

In the Lena-Khatanga sector, the surveys were carried out by the small schooner *Pioneer*. A tide-gauge station was established at the junction of the Bulun and the Lena, another near Otstoy Barges I., while two other tide-gauges were established one on Mostyr and one on Pioneer Islands. The surveys carried out correspond to blanks in the charts: a sea survey was carried out embracing the East and West Nordwick Straits, the Urung-Tumus Peninsula and the south-west coasts of Beguichev and Nicholas Islands. An 18-hour series of current observations by means of floats was carried out at the south-east cape of Beguichev I. The range of tide in Nordwick Bay reaches  $2\frac{1}{2}$  metres, the velocity of the currents attaining 3 knots at the outlet of Khatanga Bay, abreast Preobrajenya I.

Work was completed at the beginning of December. The programme included also meteorological observations, water surface temperature observations, the collection of information to be used in Sailing Directions, and the taking of photographs.

## ON THE RESULTS OF SOUNDINGS IN THE VICINITY OF THE YAMATO BANK

by the

JAPANESE HYDROGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT.

(In Japanese. *Suiro Yôhō* (Hydrographic Bulletin) 12 (1933), pp. 427-8, 1 pl.)

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National Research Council of Japan, Tokyo, 1934, pp. (42)-(43).

A shallow depth of 465 metres was reported in 1930 in latitude  $39^{\circ}46'$  N., longitude  $133^{\circ}39'$  E., in the central part of the Sea of Japan. Accordingly, the surveying ship *Yamato* of the Imperial Japanese Navy made soundings in the vicinity of the reported shoal in 1931 and 1932. The results of the soundings are shown on a chart of scale 1:600 000. The number of soundings made is over 200, covering an area of about  $20 \times 40$  sea miles, and the form of the bank is now well established. The minimum depth recorded is 418 metres. Two banks not deeper than 600 metres were found to extend in N.E. and S.W. directions, one having a length of about 20 miles and a breadth of a few miles, and the other of 9 and 4 miles respectively. To the north-west the bottom of the sea falls very steeply to a basin deeper than 2000 metres. To the south-east of the bank, at a distance of about 60 miles, another bank known as the "Yamato Bank", the minimum depth of which is 285 metres, extends in a direction nearly parallel to that of the former from which it is separated by a furrow deeper than 2000 metres.

## A NEW VOLCANO OFF THE EAST COAST OF ALAID ISLAND

by

AKITUNE IMAMURA and ZIRÔ KAWASE.

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National Research Council of Japan, Tokyo, 1934, p. 113).

Linking Hokkaido with Kamchatka is a festoon-like chain of volcanic islands, the Kurile Islands (Tisima), of which the nearest to Kamchatka is Shumshir (Simusyu), the next being Paramshir (Paramusiru). About 45 kms. W.N.W. from Shumshir, or 28 kms. N.W. from the northern coast of Paramshir, is Alaid Island (Araido), the northernmost island of the Kuriles.

Alaid is circular and 15 kms. in diameter. Near the centre lies the beautiful cone of Mt. Oyakoba, 2334 metres high. According to Mr. A. UEMATU, who spent more than