GEOGRAPHY NOTES: BRITISH EMPIRE

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Geography Notes: British Empire by J. C. Chute

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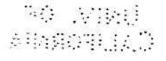
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These Notes are also issued separately in three parts. There is also a non-British series in three parts on America; Europe; Asia and Africa.



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INTRODUCTION

THE modern study of Geography has been welcomed by educationalists; but each, from his own point of view, looks upon it as the handmaid of his own particular hobby. Historians, Geologists, Botanists, Meteorologists, and even Philologists not only accept its help, but are anxious to subordinate it to their own sciences; while the parent rejoices that at last the unpractical schoolmaster is actually teaching something useful, wherein he refers to either commercial or political geography. It may be possible for the geographical specialist to satisfy the requirements of all these educational experts; but the ordinary boy, desiring a good general education, can only be expected to attain to a fair knowledge of the principles involved, with some power of applying them to the countries which are of most importance to him.

These Notes are divided into three parts, as far as possible mutually independent, so that they may be taken as a three-term course. Using the British Empire as a political base, they introduce the various geographical causes and effects in connection with that part of the Empire in which each is most conspicuous, *e.g.* monsoons in India. There is a short index at the end.

Each boy should have a good physical atlas, and the teacher a physical map on which he can show railways, boundaries, products, etc., as he refers to them. Lantern-slides are invaluable.

Much that might be included has been omitted—perhaps this is the chief merit of the Notes. Geography is apt to lose much of its interest when information is set out at full length in a book; here an attempt is made to set out, in an abbreviated form, only the most striking characteristics. To arouse real interest, it is essential that

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INTRODUCTION

a teacher should have opportunity for digression into more specialised branches of the subject which are of interest to him personally; it is hoped that the Notes may be useful as a basis for his lectures or discussions, and at the same time obviate the necessity of much dictation.

Amongst those who have looked through proofs and made valuable suggestions, I have especially to thank Dr. H. N. Dickson, University College, Reading, and Mr. W. L. Bunting, R.N.C., Osborne.

J. C. C.

The following books are recommended to those who wish for a fuller treatment of any part of the subject :--

- LYDE's Commercial Geography of the British Empire (2/-), dealing with climate and products.
- MEIKLEJOHN'S British Empire (3/-), especially good for trade.
- STANFORD's Compendium of Geography and Travel.
- MILL'S International Geography (12/-, also issued in parts) and CHISHOLM'S Commercial Geography (15/-) cover most of the ground.
- MACKINDER'S Britain and British Seas (7/6), a most inspiring treatise on British Isles.
- HERBERTSON'S Junior Geography (2/-), treated from the point of view of physical geography.
- AVEBURY'S Scenery of England (6/-) and GEIKIE'S Scenery and Geology of Scotland (10/-), mainly geological.

TAYLOR'S Australia (3/6).

UNSTEAD AND TAYLOR'S General and Regional Geography (6/-), an admirable treatise on physical geography.

The Statesman's Year-Book (10/6) provides many statistics.

Encyclopædia Britannica is most useful for reference.

CANADA AND SOUTH AFRICA

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