

NOTES FROM THE WEATHER BUREAU LIBRARY.

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METEOROLOGY IN RECENT REFERENCE WORKS.

The eleventh edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica, published in 1910-11, in addition to the long memoirs on "Meteorology" and on "Climate and climatology," contains articles (or parts of articles) on the following meteorological topics:

Aeronautics (Scientific ascents).	Isotherm.
Afterglow.	Khamisin.
Anemometer.	Kite flying, meteorological use (W. H. Dines).
Anthelion.	Leste.
Anticyclone.	Leveche.
Atmosphere.	Lightning.
Atmospheric electricity (C. Chree).	Lightning conductors (K. Hedges).
Aurora polaris.	Maestro.
Barometer.	Meteorology of Europe (G. G. Chisholm).
Beaufort scale.	Mirage.
Blizzard.	Mistral.
Bora.	Monsoon.
Breeze.	Norther.
Brickfielder.	Pacific Ocean, meteorology and temperature (H. N. Dickson).
Brocken, Spectre of the.	Pampero.
Buys Ballot's Law.	Polar regions, Antarctic climate.
Chinook.	Polar regions, Arctic climate (H. R. Mill).
Climate and climatology (R. DeC. Ward).	Rain.
Climate of the United States (W. M. Davis).	Rainbow.
Cloud (A. W. Clayden).	Roaring forties.
Cloud.	St. Elmo's fire.
Cloudburst.	Simoom.
Cyclone.	Sirocco.
Dawn.	Sleet.
Dew (W. N. Shaw).	Snow.
Doldrums.	Snow-line.
Dust.	Squall (W. N. Shaw).
Earth currents (C. Chree).	Storm.
England, Climate (H. R. Mill).	Sunshine (W. N. Shaw).
Etesian wind.	Surge.
Euroclydon.	Symons, George James.
Ferrel's law.	Terrestrial magnetism (C. Chree).
FitzRoy, Robert (J. K. Laughton).	Thermometry.
Fog.	Thunder.
Föhn.	Timber-line.
Frost.	Twilight.
Hail.	Tornado.
Halo.	Trade winds.
Harmattan.	Typhoon.
Helm wind.	V-shaped depression.
Horse latitudes.	Waterspout.
Hurricane.	Weather.
Hygrometer.	Wedge.
Isabnormal (or Isanomalous) lines.	Wind.
Isobar.	

In contrast to the imposing aggregate of information represented by the foregoing list, it may be noted that the Britannica contains no detailed description of a *thunderstorm* or of the various forms of *lightning*; no account of *ignis fatuus*; no biographies of Ferrel, Buys

Ballot, Dove, Hann, Hellmann, Shaw, Angot, Bezold, Rotch, L. Teisserenc de Bort, A. Buchan, Luke Howard, Mohn, Sprung, Loomis, and a host of other eminent meteorologists, living and dead; no article nor even an index-entry on *phenology* (!); besides which there are numerous other omissions that seem serious to the meteorologist, though the public at large doubtless regards them more indulgently.

The New International Encyclopædia, second edition, of which two volumes (A-Baza) have thus far appeared, numbers among its contributors the Chief of the Weather Bureau and two other officials of this bureau. Apparently the editors of this work have planned to devote an unusual amount of space to contemporary biography, and meteorologists will be well represented, though in the portion already published we miss the names of John Aitken, Algué, and Assmann.

The three great American dictionaries of the English language that have recently appeared in new editions—the Century, the New International, and the Standard—present a much larger fraction of the total vocabulary of meteorology than ever before secured the recognition of lexicographers, though hundreds of meteorological terms still await definition in general or special dictionaries. It may be noted that a few meteorological definitions in the Century Dictionary Supplement, published in 1909, contained typographical errors, which have been corrected in the new edition, published in 1911. A number of errors of the same character appear in the Standard, but these will doubtless be corrected in new impressions of the work.

The Handwörterbuch der Naturwissenschaften (Jena, 1912), of which nine bulky quarto volumes have appeared, carrying the work through *Tra*-, contains several noteworthy articles on meteorological subjects, though some of its omissions are rather striking. The late Dr. R. Börnstein contributes the general memoir on meteorology, which one seeks in vain under "Meteorologie," but finds under "Atmosphäre." There are no articles on "Klima," "Klimatologie," or "Klimatographie." "Atmosphärische Elektrizität" and "Atmosphärische Optik" are authoritatively discussed by H. Gerdien and F. M. Exner, respectively. "Barometer" is contributed by A. Wegener. Lightning and its effects and lightning protection are discussed by Walter, Wegener, and Spies. A long memoir on "Eis," by H. Hess, is chiefly devoted to glaciers. "Luftdruck" receives extensive treatment by Wegener. "Paläoklimatologie" is discussed by M. Semper. "Polarlicht," is treated by G. Angenheister. Aside from several brief biographies of meteorologists, the foregoing are all the meteorological articles in the first nine volumes. The list seems extremely fragmentary, though doubtless the index which is ultimately to be published will reveal the whereabouts of information on many other meteorological topics.