NOTES, ABSTRACTS, AND REVIEWS.

JAPANESE WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT.

The Weather Bureau is in receipt of copies of the first publication to be issued from the newly established Imperial Maine Observatory at Kobe, Japan.[1] This is a Weekly Weather Report, printed in English, containing a series of daily weather maps and a synopsis of weather conditions for the week covered by the report. Tables contain values for atmospheric pressure, air temperature, and precipitation for 14 selected stations, as follows: Maoka, Changchun, Nemuro, Tairen, Niigata, Zinsen (Chemulpo), Tsingtau, Tokyo, Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai, Chichishima (Bonin Islands), Nafa, and Taihoku. There is also a table containing the results of pilot balloon observations made at Kobe.

The first report, that for November 1–6, 1920, contains the following introductory statement:

> With this issue begins a series of our periodical publications under the title of Weekly Weather Report. Our Daily Weather Chart is prepared with professedly imperfect data in order to meet the pressing demand of the public as quickly as possible. Hence there exists an uncertainty as to the forms of isobars as well as to the positions of the cyclonic centers in those portions of our area wherefrom the telegraphic reports come too late. It seems therefore advisable to correct or improve our Daily Weather Charts after the full data are at hand, and to publish their weekly edition, printing the morning charts of the seven days of the week in one sheet, so as to make the general survey of the sequence of our weather possible. In this weekly report are given the weather charts of 6 a. m. for the days of the week, and a chart of tracks of the cyclonic centers that passed over our area during the period. The isobars are drawn with telegraphic reports from the 50 stations at home and abroad, of which only 29 are given on this printed chart, so as to avoid unnecessary confusion. On the chart showing the tracks of cyclonic centers a small circle represents the position of the center of storm at 6 a. m. of the date specified by the numbers printed near the circle. On the back side of the report are given a general summary of the weather conditions which prevailed during the week and a short description of the atmospheric disturbances.
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> There are also given the direction and speed of the upper air currents observed by means of pilot balloons at Kobe. For the 14 selected stations are given the barometric pressure reduced to sea level and to standard gravity, air temperature in centigrade degrees, and the amount of precipitation for the past 24 hours.

This new Japanese report forms a valuable addition to the group of publications dealing with weather of the Far East.—*F. G. T.*

RETIREMENT OF PROF. K. NAKAMURA.

[Reprinted from *The Meteorological Magazine*, London, December, 1920, p. 258.]

Prof. K. Nakamura will retire from the direction of the Central Meteorological Observatory of Japan on December 31 of this year [1920]. Prof. T. Okada has been selected for appointment as his successor. Prof. Okada is the author of many contributions to meteorological literature, most of which have appeared in the Journal of the Meteorological Society of Japan.

MONTHLY WEATHER CHARTS ISSUED BY THE CANADIAN METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE.

[Reprinted from *Nature*, London, Dec. 16, 1920, p. 513.]

The Meteorological Service of the Dominion of Canada is issuing a series of monthly weather charts. Each chart shows the mean temperature, the difference from the average mean temperature, and the total precipitation of the month throughout southern Canada. The highest and lowest temperaures at various stations are given in tabular form. Weather and agricultural reports for nearly 100 stations are added. There are also notes on the probability of gales on the Great Lakes in the month of publication.

AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING AT CHICAGO.

The first annual meeting of the American Meteorological Society was held with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Chicago, December 28–30, 1920. The first session held on the morning of December 28, consisted largely of papers on aerological work and the applicaton of meteorology to aeronautics; the afternoon session dealt principally with weather forecasting. On the morning of the 29th, the business meeting was held; and in the afternoon was the presidential address of Prof. Robert DeC. Ward, who, at the morning session, had been reelected president for 1921. Prof. Ward's address was entitled "Climate and health, with special reference to the United States." Following this address, there was an hour of discussion on the subject of the physiological aspects of meteorology, followed by a short group of papers on instruments and observations. The session on the morning of the 30th was held jointly with the Association of American Geographers. All of the sessions were held in Rosenwald Hall, University of Chicago. In this building is located the University of Chicago station of the Weather Bureau, one of the most fully equipped meteorological stations in the United States. Many visited this observatory on the morning of the 30th, and at other times during the meeting.

Since the organization meeting in St. Louis in December, 1919, two other meetings of the society have been held, one at New York on January 3, 1920, and another at Washington, April 22. The membership increased by about 400 during the year, making a total at present of approximately 1,000.

This and other issues of the REVIEW contain or will include most of the papers or abstracts of papers given at the meeting.

THE SIGNAL CORPS METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE.

The Annual Report of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army for 1920 contains (pp. 57–59) a short discussion of the status and work of the meteorological section of the Signal Corps. The principal discussion of the report concerns itself with the recommendation for a unified meteorological service in the Army. The maintenance of such services by the several branches of the Army would from any point of view, lead to a duplication of work, while the installation of a single station at an artillery range or other place where such data are required would insure ample data for all the services involved.

Other points made in the report show the change of the Signal Corps service between July 1, 1919, and July 1, 1920, from 11 field stations with 11 officers and 49 enlisted men to 15 field stations with 4 officers, 62 enlisted men and 3 civilians. It is mentioned that complete and satisfactory cooperation was maintained between the United States Weather Bureau and the Signal Corps meteorological service, with a result mutually helpful in the collection and interpretation of meteorological data.—*C. L. M.*

[1] Cf. MO. WEATHER REV., Oct., 1920, 48: 598.