

## DISCOVERY REPORTS

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Volume XXV of the *Discovery Reports*, describing soundings taken during investigations organized by the British Discovery Committee from 1932 to 1939, has just been received at the International Hydrographic Bureau.

Published by the Cambridge University Press in 1948, it contains 67 pages and 9 colotype plates. It has been written by H.F.P. Herdman, M. Sc., and supplements a previous report by the same author of soundings taken by the R.R.S. *Discovery*, *Discovery II*, and *William Scoresby* from 1926 to 1932.

Several thousands of echo or wire soundings spread over the Antarctic Ocean were taken, throwing much new light on the bathymetric and geological knowledge of these areas.

Figure I shows the great majority of the lines of soundings taken.

The report discusses the technique used in sounding and results obtained in individual and continuous sounding operations.

The soundings taken may be roughly classified in three main groups : (a) Oceanic sounding normally taken every hour when on passage ; (b) Soundings taken during hydrographic surveys ; and (c) Special soundings taken when a submarine ridge, bank, or other interesting feature of relief was crossed.

The section on sounding technique supplies data on shallow and deep-water echo sounding equipment, the correction of echo soundings, and difficulties encountered in obtaining soundings. Slope correction and the condition of the ocean floor, as well as submarine relief terminology are also discussed.

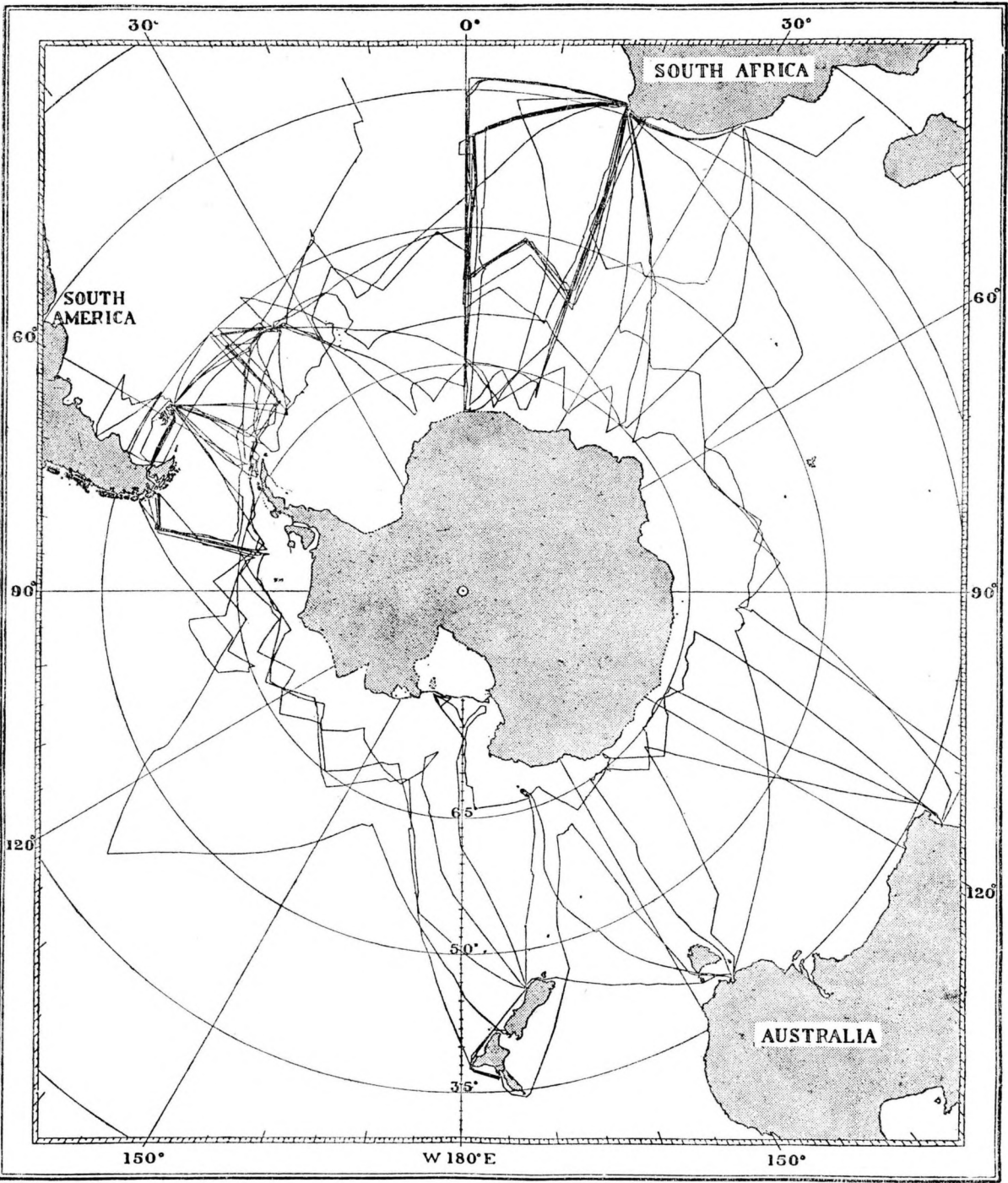
Results obtained are analysed according to the geographical areas investigated, under separate headings listing the various sectors of the Scotia Sea (the term "Scotia Arc" was used in this report to designate the apparent connexion between Tierra del Fuego and Graham Land, by way of Staten Island, the Shag Rocks, South Georgia, etc.) ; as follows :

From Tierra del Fuego to the Shag Rocks ;  
 South Georgia and the Shag Rocks ;  
 South Georgia to the South Sandwich Islands ;  
 South Sandwich Islands to the South Orkney Islands ;  
 South Orkneys to Clarence Island and the South Shetlands.

The report deals further with :

- Regional hydrographic surveys, including
  - The South Orkneys,
  - The South Shetlands,
  - The Balleny Islands,
  - The Tristan da Cunha Group,
  - Marion and Prince Edward Islands,
  - Bouvet Island,
  - Magellan Strait ;
- Soundings off Antarctica in the meridian of Greenwich ;
- A survey of the continental shelf of Antarctica, and
- Special soundings on the Discovery Bank, in the Ross Sea, and on the Kerguelen-Gaussberg ridge.





Oceanic tracks (lines of soundings) of R.R.S. "Discovery II"  
between May 1932 and March 1939.