

CORRESPONDENCE

A GEOLOGICAL 2½-INCH MAP

SIR,—I would join Mr. Evans¹ in welcoming the new Ordnance Survey 2½-inch map² and recommending geological use of the National Grid. I was wondering how best to advocate consideration of similar scale and sheet maps by the Geological Survey when the publication of Professor Linton's paper to Section C, 1947,³ came to hand. As that considers many aspects of the problem I would now ask in your pages to review briefly the case for a new 1/25,000 geological map of Britain.

(1) Comparison of different national geological maps shows that in some cartographic respects ours now fall behind the best. This would be widely appreciated if students had more opportunity to study maps from different countries.

(2) The present time, when so much of the old has been destroyed, and when so much new is coming from the Ordnance Survey, is surely opportune for such reconsideration.

(3) A scale of 2½ inches to one mile would show most of the detail now published or recorded on 6-inch maps. Such a uniform series, with carefully reconsidered conventions, would make generally available a wide and useful range of palaeontological, petrological, structural, and economic detail. Germany⁴ and Switzerland, for example, have successfully employed this scale.

(4) Each sheet is 10 by 10 km. and constitutes four quarter sheets of the projected national 6-inch topographical series. Covering such an area, each sheet could be published within a short time of field work without waiting to complete 12 by 18 square miles, or more in Scotland.

(5) The cost of publication of about 2,500 new sheets would be spread over a long time and would be partly offset by suspending publication of 6-inch geological maps, copies of which could still be provided when necessary.

(6) The position of the 1-inch geological "New Series" is a different question and is not hereby attacked.

(7) The same considerations apply, and indeed more readily, to individual maps published in journals.

W. B. HARLAND.

SEDGWICK MUSEUM,
CAMBRIDGE.
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GLACIAL SECTIONS IN THE WELSH BORDERLAND

SIR,—I should be grateful if you would allow me to draw the attention of your readers to two extensive gravel pits revealing very interesting sections in glacial deposits along the Welsh Border. The first, at Yatton, near Aymestry, is in outwash gravel and delta sands deposited from the western lateral moraine of the Wye glacier into the glacial lake Wigmore. The second, at Stretton Sugwas, near Hereford, is in a retreat moraine of the same glacier. The progress of working in this pit is almost daily revealing fresh sections of most interesting structures due to pressure, deposition, melting, etc.

With Professor Wooldridge I had the pleasure of showing a party of the International Congress over these pits in August and their enthusiasm, especially that of the Scandinavian glaciologists, was untounded. Small workings existed on these sites twenty years ago when I studied the region

¹ *Geol. Mag.*, lxxxv, p. 242.

² *Ibid.*, p. 183.

³ "The Ideal Geological Map," *The Advancement of Science*, v, no. 18, p. 141, 1948.

⁴ *Geol. Mag.*, lxxxiv, p. 171.