

EXTRACTS AND REVIEWS

ADMIRALTY MANUAL OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING

The *International Hydrographic Bureau* has recently received through the courtesy of the Hydrographer of the British Navy a copy of a new publication entitled "Admiralty Manual of Hydrographic Surveying" published in 1938 for the Hydrographic Department, Admiralty, by H.M. Stationery Office, London, and obtainable from J.D. Potter, Agent for the Sale of Admiralty Charts, 145 Minories, London E.C.3. Price : 15s - 0d net.

As stated in the Preface, it has been written to provide a text book in which modern methods of hydrographic surveying and instruments are described, and was prepared for publication by Commander R.M. Southern, Royal Navy, who was one of the British Delegates to the 4th International Hydrographic Conference held in Monaco in 1937.

It has naturally been assumed that the reader is acquainted with the general principles and practice of Navigation, and for this reason, subjects such as astronomical observations at sea, are only discussed in so far as ordinary navigational practice is modified to fulfil the requirements of the hydrographic surveyor, and reference to ordinary navigational instruments e. g. the sextant and chronometer, is curtailed to a minimum. Also in order to keep the size of the volume within a reasonable compass the reader is referred to other publications such as the Admiralty Tide Tables part III, articles on Subaqueous Sound Ranging in the *Field Engineers Bulletin* of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey etc., for more detailed information on certain subjects which require separate study for a proper exposition.

The Manual consists of about 460 pages of text divided into twenty separate Chapters dealing with the various branches of Hydrographic Surveying including Tides and Tidal Streams, the compilation of Sailing Directions, Magnetic observations, Oceanographical observations and the production of charts from the Surveys.

The compilation of the book is clear and concise, and it should form a valuable addition to all hydrographic libraries.

J. D. N.

ADMIRALTY WEATHER MANUAL

The International Hydrographic Bureau has recently received a copy of the « Admiralty Weather Manual » 1938, published, by order of the Lords Commissioners of the British Admiralty, for the Hydrographic Department, Admiralty, by H.M. Stationery Office and obtainable from J.D. Potter, Agent for the sale of Admiralty Charts, 145 Minories, London E.C.3 ; price 10s-6d net.

This book consists of three sections :—

Section I. contains detailed instructions for the taking of Meteorological observations at sea, the use and care of Meteorological instruments and the forwarding of weather reports to the appropriate shore meteorological services.

Section II deals with the physical aspects of Meteorology and forms the theoretical basis of Section III.

Section III — Synoptic Meteorology — contains instructions for the plotting of weather charts, followed by discussions of pressure systems and the polar front. It concludes with a chapter on general forecasting illustrated by a number of specimen charts and forecasts.