

Ross, and E. C. Scott Dickson. The work will include not only the papers which appeared under Sir James Dewar's name alone, but those also which were published jointly with other investigators, excepting the series on spectroscopy by him and Prof. Liveing which have been issued separately. The same publishers also announce "Differential Geometry of Three Dimensions," by Prof. C. E. Weatherburn; Volume 2 of the second edition of "Principia Mathematica," by Prof. A. N. Whitehead and the Hon. Bertrand Russell; and a new volume in the series of Cambridge Mathematical Tracts, "The Theory of Integration," by L. C. Young.

THE Report of the Director-General of the Ordnance Survey for 1925-26 has recently been published. In trigonometrical work a field section is at work restoring the primary and secondary trigonometrical stations and marking them by concrete blocks. This has been completed south of a line between the Wash and the mouth of the Severn. Good progress has been made with the work of recomputing the co-ordinates of the primary and secondary trigonometrical points on the Gauss conformal projection. A revision of the magnetic survey of Great Britain was begun in the Channel Islands. In map production the third revision of the one-inch map of England and Wales is complete, and of the 146 sheets, 145 have been published in the popular edition. The revision of the map of Scotland was nearly finished and 9 sheets of the popular edition were published. All sheets of the quarter-inch layer map are published,

two more sheets of the revised half-inch map, and one out of three sheets of the new ten-inch map. Progress has been maintained in the revision of the six-inch map, which is now again being published in quarter sheets.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:—Additional Research Fellows in the Department of Glass Technology, The University of Sheffield—The Registrar, The University, Sheffield (January 12). A laboratory assistant for photographic work, at the Building Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research—The Director of Building Research, Building Research Station, Garston, nr. Watford (January 15). An assistant master, qualified in physics and mathematics, at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth—The Headmaster of the College (January 26). A Warden of Goldsmiths' College—The Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, S.W.7 (January 31). An assistant in entomology at the Pathological Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at Harpenden—The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 Whitehall Place, S.W.1 (February 7). A professor of anatomy in the University of Adelaide—The Registrar, University of Adelaide, South Australia (March 1). A physicist in connexion with the Linen Industry Research Association, to take charge of a section dealing with finishing problems—The Secretary, The Research Institute, Lamberg, Co. Antrim.

Our Astronomical Column.

COMET COMAS SOLA.—The following is a continuation of the ephemeris for 0^h U.T.

	R.A.	N. Decl.	log <i>r</i> .	log Δ .
Jan. 8.	2 ^h 26 ^m 6 ^s	15° 13'	0.279	0.112
12.	2 28 48	16 4	0.276	0.121
16.	2 31 56	16 55	0.273	0.129
20.	2 35 48	17 48	0.270	0.138
24.	2 40 3	18 41	0.267	0.146

The brightness remains nearly constant, about mag. 12.

Mr. F. E. Cunningham supports the suggested identity with Spitaler's Comet 1890, vii., noting that Tisserand's criterion is satisfied.

SUNSPOT ACTIVITY, 1926-27.—The list of notable sunspots for the present year has already begun. A large spot, conspicuous also on account of its regularity of outline, was first seen during the last few days of December and was on the sun's central meridian in the forenoon of Jan. 1. The latitude of this spot was 7° S.; another large spot, also in equatorial latitudes, was reported in NATURE of Dec. 25, 1926, p. 925. It is evident that large spot disturbances are now appearing within a comparatively wide range of latitude—a sure indication that the sun has entered upon the maximum phase of this cycle. Judging, however, from the average latitude of spots and faculae of the past year, the highest peak of the curve will not be reached before the end of 1927. The spots of 1926 were considerable and show an increase in mean daily area of about 50 per cent. greater than that of 1925. Eleven groups of spots, large enough to be seen with the naked eye, were reported in these

columns at the time of their respective appearances, but there were at least half-a-dozen other groups of almost equal importance.

Particulars of the recent spot are as follows:

No.	Date on Disc.	Central Meridian Passage.	Latitude.	Area.
1	Dec. 26-Jan. 7	Jan. 1.3	7° S.	1/1200 of sun's hemisphere.

ANOTHER REPETITION OF THE MICHELSON-MORLEY EXPERIMENT.—Mr. Roy J. Kennedy describes in the November issue of the *Proc. U.S. Nat. Acad. Sciences* a repetition of this experiment. He reduced his light path to 4 metres (one-sixteenth of that employed by Prof. Dayton Miller), and enclosed the apparatus in an air-tight case, filled with helium at atmospheric pressure, thus reducing the disturbing effect of density changes to one-tenth of that in air. A further device used was raising one half of the surface of his mirror a small fraction of a wave-length, which was effected by cathode deposition of platinum. Experiments were made both at the Norman Bridge Laboratory, Pasadena, and in the 100-inch telescope building at Mt. Wilson. Observations were made at various times of the day, but most often at the time when Prof. Dayton Miller's conclusions would require the greatest effect. The effect at both stations was absolutely *nil*: "there was no sign of a shift depending on the orientation." Mr. Kennedy claims that a shift one-fourth of that announced by Miller would have been detected, and states that he will make further experiments to search for a possible shift in other directions.