Correspondence

E. C. Bedells & Charles Barker

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Correspondence.

The following letters, dealing with matters of perennial interest to the surveying profession, have been handed to us for publication by Mr. T. Kennedy.

We note with satisfaction that Messrs. Barker and Son are prepared to supply aneroids graduated to read zero at 30 inches to those customers who think they will thus get better results than by the usual 31-inch graduation. Messrs. Chesterman undertake to supply steel tapes standardised at any specified temperature and pull.

"London, 4th May, 1911.

"The Consulting Engineer for New South Wales.

"SIR,—We are in receipt of your favour of the 3rd instant respecting the measurement of steel tapes that we supply to Australia. You state that at 70° Faht. our tapes vary from .01 to .015 of a foot in 100 feet as compared with standard measures. We beg to say that we supply various clients in Australia with measures at various pulls and temperatures, according to the special work that they are required for. For regular orders, unless any particular temperature and pull is asked for, we supply our steel tapes standard at 62° Faht. with a pull of 4 to 5 lbs., just sufficient to be correct when the tape is held taut on a table or bench. Many of our friends order from us bands at 70° Faht. with a pull of 15 lbs. These are specially made and marked accordingly, but with our regular orders we always make tapes at 62° Faht. We shall be glad to give you any particulars we can to assist you, and shall be glad to hear if there are any other details that we can supply you with.

"Your obedient servants,

"*Per pro* JAMES CHESTERMAN & CO., LTD.

"E. C. BEDELLS."

"Clerkenwell, 8th May, 1911.

"T. Kennedy, Esq., Chief Railway Surveyor,

"Public Works Department, N. S. Wales.

"DEAR SIR,—Referring to our conversation with Mr. Moore, *re* aneroid barometer, we beg to say that it has always been the orthodox principle since aneroids were invented to read zero of the altitude scale from 31, being the fullest extent of the range of the barometer; but we have frequently made them for some of our customers graduated to read zero from 30, and we have within the last six months sent them out to a customer in Australia. No doubt in most parts of the world the barometer at sea level is more often nearer 30 than 31, so to make the zero 30 makes it easier of calculation with a fixed altitude scale, and probably more accurate with a revolving altitude scale. We might mention that when they are asked for we always make them this way.

"We would refer you to the book by Edward Whymper, page 56, on "How to Use the Aneroid Barometer."

"Yours faithfully,

"*For* FRANCIS BARKER & SON, LTD.,

"CHARLES BARKER, Managing Director."