

lipine Commission (Schurmann), for the establishment of the Philippine Weather Bureau, with its headquarters at Manila.

1901. May 22. The Philippine Weather Bureau was established by the act of the second United States Philippine Commission (W. H. Taft, Chairman). See MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW, 1901, 29:372-4.

CORRIGENDA.

In the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW for April, 1909, p. 148, column 2, paragraph 5 from the bottom change the date of founding of Blue Hill Observatory from 1880 to 1885; in the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW for May, 1909, p. 178, column 1, at the bottom of the page, insert "1885. Blue Hill Observatory founded by A. L. Rotch."

In MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW, May, 1909, p. 196, column 1, under "1903," second title, for "Paserocean" read "Pasuruan."

THE ZODIACAL LIGHT.

The MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW has several times published notes and articles bearing on the nature of the zodiacal light. The latest researches on this phenomenon may still have some interest for our readers.

The University of California¹ has just published the results

¹Lick Observatory Bulletin, No. 165. [Dated October, 1909.]

THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By Mr. P. C. DAY, Acting Chief, Climatological Division.

PRESSURE AND WINDS.

The distribution of the mean atmospheric pressure for June, 1909, over the United States and Canada is graphically shown on Chart VI, and the average values and departures from the normal are shown for each station in Tables I and III.

The general distribution of the mean atmospheric pressure for the month compared favorably with the normal. Pressure slightly above normal prevailed over the more northerly districts of the United States and the western portions of Canada, the maximum excess, about 0.10 inch, occurring in the upper Missouri Valley, and pressure slightly below normal obtained over the Canadian Maritime Provinces and portions of New England.

From May to June there was a general and rather uniform increase in pressure over all districts of the United States, except along the Pacific coast and also over the whole of Canada, except in parts of the St. Lawrence Valley. Over the interior districts the increase ranged from 0.05 to 0.10 inch, with maximum values over the upper Mississippi and middle Mississippi valleys.

The storm tracks were somewhat erratic in their direction of movement and were as a rule but shallow depressions having their origin in most cases over the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. West of the mountains the month was unusually free from decided atmospheric pressure variations.

Warm southerly winds occurred at frequent intervals over nearly all districts east of the Rocky Mountains and the prevailing direction of the winds for the month over those districts was from some southerly point.

On the Pacific coast northwesterly winds predominated, and the prevailing winds were from the north along the northern border as far east as the Great Lakes. Over the greater portion of the region from the Great Lakes and lower Mississippi Valley westward, the wind movement was decidedly sluggish, especially over portions of the Great Plains where the average velocity ranged from 20 to as much as 50 per cent less than the normal. Over the Atlantic coast and Gulf States there was a general but not large increase of wind velocity, the excess ranging from 10 to 30 per cent.

of a careful photospectroscopic study by E. A. Fath, made during the autumns of 1907 and 1908 on Mount Hamilton, and under very favorable conditions during September, 1909, on Mount Wilson. The observations on Mount Hamilton yielded negatives of fairly good quality, using a slit-width of 0.38 millimeter and securing a spectrum on the plate of about 2.2 millimeters between $\lambda = 5,000$ and $\lambda = 3,900$. The spectrum negatives were not strong enough to definitely prove the presence or absence of the suspected absorption lines at about $\lambda = 4,300$ and $\lambda = 3,950$.

The Mount Wilson negatives, obtained with a slit-width of 0.41 millimeter which did not resolve the *H* and *K* lines of the solar spectrum, exactly resembled the solar spectrum and were much stronger than those obtained in 1907 on Mount Hamilton, but not sufficiently so for reproduction. However, they showed with certainty the two absorption lines.

Mr. Fath says:

A comparison of this plate with one of the sky spectrum taken with the same slit-width [0.41 millimeter] shows these lines to be *G* and the blend of *H* and *K* of the solar spectrum. These are the only lines shown on the sky comparison plate within the limits of the spectrum obtained on the Zodiacal Light plate. There is no indication of bright lines on any of the spectrograms of the Zodiacal Light. Thus, in so far as spectra of such low dispersion and resolving power can be trusted, we would seem to have good evidence to support the claim that the Zodiacal Light is reflected sunlight.—C. A., jr.

TEMPERATURE.

The mean temperature for the month as a whole was close to the normal, although during several periods there were decided variations both above and below the usual seasonal temperature.

During the first week the temperature averaged well above the normal in all districts, except over portions of the lower Mississippi Valley and in northern New England. The week was decidedly warm over the central and southern portions of the Plateau and Pacific coast districts, the excess above the normal ranging from 6° to 9° per day. The day temperatures were high also in the above districts, the maximum temperatures exceeding 100° over large portions of the southwest and exceeding by several degrees any previous record for the same season of the year at a number of points.

The second week was generally cool over all northern and western districts, the mean temperature over the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys, and northern Rocky Mountain regions, ranging from 6° to 9° below the normal.

Over the South Atlantic and Gulf States it was somewhat warmer than the normal, and there was a slight excess along the north Pacific coast. No unusual extremes of temperature occurred except over northern New England, where temperatures close to freezing occurred and also at exposed points in the mountain regions of the West.

During the third week there was a considerable warming up over the northern districts from the Great Lakes westward to the Pacific, and in the Great Plains region, and it continued warm over the greater part of the Gulf States. The weather continued cool over the southwest and portions of the Lake region and New England.

There was a marked increase in temperature during the last week of the month over all districts east of the Rocky Mountains, the mean temperatures for the week ranging from 6° to 9° above the normal over the Lake region, New England and Middle Atlantic States, and somewhat less over the remaining districts. High day temperatures prevailed during most of the week, and the night temperatures were frequently oppressive. There was a decided warming up also over the South-