

(1934); *Tidal Current Charts, New York Harbor* (1932); *Current Diagram N° 2 Chesapeake Bay*; *Tidal Current Charts, San Francisco Bay* (1930).

We cite also the Current Tables, Atlantic Coast of North America; and the Current Tables, Pacific Coast, North America and Philippine Islands, edited in advance for each year and which supplement the Tide Tables by giving predictions for the time of slack water and the maximum strength of current for numerous points along the coast of the U.S.A. Additional general information is contained in the two following publications of the Coast and Geodetic Survey :—

N° 351. *Tidal Currents and Investigations.*

N° 280. *Tidal and Current Service, Methods, Instruments and Purposes* (Revised in 1934).

H. B.

ATLAS OF OCEANOGRAPHIC AND METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN THE CHINA SEAS AND IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

The Netherlands Meteorological Institute published in 1936 the second part of its publication N° 115 entitled :—

OCEANOGRAPHISCHE EN METEOROLOGISCHE WAARNEMINGEN
IN DE CHINEESCHE ZEEËN EN IN HET WESTELIJK DEEL VAN
DEN NOORD STILLEN OCEAAN —

II — MAANDKAARTEN VOOR JULI-DECEMBER (1910-1930).

*Oceanographic and Meteorological Observations in the China Seas
and in the Western Part of the North Pacific Ocean —*

II — *Monthly Charts for July-December* (1910-1930)
Rijksuitgeverij — 's Gravenhage, 1936.

This work completes for the China Seas and the Western Part of the North Pacific Ocean the group of publications issued by the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute for the various oceans, which comprises especially Publication N° 104 giving the data for the Indian Ocean and Publication N° 110, completed in 1910 for the Atlantic.

The different synoptic charts derived from the scrutiny of a mass of observations collated from the ships' logs of different nationalities include information on surface currents, on the prevailing winds, the atmospheric pressure, the temperature of the air and the temperature of the sea at the surface. One may obtain some idea of the magnitude of the task involved in the publication of this work by noting for instance the number of observations which were used by the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute for Publication N° 110 relating to the Atlantic Ocean :— the total number of collated observations obtained through international cooperation was 7,300. In order to classify, reduce and tabulate such a large mass of data, the Institute in the preparation of its new Atlas just published employed, as it did with the preceding volumes, the *Hollerith* machines used for the rapid sorting and calculation of the perforated cards on which are recorded the data extracted from the log books of the vessels. The periodical entitled "*The Marine Observer*", published under the auspices of the Air Ministry of London, in its Vol. XIV N° 125 of January, 1937 gives the principles of this method of extracting data in an interesting article by H.T. SMITH entitled :— *The Extraction and compilation of Marine Meteorological Data by Mechanical Methods* which we recommend the reader to consult.

In the present publication, in addition to the usual data cited above, we find information on the frequency of fog, of storms, the paths of cyclones, the paths of depressions and general information regarding the monsoons and the trade winds. This important publication, edited by Professor E. van EVERDINGEN is on sale at the Rijksuitgeverij, at 's-Gravenhage, price 7.50 florins.

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