

A GENERAL RELIEF MAP OF OKLAHOMA*

with map A.

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AN ACCURATE map of the details of surface configuration of Oklahoma is of basic importance not only to geography but also to workers in other fields, and to the commercial interests of the state. The preparation of an entirely adequate general relief map, however, is not possible at the present time because of lack of data. Only the eastern half of the state which was a part of the Indian Territory, and hence, mapped at national expense, has been systematically surveyed in detail (see insert map of Plate A). Elsewhere mapping has been delayed or local in character and we must rely upon elevations provided by railway surveyors or those otherwise interested.

The accompanying map is in Eastern Oklahoma, based upon the detailed topographic maps of the United States Geological Survey and the Department of Interior Map of Indian Territory, by C. H. Fitch. In the western part of the state the contours of the general base map of the United States, scale 1/500,000, by Henry Gannett, published by the United States Geological Survey, 1910, were followed except where charted elevations indicated that changes were necessary. The changes are based upon approximately 200 elevations published in Bulletin 274 of the United States Geological Survey and a series of elevations determined by E. E. Harris in 1928 and released by the Oklahoma Geological Survey.

In addition to providing a general view of the relief of Oklahoma on a larger scale than has hitherto been available, the map also is more accurate than earlier maps of western Oklahoma. As an extreme instance, Gannett's map of 1910, reprinted in 1925, extends the 1500 foot contour through Enid, whereas the accompanying map shows that it is near Belva in Woodward County, over sixty miles to the west. The elevation of Enid is shown by recent surveys to be 1311 feet. The accompanying map is still very much generalized and admittedly inadequate. It is presented in the hope that it may serve a purpose during the time which must elapse before a more satisfactory one may be prepared.

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