It is pleasant to see a sign of enlightenment in the prolonged controversy between the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain, and Northern Ireland over the jurisdiction of the six counties of Ulster. One sign of unanimity is the recently published General Soil Map of Ireland (First Edition), at 1:575,000. This map was published in 1969 by the An Foras Taluntias (Irish Agricultural Institute) of the Republic of Ireland and covers both political entities with a common legend. The Northern Ireland part was mapped by S.M. McConaghy and J.S.V. McAllister, and the Irish Republic part by the staff of the National Soil Survey, An Foras Taluntias. Both nations have published generalized versions of their respective coverages in their research journals, but this does not detract from the original effort.

The General Soil Map of Ireland shows the distribution of 31 associations of great soil groups. A detailed legend on the map face supplies data on soil parent materials and physiography of the island, and a separate explanatory sheet contains general descriptions of the great soil groups mapped. Soil scientists who are unable to read Gaelic will be pleased to see the entire map and legend in English. The map and explanatory sheet are available from the Publications Section, An Foras Taluntias, 33 Merrion Road, Dublin; the price is 10 shillings (about $1.20).

This map obviously required much cooperation between soil scientists on the two sides of the border, and it is to their credit as well as that of both govern-