

## TECHNICAL NOTE

## Notice of Change in Synoptic Code Effective January 1, 1965

Effective with the 0000 GMT synoptic observation on January 1, 1965, temperature in group 4 and dew point in group 6, of the code for synoptic weather observations will be reported in degrees Celsius instead of degrees Fahrenheit. This action will bring the United States into full compliance with recommended procedures of the World Meteorological Organization for the first six groups of the synoptic code (all that are exchanged internationally). We understand that Canada will join the United States in similar procedure.

This plan does not in any way relate to aviation observations, nor does it involve the use of Celsius units in the general public service. It relates *only* to the use of the Celsius scale for *reporting* current temperature in group 4 and current dew point in group 6 of the surface synoptic code. Temperatures will be reported in degrees Fahrenheit in other code groups in which they appear.

Current temperature and dew point entries on 3- and 6-hourly surface synoptic charts for transmission on the national weather facsimile circuits will be in degrees Fahrenheit. Transmissions of maximum and minimum temperature will be in degrees Fahrenheit and facsimile charts of these and of forecast temperature change will continue to use degrees Fahrenheit. Teletypewriter bulletins of local temperatures prepared at Chicago will continue to use degrees Fahrenheit with manual conversion there. The Daily Weather Map will continue to use Fahrenheit units (occasional small "rounding" discrepancies will be present). The use of degrees Fahrenheit will be retained for punched cards. The exception will be the use of the Celsius scale in punching temperature (TT) and dewpoint ( $T_dT_d$ ) in the "A" Surface Synoptic-Northern Hemisphere card.