

they thought the case was hopeless. The public just wasn't interested because it didn't understand what was involved. The people who were most actively interested were against broadening FDA's powers.

Kefauver's Position

All of this is outside the legislative responsibility of Kefauver's Subcommittee on Antitrust and Monopoly. Kefauver cannot bring the remedial legislation to the floor of the Senate. It must come from the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. But what he has done is to make a public issue of the whole business. If next year the FDA is granted the powers it is seeking, Senator Kefauver's name is not likely to be on the bill, but he and his staff will deserve a good deal, and perhaps most, of the credit.

School Aid Bill in Trouble

It became clear last week that there is a substantial majority in both houses of Congress ready to agree on a compromise school aid bill which the President would sign. Whether members will get a chance to vote the bill through remained very much in doubt. The Senate agreed to submit the bill to a joint conference to work out the compromise, but the House Rules Committee has not yet cleared the House bill for conference, and if it does the effort of House Republican leader Halleck to pack the conference committee with men opposed to school aid may prevent a compromise from being reached. If the bill gets by these hurdles it will then have to go back through the Rules Committee in order to get to the floor of the House for a final vote. HEW Secretary Arthur Flemming is clearly in favor of the compromise, but the White House, as in past years, seems to be making no effort to keep conservative House Republicans from killing the Administration's own proposal.

The compromise, if it gets through, will provide \$325 million a year in aid for classroom construction. It will run for four years, with two-thirds of the money going to the neediest states. This is just about what the 1957 Administration bill asked for, but is a long way short of the billion dollar a year program passed by the Senate, which authorized aid for teachers' salaries as well as for classroom construction.

A New Journal of Maps: Biogeography of the North Atlantic

The American Geographical Society, working with a panel set up by the Committee on Oceanography of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council, proposes to publish a scientific journal of an unusual kind, tentatively called *North Atlantic Biogeography*. The journal will consist of maps, accompanied by such explanatory text as may be necessary, and will appear irregularly as contributions are received and accepted. It will be a medium for publication of studies of all kinds—biological, geological, physical, chemical—that will increase our understanding of the marine environment. In scope it will be limited to the Atlantic marine areas, from the equator to the pole, and will include the Arctic basin.

Base Maps Prepared

The American Geographical Society has already begun the production of work sheets or base maps for plotting data and has completed, as its first contribution to the project, two sheets covering the eastern North American

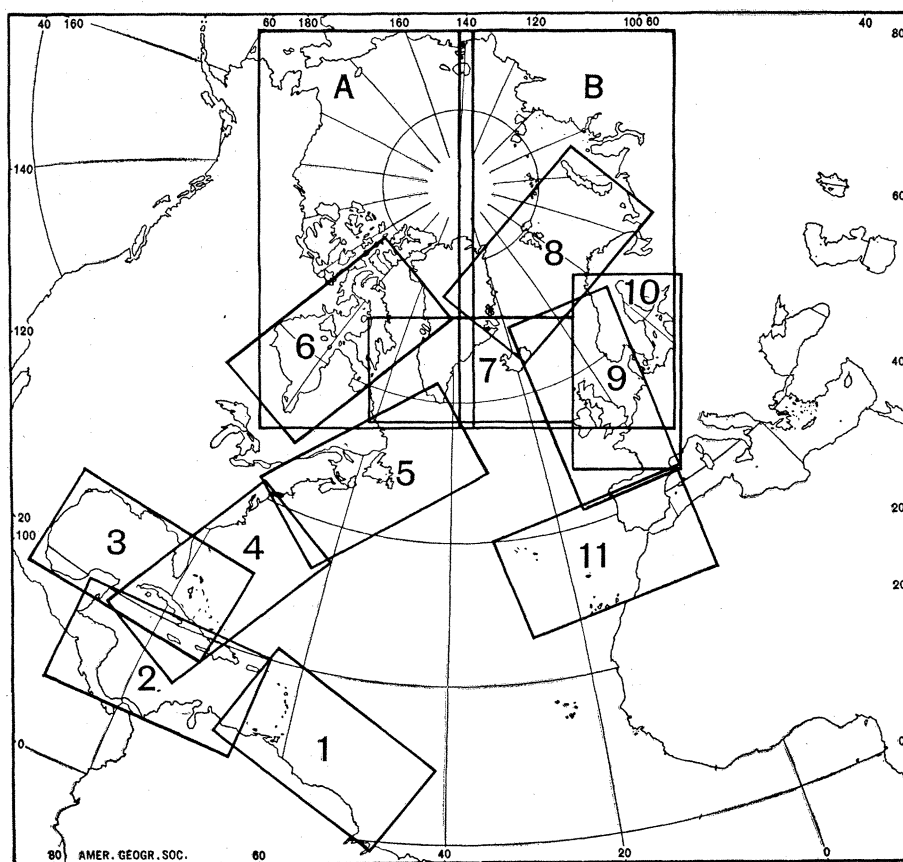
seaboard from the Labrador Sea to the Straits of Florida. The master sheet, an oblique stereographic azimuthal projection specially prepared for the series, and the proposed layout of large-scale charts are shown in the accompanying figure. Scientists who contribute to the journal will be able to obtain these work sheets at nominal cost from the American Geographical Society (Broadway at 156th St., New York 32, N.Y.).

The journal will be published in atlas size, 24 by 15 inches. It will be available in two editions—on opaque paper or on a transparent material which will be of particular value for comparative studies—and will form an expanding atlas of the North Atlantic.

Journal Meets Growing Need

The new journal will meet a growing need in the study of the environment and of marine organisms and will offer a ready and standard means of recording and comparing distributions. It will be adaptable to almost any relevant purpose a particular author may have in mind.

Often in marine research, as elsewhere, correlations are found which seem significant, then the pattern falls



Sheet layout for the biogeographic atlas.