

WABASH STUDIES. V. A TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF THE TERRE HAUTE AREA.

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The west sheet, covering an area about five miles square, was presented to the Academy in 1909 and a poor photographic copy of it was published in the Proceedings for that year. The east sheet, covering an area six by seven miles, is now completed. The two sheets cover a strip five to six miles wide north and south and twelve miles long east and west extending across the Wabash valley. The original draught and tracing are on a scale of six inches to the mile and the contour intervals are five, ten and twenty feet, according to the relief. The datum planes used for the west sheet were the levels of the Vandalia and Big Four railroads. After that was completed the United States Geological Survey established bench marks in the area which were used for the east sheet, although found to be 3.65 feet above those of the west sheet.

On the east sheet levels were run with a dumpy level along east-west lines one mile apart and the intervening spaces were filled in with a hand level used on a staff. The levels of the city engineer's office reduced to U. S. G. S. datum, were used wherever available. The work was all done by students of the Department of Geography and Geology of the Indiana State Normal School. In all about forty different persons worked upon it during periods varying from six weeks to thirty-six weeks each. Of these Melvin K. Davis and Garl H. Barker became the most proficient, and to them was assigned the plotting and final draft of the map.

The map is not good enough for sewer, drainage or hydraulic work, but would be of some value for highway and railroad location. For geographic and geological purposes it is far better than none. Its final displacement by a better one will not destroy the values of the experience obtained by its makers or the facility it affords for general field work.

