving their use to be set in examinations under the control of the Department.”

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