

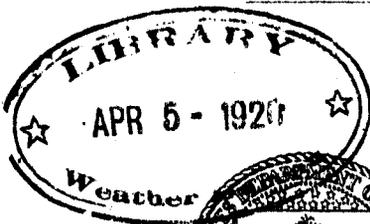
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U. S. WEATHER BUREAU
CHARLES F. MARVIN, Chief

WEATHER BUREAU
TOPICS (AND PERSONNEL)

WITH
INDEX

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JULY, 1915-DECEMBER, 1919



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WASHINGTON
WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Bureau Topics and Personnel

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WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

JANUARY, 1917.

TRAINING OF ASSISTANT OBSERVERS DURING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

There appears to be diversity of action among officials in charge in regard to the instruction of assistant observers during their probationary period as indicated by several communications that have been received on the subject. It is recognized that no satisfactory rules can be formulated that would apply in every case, because so many factors are involved, including the personal equation, the number of employees at a station, the character of the work done, and many other features that make this important problem a perplexing one. Prof. H. J. Cox, in charge of the office at Chicago, Ill., who has had a long and varied experience in the training of young observers, was asked to contribute an item for TOPICS AND PERSONNEL, giving his views and suggestions on the subject. It is regretted that lack of space prevents giving his remarks in full, but the following extracts therefrom are interesting and instructive:

Assistant observers advanced from the grade of messenger boy have, as a rule, previously received considerable instruction in the duties of the more advanced position, and therefore this paper will not have reference to such probationers, but only to those who enter the service of the bureau originally as assistant observers.

In the training of a probationer on a station the work is generally intensive from the beginning, because at the time assistance is almost certain to be urgently needed, so that the purpose is naturally to qualify the new employee for a regular trick or detail with as little delay as possible. The progress will depend chiefly upon the ability of the pupil; but also, of course, upon the character of the instruction given. For the first week or so the man is likely to be more or less confused and much at sea, because of the fact that the various features of station duties are entirely new to him, and unlike anything found in his previous experience. Probably in no other line of work does a man encounter at the beginning so much that is foreign to him. Usually by the end of the first week considerable progress has been made, and the pupil, if adept, is beginning to find himself. During the early period progress is doubtless just as slow on a small station as on a large one, but not so during the later stages, because the complete qualification of an assistant on a large station involves the mastering of a great many duties that are not found on a small one. Some men may qualify in the work of a small station without serious difficulty, yet be unable to pass successfully through the various stages at a large one.

The character of the instruction given is, of course, of much importance, and it is preferable to have such work conducted entirely by one person, so as to insure harmony and avoid conflicting ideas.

During the first week or two the work of breaking in a new assistant is rather burdensome, and the amount of time given up to instruction amounts to considerably more than the help received in return. Usually not until a month has passed does an assistant become sufficiently proficient to be worth more in time to the station than he receives in the way of instruction.

Ordinarily training should be given in about the following order:

1. *Observation work.*—Instructions will first be given in the taking of an observation, as this is the foundation upon which all future work depends.

2. *Use of Weather Code.*—The probationer after learning the key to the code should practise both enciphering and deciphering signals, and in addition study the printed instructions in the Weather Code Book.

3. *Care of instruments.*—Explanation should first be given in connection with the instruments that are necessary to the taking of an observation, such as the barometer, thermometers, anemometer, wind vane, meteorograph, thermograph, and barograph. The other more complicated instruments can be deferred until a later period.

4. *Preparation of bulletins (local data, tabulated weather, river, etc.).*—Special care should be taken to make these bulletins legible, and attention should in all cases be paid to accuracy.

5. *Preparation of forecast charts.*—In the preparation of these charts it is first necessary to learn the location of the various stations from which reports are received, and this can best be done by using a large chart with the names of the stations entered in the proper places. Charts should be made neatly and accurately, but some time must elapse before a man becomes thoroughly efficient in this branch of the work; and the same may be said regarding the glass weather map.

6. *Preparation of meteorological forms.*—Special attention should be given to neatness and accuracy, and the reading of instructions in the front pages of Forms 1001 and 1014—Met'1 is most important.

7. *Typewriting and duplicator work.*—Knowledge of this work is necessary in connection with the preparation of bulletins, writing of forecasts, and the issuing of information generally. A certain amount of time each day should be given to practise on the typewriter and in duplicator work. The article in the August, 1915, issue of TOPICS AND PERSONNEL regarding the latter should prove of assistance.

8. *Miscellaneous clerical work.*—This embraces the copying and compilation of climatological reports, checking of telegrams, and preparation of telegraph abstracts, etc., varying with the different stations.

9. *Attention to requests for information, both by person and over the telephone.*—Upon the manner of handling these requests largely depends the reputation of the Weather Bureau office; therefore, assistants should be instructed to be courteous, and endeavor to give as complete information as practicable in all cases. The probationer should be advised of the various sources of information to which he should refer for data, such as the Daily Local Record, Monthly Weather Review, Bulletins Q and W, River Bulletins, Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau, etc.

10. *Telegraphy, chalk plate work, and printing.*—At telegraph stations instruction in telegraphy should follow immediately after observation work; and the chalk plate work and printing should be pushed during the early period at printing stations having a limited number of assistants, but at the larger stations these duties will not be reached during the probationary period.

11. *Correspondence and accounts.*—Assistants will be instructed in these duties at small stations during the probationary period, but such instruction will be deferred until later at the larger stations.

12. *Station Regulations, Instructions Regarding the Preparation of Meteorological Forms, Instrument Division circulars, and other instructions.*—These printed instructions should be read and studied during the probationary period only in so far as they have a bearing upon the various duties outlined above, and should keep pace with the practical instruction. The printed instructions are quite complete in their application to various features of the work, and a study of them in detail at the leisure of the probationer will always be helpful, and often serve to clear up doubtful points. However, the general study of such instructions should be postponed until later, or until such time as they can be fully appreciated by the pupil. It is inadvisable to ask a probationer to study instructions that have no reference to his immediate work.

18. *Attention to personal appearance.*—Neatness in personal appearance is, of course, essential, and each new assistant should be impressed with the necessity of conforming to the requirements of the service in this respect.

The above duties are presented in the order usually followed at the Chicago station, but different weight would naturally be given to the various items on other stations. For instance, at a section center instruction in climatological work would be among the first. The main thing, as stated above, is to prepare a man for a regular trick.

There are several essentials to the success of an observer, as follows: Promptness, accuracy, speed, neatness, willingness, loyalty, and courtesy. For one having these qualities there is no question as to the result. There is great need of speed among assistants, because of the rush work during the morning hours. A probationer should be impressed with the absolute necessity of acquiring speed, but at the same time this must not be at the expense of accuracy. The age of a probationer has much to do with this feature of the work, and ordinarily the younger the better. Some men differ radically from others and are quicker to respond to instruction. Some prove from the first to be better qualified for one line of work than for another. Some excel in the preparation of forms or forecast charts, while others become especially proficient in the care of instruments, in chalk plate work, and other duties requiring mechanical skill.

The possibilities of the future should be pointed out, and encouragement given to study, with the view to qualifying eventually for the higher work of the bureau; in other words, ambition should be instilled in the new employee, so that he may consider the Weather Bureau work worth while.

In connection with this whole matter, officials in charge should not lose sight of the fact that it is incumbent upon them to use great care when requested by the Central Office to interview and report upon a candidate for appointment. This procedure is generally adopted as a precautionary measure and safeguard before a probationary appointment is made. It is equally, if not more, important that the monthly reports on probationers shall acquaint the Central Office impartially and impersonally with every question involving the desirability and qualifications of the eligible. This probationary service is the feature specially provided by the civil service law to safeguard the Government in securing entirely competent employees, and an appointee with indifferent or limited qualifications can, with perfect propriety, be dropped from the service at the end of this period upon a simple representation of the facts, whereas after his acceptance at the close of the six months' probation the termination of his services becomes a very difficult question.

The reports should be impersonal and based entirely upon the fitness of the employee for permanent service and a career in the Weather Bureau. There have occasionally been instances in which it appeared possible that the officer making the probational reports believed that the probationer was not entirely suited for permanent appointment, but failed to recommend rejection. Sentiment should not control in such cases. The determining factor should always be the employee's desirability and fitness for permanent employment in the Weather Bureau. In this respect the provisions of Paragraph 96 of Station Regulations should be strictly observed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

There have been received recently at the Central Office a few applications for leave without pay which began a day or two before a Sunday or holiday and ended at noon on the day following the Sunday or holiday. In these cases it was necessary to include the Sunday or holiday in the leave without pay, and also to charge the one-half day as one full day without pay. The Administrative Regulations of the Department provide in effect that, when an employee begins leave without pay on (including) the day before a Sunday or holiday and continues absent the day following the Sunday or holiday, the intervening Sunday or holiday shall be charged as leave without pay, and further that a fraction of a day shall be counted as a full day.

Sundays and holidays at the beginning or end of any kind of leave are not counted, and it is not necessary to indicate such dates on an application.

Occasionally applications have been received anticipating the probable length of an employee's sick leave, with the certificate on the back thereof filled out for future days and signed by a physician. The Central Office can not approve such applications. It is obvious that the actual period of absence because of sickness can be determined in most cases only after an employee has returned to duty, and it is then that applications for leave should be made. However, officials in charge should keep the Central Office fully informed as to the absence of an employee on account of sickness, so that, should the period of sickness exhaust both sick and annual leave, the proper salary deduction may be made.

All applications for leave, whether already taken by permission of the official in charge or submitted to the Central Office for prior approval, should be made in duplicate.

In connection with the foregoing, it is suggested that station officials inform themselves fully regarding the regulations relative to leave, and that they take care to see that applications are prepared in accordance therewith, in order that delays may be obviated in approving leave and the necessity for correspondence decreased.

AUTOMOBILE TRAVEL.

A letter from the Solicitor of the Department, dated November 11, 1916, furnishes information concerning reimbursements for the use of privately-owned automobiles or motorcycles. In accordance with the Solicitor's opinion employees of the Weather Bureau can be reimbursed only on the basis of the actual cost of operating a machine, and not on a mileage basis. In this connection a ruling of the Auditor of the Treasury Department, under date of October 26, 1916, regarding an account which carried charges for gasoline and oil, the amounts of which were given either in integral number or fractions of one-half, is of interest and is quoted below :

To remove in this and in all cases of charge for gasoline and oil used in official automobile trips the possibility that the amount of gasoline and oil is arrived at by estimate rather than by actual measurement, a certificate will be required in this and other cases that the amount of gasoline and oil for which charge is made in the voucher was arrived at by actual measurement of the gasoline and oil in the tank or receptacles therefor at both the beginning and end of the official trip. The mileage of each trip should be stated.

In submitting accounts of the character referred to, officials should include the information required by the auditor, in addition to the speedometer readings specified in paragraphs 722-R and 723-R of Station Regulations.

LECTURES.

A paper on West Indian hurricanes was presented before the Tennessee Academy of Science on December 1, 1916, by the official in charge at Nashville, Tenn. A number of charts and figures were shown by means of the reflectoscope.

The official in charge at Philadelphia, Pa., delivered two lectures on the work of the Weather Bureau, illustrated with lantern slides, during the month of December: One on December 5, in the post-office building, to shippers of perishable produce; and another on December 19, before the Men's Club, at the Presbyterian Church at Llanerch, Pa.

Visits were made to the Weather Bureau office at Topeka, Kans., by groups of students from the high school and grade schools on December 11, 12, and 19.

Classes from a Montgomery, Ala., high school visited the Weather Bureau office in that city on December 6 and 7, where the instruments and work of the bureau were explained to them.

A class from the high school visited the Weather Bureau office at Davenport, Iowa, on January 19.

The official in charge at Raleigh, N. C., reports that he delivered a

lecture on January 9 on "The Distribution of Temperature and Precipitation in North Carolina" before the Raleigh Natural History Club.

A short talk was given by the official in charge at Detroit, Mich., on January 15, 1917, to the Kiwanis Club.

A class from the high school visited the local Weather Bureau office at Cheyenne, Wyo., on January 23.

A class from one of the Detroit, Mich., high schools visited the Weather Bureau office in that city on January 23.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS.

There appears to be more or less confusion in the minds of some station officials as to the necessity for promptness with which newspaper clippings should be forwarded to the Central Office. It frequently occurs that newspaper clippings containing matter of current information are held for several days and, in some instances, weeks before being mailed. Attention is invited, more particularly, to news items relating to the condition of crops and damage thereto by stress of weather and other causes. Such clippings are of much value to the Division of Agricultural Meteorology, but only when they are received promptly. Clippings of this character should be mailed immediately, and in no instance should clippings, regardless of the subject, be held more than a week. However, it is desired that clippings of special interest be forwarded, even though they may be unduly delayed in coming to the attention of officials in charge.

It has been noticed that, when the same news item appears in several papers, clippings from each of the papers are forwarded. This is usually unnecessary for, as a general thing, one clipping will meet all the needs of the Central Office. However, in instances where the work of the bureau or its personnel is commended or criticized, a clipping from each of the papers in which it appears is desirable.

DEATHS.

It is with regret that the death of Mr. Levi A. Judkins is announced. Mr. Judkins entered the Signal Corps on March 10, 1890, and has had assignments to a number of important stations. For a number of years he has been in failing health. He died on January 27, 1917, at Atlantic City, N. J., where he has served continuously as official in charge since February 10, 1906.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of January, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Bachman, Charles H....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, good.
Bennett, Lowell.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Cory, Victor E.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Costigan, Thomas S.....	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
Davenport, Raphael A..	Amarillo, Tex.....	Furlough without pay, on account of military duty, extended to include May 11, 1917.
Davis, Dewey O.....	Birmingham, Ala.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Grant, Leland N.....	Helena, Mont.....	Appointed clerk at \$900.
Jones, Hubert F.....	Helena, Mont.....	Assistant observer, died December 26, 1916.
Judkins, Levi A.....	Atlantic City, N. J.....	Observer, died January 27, 1917.
McDowell, James T....	Omaha, Nebr.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Miller, Ross O.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$900, by reinstatement.
Stanton, William.....	Toledo, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, probationary appointment terminated because of unsatisfactory services.
Clark, Norman L.....	.....	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Keller, Andrew P.....	.....
Weitz, Bernard O.....	.....
Graeff, Earl W.....	Reading, Pa.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Hughes, George S.....	Boston, Mass.....	
Modeen, Roy D.....	Minneapolis, Minn.....	
Gintzer, Louis F.....	.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360.
Milatzo, John F.....	.....
Roper, Roy.....	.....
Clarke, Walter D.....	Norfolk, Va.....	} Furlough without pay, on account of military duty, extended to include April 30, 1917.
Cotter, Clarence E.....	Denver, Colo.....	
Klinge, Robert N.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	
Laskowski, Bernard R..	Denver, Colo.....	
Shurick, Kenneth C....	Denver, Colo.....	

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Clark, Norman L.....	Grand Rapids, Mich., assistant.
Gintzer, Louis F.....	Harrisburg, Pa., messenger boy.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Grant, Leland N.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Hanlin, George.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Louisville, Ky., assistant.
Hissong, John E.....	Sandusky, Ohio.....	Portland, Oreg., assistant.
Keller, Andrew P.....	.....	Sandusky, Ohio, assistant.
Lay, Owen T.....	Louisville, Ky.....	Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Milatzo, John F.....	.....	Cheyenne, Wyo., messenger boy.
Miller, Ross O.....	.....	Detroit, Mich., assistant.
Roper, Roy.....	.....	El Paso, Tex., messenger boy.
Tullsen, Herbert.....	Taylor, Tex.....	St. Louis, Mo., assistant.
Unger, Ellwood E.....	Raleigh, N. C.....	Taylor, Tex., in charge.
Voskuil, Walter H.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Phoenix, Ariz., assistant.
Weitz, Bernard O.....	.....	San Juan, P. R., assistant.

C. H. Mawin.

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

FEBRUARY, 1917.

REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNTS.

The following ruling of the Auditor for the State and Other Departments was rendered in connection with the disallowance of a tip given to a depot porter at Nashville, Tenn., an anti-tipping State:

The accounting officers can not undertake to conduct an investigation into the precise terms of employment of station porters here and there. They must rest upon the broad fact that the service of such porters is ostensibly furnished by the transportation or terminal company; the fact that those who perform it may rely for compensation largely or wholly upon gratuities does not create between the porter and the traveler the relation of employer and employee.

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS.

It is considered desirable for station employees to prepare and write articles of a scientific or technical character for issue in the publications of the Weather Bureau or elsewhere, provided, of course, the subject matter is of value and worth while. When an employee desires to prepare a paper, it is implied that he has recognized and observed the occurrence of some unusual phenomenon, and possibly has made instrumental or other accurate measurements of the magnitude of the phenomenon and the frequency of its occurrence.

In the beginning of the study it is suggested that the investigator reduce his ideas to writing, being careful to use only the simplest and most direct language at his command. In this way the pitfalls which may lurk in mental concepts will be quickly discovered. Above all, the aim should be to write plainly. Dr. George Otis Smith,¹ in advocating the necessity of plain writing, has well said:

At its best, science is simple; for science is not much more than arranging facts so as to set forth the truth. Scientific thought is exact and direct, and scientific writing must therefore be accurate and to the point. The scientist should think directly and with the precision of one of the instruments of his trade, and above all his language must present that thought exactly. * * *

The next step in the logical development of the paper is to ascertain what others may have done; in short, to make a concise summary of the literature of the subject, so that the student may view

¹ Plain Writing: Science, new ser., vol. 42, pp. 680-682.

his own contribution in its true relation to the sum of available knowledge on the subject contributed by others. Many fall short in this last particular. In this connection attention is invited to the remarks published in WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL for July, 1916, under the heading, "Isolation in Scientific Research."

Another shortcoming, although much less frequently noted than the first-named, is the failure on the part of the writer to realize his own limitations. Occasionally a paper is received which shows at once that the author has not exercised good judgment in selecting his subject.

Much effort would be saved if station employees, before entering actively upon the study of any meteorological subject, would advise the Central Office of their intention, stating the observational or other material at their command, and ask for a list of references to the literature on the subject, as well as an expression of opinion by the Central Office staff as to the advisability of undertaking the study.

The great majority of station employees must realize that they are at a disadvantage in writing upon meteorological topics because of the lack of a working library. That disadvantage may be largely overcome by making a freer use of the Central Office library. The latter is maintained for the benefit of the whole service, and prospective writers are urged to make the fullest possible use of it.

The Central Office library is prepared not only to lend books and papers which are specifically requested, so far as they are available, but also to select and lend literature relating to any specified topic in meteorology, climatology, or seismology, with which station employees may desire to familiarize themselves for official reasons. Requests for such literature should be made as explicit as possible, and should include a statement as to the applicant's ability to read French and German. In this connection too much emphasis can not be laid upon the fact that, with the aid of a dictionary, a very slight knowledge of a foreign language will enable a student to utilize scientific literature therein to good advantage; indeed, when the information sought is mainly statistical, it may often be obtained without any previous knowledge of the language. French-English and German-English dictionaries will be lent to stations on request.

Choice of subject.—Local climatology offers a virgin field for study and the compilation of statistical data. At the present time a summary of destructive hail-storms that have occurred in the vicinity of the station within its lifetime, would be a helpful contribution. More comprehensive studies, such as have been made for Baltimore and Chicago, require, of course, more time and application than is generally available, yet some phase of the local climate might be thoroughly investigated to good purpose. Studies in local forecasting are also timely and useful.

APPRENTICES.

Authority has been secured and provision made for the appointment of a limited number of "apprentices" for assignment to duty at Weather Bureau stations. Under the rules of the Civil Service Commission messengers and messenger boys can not perform a number of technical duties devolving upon the higher commissioned employees, except when they are performed in addition to and not in lieu of their regular duties as messengers. This requires that the duties of messengers and messenger boys shall not be extended to the taking of observations, except in especially authorized instances, and also that their other duties shall be restricted primarily to messenger work. It is further observed that practically all of the messengers and messenger boys on stations are specifically appropriated for and carried on the statutory roll of the bureau, and that promotions and changes in salaries are necessarily limited to instances where vacancies occur in the different grades.

Many of the messengers and messenger boys at various stations have shown themselves capable of performing work not contemplated by the designation "Messenger" or "Messenger Boy"; and, at the request of the Weather Bureau, the Civil Service Commission has authorized the Department of Agriculture to employ these boys under the title of "Apprentice" for the performance of any legitimate duties of which they are capable. It is believed that this arrangement is very advantageous, inasmuch as it enables capable boys to render valuable service and, at the same time, to gradually acquire experience and training which will eventually qualify them for the position of observer. Their duties may be technical and semiscientific in character, and accordingly it has been held that they can be properly paid from the lump-fund appropriations; and the "Act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918," provides for the appointment on the miscellaneous roll of the Weather Bureau of 24 such apprentices, by transfer from the statutory roll or otherwise.

Appointment to the position of "Apprentice" is made by transfer of messenger boys from the statutory roll, or by initial appointment to be made in the same manner as messenger boys are now appointed and from the same Civil Service registers; and without requiring additional qualifications in the examinations. The initial salary is \$480 per annum, with the possibility of promotion to \$600 and \$720 per annum, and with the provisos that there must be at least one year's service as apprentice before such an employee can take a non-competitive examination for promotion to assistant observer, and that, in the case of any messenger boy transferred from Washington, D. C., to the field as apprentice, at least three years' service in the

field will be required before retransfer to Washington, D. C., to an apportioned position.

The real status of these employees is that of apprentices to observers, and, in addition to performing the duties of messengers, they will be gradually instructed to assist in the minor duties now generally performed by assistant observers and which require some degree of technical skill and scientific knowledge. In other words, as apprentices they acquire by experience the training and qualifications of observers and are thus prepared to take the entrance examination for the position of assistant observer and become eligible for appointment to that grade. It is of further advantage to some stations that such an employee be granted authority by the Central Office to take observations, if desired and required, irrespective of the number of men on the stations concerned. Further, such employees are carried on the miscellaneous roll and have greater opportunity for promotion, provided their assignment, work, and the funds of the bureau merit and permit. When the employment of an apprentice at a station has been authorized, it is believed that the official in charge may be able to secure the employment of a boy or young man of better qualifications than those possessed by the usual class of messenger boys, provided he can represent to eligibles the advantages of such a status.

At the present time there are only a few employees with the status of apprentice, but during the next few months several additional apprentices will be appointed, and it behooves officials in charge of stations where employees of this class will be assigned to exercise particular care not to recommend any one for appointment who does not give promise of fully measuring up to the requirements of the position or who, they believe, will not ultimately qualify for the position of observer.

It is the purpose of this article to acquaint the employees of the bureau with the character and scope of this new class of employees. It is obvious that for some time, at least, the number will be limited and that they will be assigned only to stations where they can be used to the best advantage. The question of the selection of these stations is now under consideration and the officials in charge of such stations as are selected will be corresponded with on the subject.

APPLICATION OF FORECASTS.

The official in charge of the Weather Bureau station at Augusta, Ga., in the vicinity of which city there are a number of large brick-yards, states that the bureau has been instrumental in effecting a large financial saving by telephoning warnings of temperatures low enough to freeze the wet bricks before they are put in the kiln, thus enabling the companies to protect their property from injury from this source.

SALARY INCREASES.

The office is pleased to print for the information of Weather Bureau employees the following item that appears in the Agricultural appropriation act, for the fiscal year, 1918, which was recently passed by Congress:

That to provide, during the fiscal year nineteen hundred and eighteen, for all persons employed under the Department of Agriculture, including on the lump-sum rolls only those persons who are carried thereon at the close of the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, increased compensation at the rate of ten per centum per annum to such employees who receive salaries or wages from such department at a rate per annum less than \$1,200, and increased compensation at a rate of five per centum per annum to such employees who receive salaries or wages from such department at a rate of not more than \$1,800 per annum and not less than \$1,200 per annum, so much as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated: *Provided*, That the increased compensation provided by this section shall not apply to persons, whose duties require only a portion of their time, except charwomen, or whose services are needed for brief periods at intervals, or to any persons who receive a part of their salaries or wages from any outside sources under cooperative arrangements with the Department of Agriculture: *Provided further*, That detailed reports shall be submitted to Congress on the first day of the next session showing the number of persons, the grades or character of positions, the original rates of compensation, and the increased rates of compensation provided for herein.

A WARNING.

The attention of the Central Office has been invited to the fact that a woman representing herself to be a friend of a deceased Weather Bureau official has visited at least two Weather Bureau offices and applied for funds. This woman was accompanied in both cases by a child. She recited a story of temporary misfortune and the necessity for money to enable her to reach her home.

She is believed to be an impostor, as she failed to return money that was loaned to her, and letters sent to the address that she gave were returned by the post-office with a notation to the effect that no such person resided at that place.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of February, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Carson, Ernest.....	Houston, Tex.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Cooper, Harold H.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	Assistant observer, granted leave of absence without pay from January 31 to April 30, 1917, on account of ill health.
Dean, James M.....	.....	Appointed clerk (telegraph operator) at \$1,000.
Dyke, Ray A.....	New Orleans, La.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from observer at \$1,440.
Eggers, Sam A.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$1,000.
Fuller, William D.....	Unassigned.....	Observer, leave of absence without pay terminated February 19, 1917.
Gardiner, Bruce D.....	Peoria, Ill.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Gordon, James H.....	Phoenix, Ariz.....	Furlough without pay, on account of military duty, extended to include May 15, 1917.
Justice, Alonzo A.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,440 from observer at \$1,200.
McGruder, Ralph C....	Amarillo, Tex.....	Messenger boy, leave of absence without pay extended to include May 11, 1917, on account of continued ill health.
Murphy, Lewis V.....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$600.
Nimmo, E. Herbert.....	San Diego, Cal.....	Meteorologist, granted leave of absence without pay from February 10 to May 9, 1917, on account of ill health.
Polen, Jefferson M.....	Indianapolis, Ind.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Rightsell, Raymond M..	St. Louis, Mo.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Riley, Harry L.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Stoddard, Russel D....	Boise, Idaho.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Walker, Charles D.....	.....	Appointed printer at \$1,000.
Wood, George E.....	Drexel, Nebr.....	Unskilled laborer, resigned; record, good.
Anderson, Irving R.....	.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$860.
Anderson, Robert D.....	.....
Moher, Emmett J.....	.....
Owen, Elbert A.....	.....
Short, Charles E.....	.....

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Anderson, Irving R.....		Springfield, Mo., messenger boy.
Anderson, Robert D.....		Lansing, Mich., messenger boy.
Cournos, Alexander....	Milwaukee, Wis.....	Huron, S. Dak., assistant.
Day, Walcott L.....	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Atlantic City, N. J., in charge.
Dean, James M.....		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Eggers, Sam A.....		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Fuller, William D.....	Leave of absence with-	San Diego, Cal., assistant,
	out pay.	pending further orders.
Kessler, Forrest L.....	Springfield, Ill.....	Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Lake, Henry B.....	Cheyenne, Wyo.....	Washington, D. C., assistant
		observer.
Moher, Emmott J.....		Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., mes-
		senger boy.
Murphy, Lewis V.....		Drexel, Nebr., laborer (un-
		skilled).
Owen, Elbert A.....		Palestine, Tex., messenger
		boy.
Pitman, George W.....	Huron, S. Dak.....	Cheyenne, Wyo., assistant.
Sampson, Harold M.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Hartford, Conn., assistant.
Short, Charles E.....		Chattanooga, Tenn., messen-
		ger boy.
Spilman, Joseph L. F..	Hartford, Conn.....	Philadelphia, Pa., assistant.
Walker, Charles D.....		Lincoln, Nebr., printer.
Weck, Fred H.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Springfield, Ill., printer.

C. H. Marvin

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

MARCH, 1917.

COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES.

In order to prevent misunderstanding and promote efficiency, the Forest Service and the Weather Bureau have entered into a cooperative agreement covering the activities of the two services along meteorological lines. The substance of this agreement is given below for the information of station officials concerned.

(1) The taking of meteorological observations for the purpose of establishing the general climatic conditions of the country, is the duty of the Weather Bureau. If, for that purpose, it should be necessary to establish a station in national forests, the Weather Bureau will supply the instruments and the Forest Service, the observers.

(2) Meteorological observations that may be necessary in the prosecution of a purely Forest Service investigation, will be made by Forest Service officials, and that service will supply the instruments; the Weather Bureau will, however, cooperate in the installation of them and will receive copies of the observations whenever the latter can be utilized with profit by the bureau.

(3) Papers prepared by officials of the Forest Service that deal more or less formally with questions on meteorology will be submitted to the Weather Bureau before publication and in like manner papers prepared by officials of the Weather Bureau will be submitted to the Forest Service, if they should deal with questions of forestry.

(4) The issue of fire-weather warnings for certain national forests is also on a cooperative basis, the scope of this authority having been set forth in Instructions No. 59, August 26, 1916.

DIFFERING LOCAL FORECASTS.

With reference to paragraph 412-R, S. R., which requires in substance that whenever a local forecast differing from the State forecast is made and published, a memorandum setting forth the reasons for such difference will be forwarded to the Central Office, etc.

In a number of instances brought to the attention of the forecasters at the Central Office the reasons given for differing from the State

forecast have been trivial, and in some cases were not in any sense of the word real reasons.

For example, one official stated "General conditions indicate probability of snow for this locality." Another official gave as a reason, "It is believed that it will not be colder here to-night." In statements of this character no reason at all is indicated. It is desired to impress on officials that the explanations given should be good and sufficient ones and should, in all cases, be predicated on meteorological considerations; as, for example, the direction of movement, velocity and intensity of "highs" and "lows," the wind direction, etc. Examples follow as illustrations of the character of explanations desired:

"Pressure changes, particularly the two-hour changes, indicate the southward movement of the eastern 'high,' which condition would be favorable for rain."

"On account of the low temperatures prevailing at this station, and the probability of the weather continuing cloudy throughout the day, on account of westerly winds, it is believed the temperature will be relatively low this evening, and warmer for the second period is expected, due to southerly winds attending the approach of the 'low' from the westward."

A memorandum of this character should always bear the name of the station, the date, and signature of the official making it.

QUARTERLY CLIPPINGS.

The attention of station officials is invited to paragraph 220, S. R., which provides that clippings of the weather data regularly published in local newspapers be forwarded to the Central Office on the last day of March, June, September, and December, of each year, in envelopes marked "Quarterly Clippings." When the envelopes are not so marked, as has been the case recently in a number of instances, the clippings do not always reach the proper division of the Central Office.

As provided for by paragraph 221, the monthly clippings of the data furnished the local press for publication should be forwarded in envelopes marked "Data for Local press."

All other clippings of the character indicated by paragraphs 218-219, S. R., should be forwarded in envelopes marked "Clippings."

TIPS TO PULLMAN CAR PORTERS.

The Comptroller has rendered a decision, dated February 27, 1917, to the effect that the payment of Pullman or parlor car porters' tips while en route to a point in an anti-tipping State can not be allowed, because it is customary to pay such portorage at the end of the trip. Charges of this kind have been incurred up to the date of this decision will be passed, but those incurred subsequent to that date will be disallowed. The attention of officials in charge of stations is invited to Appendix G, Amendment No. 3, to the Fiscal Regulations

of the Department of Agriculture, dated April 6, 1916, in which the States that have passed anti-tipping laws are enumerated.

EARTHQUAKE REPORTS.

Several instances have been noted of earthquakes which occurred at cities having a Weather Bureau office and concerning which no card report was received. The attention of station officials is called to instructions for the collection of earthquake data, which provide that each regular Weather Bureau station shall fill out and forward to the Central Office one question card for each earthquake felt in the community.

CIVIL SERVICE RULE.

The following Executive Order, under date of April 2, 1917, is published for the information of Weather Bureau employees:

In view of the present emergency conditions, and until further notice, the Civil Service Commission is directed to refuse examination to any person who is, or who has been within three months of the date of the examination, employed in the Government service, or to certify any such person who is on the eligible register of the commission, unless such person submits the written assent of the department or office in which he is or has been employed to his taking such examination or to his being so certified. Such assent shall be based solely upon the finding, after due consideration, by such department or office, that the person can render better service for the Government in the place for which the examination is held.

This order is issued solely because of the present international situation and will be withdrawn when the emergency is past.

APPLICATION OF FORECASTS AND DATA.

A request was recently received from one of our station officials that he be furnished information concerning special applications of weather forecasts, and particularly of unusual court cases, in which either the forecasts or the testimony of an official of the Weather Bureau have been vital features. Unfortunately no special compilation of this character has been made, although a large number of such cases are scattered among the files at the Central Office. It is proposed to include, from time to time, in TOPICS AND PERSONNEL interesting items of this character. Officials are therefore encouraged to bring to the attention of the Central Office instances of new or novel adaptations of weather forecasts or data, and exceptional or unique legal cases in which the records of the bureau were a deciding factor.

The following notes by the official in charge of the Cheyenne, Wyo., station have been received and are published for the information of the officials of the bureau:

The Cheyenne rainfall record for August 23, 1915, showing 1.60 inches in three

hours and 0.61 inch in ten minutes, was used recently by the city engineer to estimate run-off and water discharge for a proposed storm sewer, to cost \$68,471.88. To be conservative a rainfall of 2.00 inches per hour was assumed from the records to be the greatest amount probable in Cheyenne; a run-off of 40 per cent of the rainfall from 150 acres, or 120 cubic feet per second, was calculated to require a 60-inch main and 24-inch and 30-inch laterals. This sewer is much larger and more expensive, it is stated, than would have seemed necessary had there been only the daily totals of precipitation, instead of the rate of fall, on which to estimate run-off. The construction of the sewer is to be submitted to a vote of the people at an early date.

The probable rapidity at which snow was falling was sought recently by the Union Pacific Railroad Company and the examiner for the Interstate Commerce Commission, in an effort to determine whether an engineer might have seen certain switch and locomotive lights from a certain point if he had been looking, it being a fact that in ordinary weather the view is not obstructed; the distance is a little more than a mile. In the accident which occurred a short distance east of Cheyenne three trains were piled up and a number of deaths resulted.

The Cheyenne wind velocity and direction records, showing a maximum velocity of 78 miles per hour, and an extreme of 81 miles per hour, at 1:06 p. m. January 8, 1917, were used in settling, out of court, a death and a number of personal injury claims by workmen against the Union Pacific Railroad Company. The Company's paint shop in the Cheyenne yards burned on December 17, 1916, and a three-story wall was left standing, unsupported. Workmen were clearing away the debris from behind the wall when it toppled over at the moment of the maximum wind velocity mentioned above, which was the highest of record for the station. One laborer was fortunate enough to be in line with a window opening in the wall, while several others were caught. Injury claims were settled immediately by the adjuster, the one death occurring a few days later. Settlement was made on the basis of there being no unusual responsibility resting on the Company for assuming the wall to be secure, owing to the unusual velocity of the wind, the direction being broadside against the wall.

The general records of wind and precipitation for southern Wyoming for a few days last autumn were used by the manufacturers of an automobile and certain automobile tires, to show that in a transcontinental endurance speed race a great deal of time was lost in Wyoming on account of a strong head-on wind and slippery roads. A competing car made the trip a little earlier and apparently had better roads and less wind.

Land agents and prospective buyers have used a large number of section and station publications to show that the reported deficiency in rainfall during the season of 1916 is very unusual. Land agents have made the contention that the exceptionally poor crops on the Wyoming arid lands were not actually failures, but in view of the fact that any crops at all were raised with such an extreme shortage of precipitation during the growing season, that they should be considered as "successes."

The Cheyenne City Commissioner in charge of the Street Department employs his laborers only in good weather to conserve his finances. His established plan is to require all regularly employed men to report for duty each morning; if inclement weather prevails, and the forecast and the weather map indicate the probability of a stormy day throughout, the men are layed off for the day; for days when good weather is predicted, in the season of heavy street work, the extra as well as the regular men are engaged the previous evening to report for duty on the terms first mentioned. The Commissioner states that a great advantage and saving is thus derived from the forecasts.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of March, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Beesley, George.....	Sekiou, Wash.....	Repairman, furloughed without pay from April 1 to October 31, 1917, on account of the temporary closing of the station.
Berrett, (Mrs.) Rosa F..	Washington, D. C.....	Charwoman, resigned; record, good.
Carpenter, Carl V.....	Washington, D. C.....	Folder and feeder, services terminated on March 5, 1917, without prejudice, because of continued absence from duty.
Dellett, James A.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Printer, resigned; record, excellent.
Edwards, William H.....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Eggert, Leon J.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480.
Greening, Gershom K., jr	Sioux City, Iowa.....	Reduced, without prejudice, to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,440, on account of a preferred assignment to another station.
James, George.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled), resigned; record, excellent.
Kelley, John M.....	Cape Henry, Va.....	Skilled mechanic, resigned; record, good.
McCarthy, Richard F...	Washington, D. C.....	Furloughed without pay from April 1 to June 30, 1917, on account of the National Guard of Maryland, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Mullen, John P., jr.....	Galveston, Tex.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Nance, Edgar L.....	.....	Appointed printer at \$1,000.
Neylans, Oscar S.....	Key West, Fla.....	Assistant observer, granted leave of absence without pay from April 10 to July 9, 1917, on account of ill health.
Rasmussen, Wiggo.....	Neah Bay, Wash.....	Repairman, resigned; record, excellent.
Reed, William G.....	.....	Appointed meteorologist at \$1,800 by transfer from the Office of Farm Management.
Renner, Herbert.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Rubush, Theodore R...	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$360.
Semon, Chester C.....	Shreveport, La.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Short, Charles E.....	Chattanooga, Tenn....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
Sidney, Peter.....	Washington, D. C.....	Furloughed without pay from April 1 to June 30, 1917, on account of the National Guard of the District of Columbia, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Warner, Ray C.....	Twin, Wash.....	Repairman, resigned; record, excellent.
Wells, William A.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Weston, Aylmer E.....	New Orleans, La.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Wolf, Vernon N.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Edwards, William H.....	.....	Washington, D. C., laborer (unskilled).
Eggert, Leon J.....	.....	Toledo, Ohio, messenger boy.
Greening, Gershom K., jr	Richmond, Va.....	Sioux City, Iowa, assistant.
Metcalf, Harry C.....	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Richmond, Va., assistant.
Nance, Edgar L.....	.....	St. Louis, Mo., printer.
Reed, William G.....	.....	Washington, D. C., meteorologist, pending further orders.
Rubush, Theodore R.....	.....	Indianapolis, Ind., messenger boy.
Wells, William A.....	.....	St. Joseph, Mo., assistant.
Williams, Noel M.....	St. Joseph, Mo.....	St. Louis, Mo., assistant.
Yoder, Lee O.....	Sioux City, Iowa.....	La Crosse, Wis., assistant.

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS.

The following-named employees have passed examinations in accordance with existing instructions:

Names.	Subjects.
Howard, Mark S.....	} Physics, Astronomy, Advanced Meteorology.
McDonald, Willard.....	
McNeal, Don.....	
Howell, Harry M.....	} Plant Physiology.
Reichelt, Carl A.....	

C. H. Marvin.

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

APRIL, 1917.

VISITS AND LECTURES.

The receipt of several communications at the Central Office from station officials seems to make it advisable that an outline be issued regarding the course to be followed in reporting visits of classes to Weather Bureau offices and the delivery of lectures by station officials. The reporting of such occurrences was formerly of a sporadic nature, some officials reporting routine visits of grade and high school classes, and others only those of a more important nature where special preparation on the part of the lecturer had been involved. In the last few months, however, numerous officials have made detailed reports, not only of all visits and lectures of recent occurrence, but also of those extending backward over a period of a year.

The Central Office desires only important cases of an exceptional or unusual character, as where the official in charge addresses societies and organizations outside of the Weather Bureau office, or where classes visit the office under conditions that are more or less unusual.

APPLICATION OF FORECASTS AND DATA.

Several instances of the applications of Weather Bureau forecasts and data were forwarded by the official in charge at Dallas, Tex., under date of April 20, and are submitted herewith for the information of Weather Bureau employees:

The records of this office have been used in settling many damage suits, disputes, and disagreements on demurrage in transportation, recalling dates of past events, constructing storm sewers for Dallas, building levees for reclaiming overflowed lands along the Trinity River, constructing dams and bridges, and for making automobile trips through the country, and in various other ways.

Recently the manager of a rain-coat factory in New York, N. Y., sent a salesman to Texas to sell rain-coats. The salesman visited a dry section and made no sales. He called at this office and asked if it ever rained in Texas. He was shown the daily weather map and noted where it was raining. He visited that section, and the trip proved exceptionally profitable.

A man who sells automobile trucks visited this office daily during the first of this week until the rains of April 19, when he left to see some parties in north-

western Texas who had promised to purchase trucks if rains came in time to make a good wheat crop.

Request was recently received from an insurance company for the daily rainfall during the month of October for the last five years, to be used as an aid in figuring rate of insurance in attendance at the State fair this fall, so as to write a policy for the board of directors of the Texas State Fair. It was stated that this company underwrote policies guaranteeing so much attendance to such public functions as automobile races and other public events on large scales, and use the Weather Bureau records as an aid in determining premiums charged, as the attendance depends to a large extent on the weather.

The following note regarding the use of Weather Bureau information was furnished by the official in charge at Binghamton, N. Y.:

Miss Ruth Law, in her remarkable recent flight from Chicago to New York, beating the record, landed at Binghamton at dusk one Sunday evening, having completed the distance from Chicago to Binghamton without a stop in less than twelve hours and with a low-power, obsolete biplane. The aid of the official in charge was immediately solicited by her in deciding whether to continue the flight in the morning and make preparations therefor, or to proceed the remainder of the distance by rail. She was then in communication by long distance telephone with her associates in New York and Chicago. She was told that the weather in the morning would be fair, the sky mostly clear, and the surface wind light and probably from an easterly direction, with fresh to strong west wind at an elevation. The continuation of the flight was made at sunrise the next morning and New York was reached quickly and without mishap, the only unfavorable condition being the light wind at the surface which allowed haze to obscure the landscape and made it necessary to fly low, so that full advantage could not be taken of the stronger westerly winds at the higher elevation.

The following extracts from a letter from the publishers of a magazine devoted to bee culture brings to light another application of Weather Bureau forecasts:

They have been most invaluable to the beekeepers of the country, in that we can determine somewhat what the price of honey will probably be, owing to the amount of moisture that may or may not be in the soil, in the various portions of the United States.

It may interest you to know that we had a shipment of a carload of bees to come from Virginia. We advised the shipper that we would send a man down to get them when the weather conditions moderated. He said they were all right, but on consulting the weather map we found they were far from right, and so we waited some two or three weeks. Upon further investigation we found that the weather maps were exactly right, and you thus saved us the time of a man for two weeks, laying around and waiting until the weather conditions should be right. We had no other information but that furnished by your weather map.

We could cite you numerous other instances of where we have found them invaluable to us, and we only wish the public knew how they could make use of them.

INK FOR WEATHER BUREAU RECORDS.

Occasional inquiries are received from station officials as to the best

ink for use in copying the original observations and other data making up the permanent records of the bureau. For many years it has been the custom of the Central Office to permit officials to purchase ink for station use in the open market, on account of danger from breakage in shipping from the Central Office, or damage from freezing in transit, etc., the assumption being that all the principal brands were staple products.

During the past year or more the opportunities for securing certain of the important constituents entering into the composition of the inks of the standard required have been greatly curtailed. As a result the General Supply Committee of the departments was unable to secure bids for inks of the standard adopted by the Government and no contracts for ink have recently been awarded by the committee.

In view of the possibility that standard ink may not be available, suggestion has been made that only india inks should be used for the permanent records. As the durability of such inks is unquestioned, there is no objection to their use further than that of expense, and the fact that much care is necessary in handling them to secure satisfactory results.

Station officials are expected to secure inks of undoubted durability, and if the brands that have proven satisfactory in the past can not be secured, it is recommended the following test, adopted by the Supply Committee, be applied to any that may be purchased:

A fluid ounce allowed to stand at rest in a white glass vessel, freely exposed in diffused daylight for two weeks at ordinary room temperature, protected against the entrance of dust, must remain free from deposit upon the surface of the ink or on the bottom and sides of the vessel.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INSTRUCTIONS, ETC.

Prompt acknowledgment is desired of the receipt of "Instructions" and "Amendments to Station Regulations." As there have been a number of delinquencies lately in this respect, resulting in considerable inconvenience to the Central Office, it is suggested that such acknowledgments be mailed just as soon as the Instructions, etc., are received. By following this plan the matter is not likely to be overlooked and considerable unnecessary correspondence will be avoided.

WEST INDIAN WORK.

Mr. Henry B. Hersey who, for the past six months has been in the West Indies and Caribbean Sea region in connection with the extension of the hurricane service, was recently recalled to Washington at the request of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, and has been granted an indefinite furlough from the Weather Bureau for the purpose of giving instruction in ballooning and aeronautics at the Army

aviation school at Fort Omaha, Nebr., in which work he is recognized as an authority. .

Mr. Hersey was with the Wellman Arctic Expedition in 1906, and in the same year he was aid to Lieutenant Lahm, of the United States Army, when the latter won the international balloon race in France. In 1907 Mr. Hersey represented the United States as a pilot of the balloon "America" in the international race which started from St. Louis, Mo.

Prof. Oliver L. Fassig, who is in charge of the Baltimore station, has been selected to succeed Mr. Hersey in completing the extension work in the West Indies, and he sailed from New York for Porto Rico on April 28.

FURNISHING OF ASSISTANCE.

A considerable number of resignations and furloughs are being accepted and granted by the bureau at the present time, resulting in the loss of a number of trained and experienced assistant observers and other employees. When vacancies have occurred at certain stations requests have been made for the assignment of trained observers to take the place of the men on furlough. For the reasons stated and owing to the numerous demands that are being made on the bureau at this time, it will be impossible to assign trained assistants to stations where such vacancies exist. Every effort should be made to handle the work at stations, where such conditions occur, to the best advantage with the assistance of the men that the Central Office is able to secure and assign.

E. HERBERT NIMMO.

The death of Mr. E. Herbert Nimmo occurred near San Diego, Cal., on April 7, 1917. Mr. Nimmo entered the service of the Weather Bureau on August 12, 1891, and his services were continuous up to February 10, 1917, when he was granted a furlough because of illness, which resulted in his death. For the past five years he was in charge of the station at San Diego.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of April, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

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Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Altman, Peter.....	Spokane, Wash.....	Furloughed without pay from April 4, 1917, until further orders, on account of the National Guard of Washington, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Anderson, Morton A.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$450, by reinstatement from the Library of the Department.
Andrykoski, Joseph P...	Saginaw, Mich.....	Furloughed without pay from April 18, 1917, until further orders, on account of his enlistment in the Naval Militia.
Banes, Henry B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Barber, Eugene.....		Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Casey, Paul V.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480.
Clarke, Walter D.....	Norfolk, Va.....	Messenger boy, restored to duty on April 2, 1917, from furlough without pay, on account of return from military duty.
Clemmons, (Mrs.) Nira E.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Laborer (unskilled), resigned; record, good.
Clemmons, Walter C...	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Appointment terminated.
Connaroe, Henry.....	Erie, Pa.....	Furloughed without pay from April 7, 1917, until further orders, on account of the Naval Militia, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Cotter, Clarence E.....	Denver, Colo.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Dean, Hugh H.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480.
Everett, William R.....		Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$900.
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F.		Appointed laborer, unskilled (cook-cleaner), at \$480.
Fassig, Oliver L.....	Baltimore, Md.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$2,880 from professor of meteorology at \$2,520.
Feeney, Lawrence M...	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Ferguson, Leonard W...	Shreveport, La.....	Messenger, resigned; record, excellent.
Friedman, Robert P....	Charlotte, N. C.....	Furloughed without pay from May 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of the National Guard of North Carolina, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Gernrich, Henry R.....	Hartford, Conn.....	Designation changed to apprentice at \$600 by transfer from messenger boy at the same salary.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Hamrick, Andrew M...	Honolulu, Hawaii.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from \$1,440.
Hersey, Henry B.....	Milwaukee, Wis.....	District forecaster, furloughed without pay from April 10, 1917, until further orders, so that he may perform military duty.
Jones, Edwin H.....	Boise, Idaho.....	Assistant observer, granted leave of absence without pay from May 16 to June 29, 1917.
Jones, (Miss) Maud C.....		Appointed charwoman at \$240.
Karcher, (Miss) Catherine M.	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Klinge, Robert N.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	Messenger boy, restored to duty on April 1, 1917, from furlough without pay, on account of return from military duty.
Kouns, Robert L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.
Kouns, Robert L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Knott, William J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Laskowski, Bernard R..	Denver, Colo.....	Furlough without pay, on account of military service, extended from May 1, 1917, until further orders.
Lehning, Charles T.*...	Cairo, Ill.....	Promoted to messenger at \$720 from \$600.
McKee, George A.....	Sheridan, Wyo.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Maguire, Michael M....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Murtaugh, F. Lee.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Nimmo, E. Herbert.....	San Diego, Cal.....	Meteorologist, died April 7, 1917.
Nitzer, Arthur G.*.....	Evansville, Ind.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
O'Neil, Philip L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.
Ostrom, Ralph A. A....	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Furloughed without pay from April 7, 1917, until further orders, on account of the Naval Militia, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Pearre, Buford D.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Furloughed without pay from May 5, 1917, until further orders, on account of the National Guard, of which he is a member, having been mustered into the service.
Prather, Brian.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Rasmussen, Wiggo.....	Neah Bay, Wash.....	Resignation announced in changes in personnel of March, 1917, revoked.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Reichelt, Carl A	Honolulu, Hawai.	Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Roper, Roy	El Paso, Tex.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Shurick, Kenneth C.	Denver, Colo.	Furlough without pay, on account of military service, extended from May 1, 1917, until further orders.
Sniegoski, John P.	Washington, D. C.	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Stoesen, Andrew R. W.	Charleston, S. C.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Sweeney, Eugene F.	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Thomas, Harry A., jr.	Fresno, Cal.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Washington, Rudolph.	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to laborer (unskilled) at \$720 from \$660.
Watt, William W. . . . .	. . . . .	Appointed messenger boy at \$450, by reinstatement from the Bureau of Animal Industry.
Wettrich, William K.	Cleveland, Ohio.	Promoted to apprentice at \$480 from messenger boy at \$360.
Wilhelm, Whitmer A.	Columbus, Ohio.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Guill, Thomas E. . . . .	. . . . .	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Nisley, Alva D.	
Rheinfrank, Arthur C.	
Williams, Alec R.	
Campbell, Simon J.	Nashville, Tenn.	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Gnant, Joseph C.	Trenton, N. J.	
Haight, Walter D.	Washington, D. C.	
Hoffman, Joseph	Washington, D. C.	
Trautman, Clarke P.	Pittsburgh, Pa.	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Beacham, Cecil L.	Lincoln, Nebr.	
Bornschein, Charles H.	Sioux City, Iowa.	
Dezelle, Row E.	Fort Worth, Tex.	
Holmes, David C.	Knoxville, Tenn.	
Nichols, Harold M.	Grand Rapids, Mich.	
Swanson, Swaney	Rapid City, S. Dak.	
Wilhelm, Whitmer A.	Columbus, Ohio.	
Albert, John E. . . . .	. . . . .	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360.
Boller, Harold H.	
McKee, George A.	

* Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this Department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon the return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Adams, Henry P.....	Concord, N. H.....	Charlotte, N. C., assistant.
Albert, John E.....	.....	Columbus, Ohio, messenger boy.
Alps, Henry F.....	Helena, Mont.....	Reno, Nev., in charge.
Alciatore, Henry F.....	Reno, Nev.....	San Diego, Cal., in charge.
Anderson, Morton A.....	.....	Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Barber, Eugene.....	.....	Washington, D. C., laborer, unskilled.
Boller, Harold H.....	.....	Peoria, Ill., messenger boy.
Casey, Paul V.....	.....	Boise, Idaho, messenger boy.
Cooper, Harold H.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	Amarillo, Tex., assistant.
Dean, Hugh H.....	.....	Huron, S. Dak., apprentice.
Dorr, Archie R.....	Port Angeles, Wash.....	Twin, Wash., repairman.
Everett, William R.....	.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F.....	.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).
Geddings, Richard M.....	Washington, D. C.....	Macon, Ga., in charge.
Guill, Thomas E.....	.....	Vicksburg, Miss., assistant.
Jones, (Miss) Maud C.....	.....	Washington, D. C., charwoman.
McKee, George A.....	.....	Sheridan, Wyo., messenger boy.
Mitchell, William A.....	Macon, Ga.....	Helena, Mont., in charge.
Naughton, Percy J.....	Vicksburg, Miss.....	New Orleans, La., assistant.
Nisley, Alva D.....	.....	Knoxville, Tenn., assistant.
Rasmussen, Wiggo.....	Neah Bay, Wash.....	Port Angeles, Wash., repairman.
Reed, William G.....	Washington, D. C.....	Portland, Oreg., assistant.
Rheinfrank, Arthur C.....	.....	Cincinnati, Ohio, assistant.
Rogers, Roy J.....	Charleston, S. C.....	Baltimore, Md., assistant.
Watt, William W.....	.....	Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Williams, Alec R.....	.....	Key West, Fla., assistant.

A. H. Marvin

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

MAY, 1917.

REGISTRATION AND EXEMPTIONS.

The following quotation from a recent statement issued by the War Department, relates to the question of registration, exemptions, etc.

Provost Marshal General E. H. Crowder finds that many persons confuse registration with draft. Each is a distinct process. Exemptions will be granted after draft and not before. Even convicts and alien enemies are obliged to register. There is little difficulty in answering the questions which are asked in regard to registration, for there are no exceptions to the rule that all male persons in the United States between the ages of 21 and 30, inclusive, must register, except those already in the Federal military or naval service. It is impossible at present, however, to answer most questions in regard to exemptions, as the rules for exemption are only outlined in the selective draft bill, and must in many cases be drawn by the President.

PROVISIONS FOR REGISTRATION.

The selective service bill and the President's proclamation, in pursuance thereof, provide for the registration on June 5, 1917, of all male persons who on that date have attained their 21st birthday and shall not have attained their 31st birthday, except persons in the military or naval service of the United States, which includes all officers and enlisted men of the Regular Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the National Guard and Naval Militia while in the service of the United States, and officers in the Officers' Reserve Corps and enlisted men in Enlisted Reserve Corps while in active service. From the lists of persons so registered names will subsequently be drawn by lot by the fairest system that can be devised. Persons whose names are drawn and other persons interested will be given an opportunity to present claims for exemption, exclusion, or discharge from the draft, and to support such claims by evidence.

BOARDS TO GRANT EXEMPTIONS.

The determination of whether a particular claim for exemption, exclusion, or discharge shall be granted will be made by boards to be appointed by the President. These boards will function under the law and under regulations prescribed by the President. The only regulations that have as yet been prescribed are those governing the registration alone. The determination of exemptions, exclusions, and discharges is a second step quite separate from the registration.

Regulations governing the determination of exemptions, exclusions, and discharges will, when promulgated, be made available to all concerned at the offices of the local boards. Until such regulations have been promulgated further information can not be given, as it might later prove misleading; and even after the regulations have been made public decisions concerning exemptions, exclusions, or discharges in individual cases can not be made by this office, since the law provides that all such cases shall be heard and determined by the boards to be established for that purpose.

It will be noted from the above statement issued by the War Department that action in regard to exemptions is to be decentralized. In other words all exemptions, exclusions, or discharges in individual cases under the new military bill will be determined by local boards to be established for the purpose.

The steps in the operation of selective service law, which follow the registration and precede the actual departure of selected men for military or industrial service, have been officially explained for the first time in a statement by Brig. Gen. Enoch H. Crowder, Provost Marshal General, who has had supervision of the forming, instructing, and equipping of the country-wide registration machinery which Tuesday registered about 10,000,000 men for war service, and is published for the information of employees of the Weather Bureau.

"Registration marks the completion of the first well-defined step in the execution of the selective service law," said General Crowder. "The actual recording has been practically finished in a single day, but the arrangement and copying of the cards, their segregation into appropriate groups, the publication of lists, and the garnering in of delayed registrations will consume a week or 10 days. In the meantime the machinery of the registration is being readjusted to serve as machinery for the further execution of the law. This work is proceeding rapidly and should be completed coincidentally with the tying up of the loose ends of registration.

DEFINITE CALL FOR MEN.

"When this is all done regulations governing the jurisdiction of the local boards will be issued and the machinery will then be ready to proceed to the drawing, which will result in a determination of the order in which registered men will be examined for the purpose of their selection for military or industrial service. When this list of order is determined it is expected that the War Department will be able to make a definite call for men, and as soon as this data is available the quotas necessary to fill the first call will be assigned to the several States.

"The policy of decentralization, the application of which has so successfully consummated the registration, will be adhered to throughout. The various States, knowing the number of men which they must call and the order in which each particular man is to be examined, can then assign to the various local boards the task of selecting the number of men necessary to complete the quota for the locality under the jurisdiction of each board.

CAN NOT SET PRECISE TIME LIMITS.

"Precise time limits can not be set at present for the reason that it is desired to have uniformity of operation of the machines throughout the United States and to have each step taken simultaneously throughout the Nation. Mountainous, heavily wooded, and sparsely

settled States can not move with the expedition of compact and densely populated States. While dates are not to be named precisely, these steps will follow each other promptly with a fixed purpose of giving as much time as possible to men who are selected to adjust their affairs, to make their farewell, and to avoid the inconvenience and suffering that would result from a hasty change from civil to military status."

The statement was made by General Crowder in response to numerous queries from public and private sources and because of the tendency of the press to discuss the method to be used in selections, exemptions, etc.

BASES FOR EXEMPTIONS.

Bases for exemptions can not be known until the Secretary of War and the President have approved the recommendations which are in preparation.

Several requests have been received from station officials for information as to the attitude of the Central Office in regard to making active participation in the work of the Weather Bureau a basis of claim for exemption from draft. In view of the foregoing, it is obviously impossible for the Central Office to make any specific declaration on the subject at this time. The value and importance of the work of the Weather Bureau will undoubtedly be recognized, as well as the serious effect that any considerable transfer of its trained force to the purely military or naval service will have on the work of the bureau. However, this situation, no doubt, applies to many other Government activities. Any declaration by the bureau at this time might prove misleading, but announcement will be made on the subject just as soon as it is possible to do so.

POLL TAXES.

The communications published herewith concerning the payment of a poll tax when the State in which legal residence is claimed is other than that of actual residence are presented in extenso for the information of Weather Bureau employees who may be in the same status.

The following communication concerning a poll tax was received from a Weather Bureau employee:

Referring to paragraph 72, Station Regulations, I would respectfully request an opinion as to whether an employee in the Civil Service of the United States, and located outside his State of legal residence [Illinois] by Government orders, is subject to payment of a city, county, or road tax levied on polls in the place of his temporary residence [North Carolina], provided he has not changed his legal residence for right of franchise.

The matter was referred to the Solicitor of the Department and his reply is quoted herewith:

You state that the records of your bureau show that Mr. is a legal resident of Illinois, but that he has been stationed at for six years.

You request an opinion as to whether Mr. is liable for the payment of taxes mentioned under the conditions set out.

In an opinion dated August 14, 1915, this office said :

"An officer or employee of the Federal Government is exempt from the operation of State legislation in so far as it may interfere with, or impair, his efficiency in performing the functions by which he is designed to serve the Government. Otherwise, he does not cease to be subject to the laws of the State under whose jurisdiction he may be by reason of becoming a Federal officer or employee.

"It is the opinion of this office that the levy against a Federal officer or employee of a poll road tax, to be paid in money, does not hinder the performance of his duty to the United States Government, and that he is not entitled to exemption from tax by reason of being such officer or employee. Whether, in such case, the officer or employee is liable to the tax, depends upon the interpretation and application of the particular State statute which imposes it."

In the case at hand it appears that Mr. has been within the jurisdiction of North Carolina for six years. The specific laws under which the tax is imposed are not cited, but it is assumed from Mr. statement, that the laws merely impose a tax upon polls, to be paid in money, and do not require personal services. If, in fact, the law merely imposes a tax in money, it is believed that Mr. is not entitled to exemption from the payment of a city, county, or road tax levied on polls in the place of his temporary residence, notwithstanding he has not changed his legal or voting residence."

MILITARY SERVICE.

Executive Order No. 2547, dated March 21, 1917, is quoted below for the information of station officials:

EXECUTIVE ORDER, MARCH 21, 1917.

In reinstatements and transfers under the Civil Service rules the Civil Service Commission may, when not inconsistent with existing laws, disregard the period during which the employee was in the military service under the President's call of June 18, 1916.

SATURDAY HALF HOLIDAYS.

There has been some question of doubt regarding the possibility of rescinding the general order granting the Saturday half holidays on account of the war conditions, but we are pleased to announce that this regulation has not been amended and therefore the order granting the holidays above mentioned will be in effect this year the same as in previous years.

HINTS FROM STATIONS.

The following remarks were submitted by the official in charge at Cheyenne, Wyo. :

Printing Ink.—A saving of printing ink, and a convenience in its use, is found (in this climate) by scraping the ink used each time in thin layers from the top of the can with the end of the spatula, and keeping a small amount of water over

the ink. The water in no way interferes with the inking process or causes any harm; and it prevents any of the ink hardening, even the minor projections from the surface. Without the water a large part of each can of ink hardens and is wasted; besides a poor inking often results from hard ink.

Thermometers.—Minimum thermometers occasionally returned from cooperative stations containing "bubles" are cleared of bubbles and then hung on a hook in a safe place over my desk for draining a day or two before reissuing. I have not yet had one sent back the second time for this difficulty.

The following suggestion has been received from the official in charge at Fort Worth, Tex., and, although the idea is not novel, yet it is presented here for the information of those officials who may not be familiar with it:

A piece of old felt hat is a superior ink pad for the triple register.

JOSEPH E. STEHLIN.

Mr. Joseph E. Stehlin, who was formerly employed as messenger boy at the New York office of the Weather Bureau, is now a pilot in the American Aviation Corps in France.

HENRY C. BATE.

Mr. Bate, whose death occurred May 21, 1917, at Nashville, Tenn., was one of the oldest employees in the service of the Weather Bureau, being at the time of his demise in his 78th year. He entered the Signal Corps in September, 1886, as a 2d class private, and was promoted through the several intermediate ranks to sergeant in 1890. Under the act of October 1, 1890, he was transferred to the Weather Bureau. Soon thereafter he was appointed an inspector, in which capacity he served for about five years. He was relieved from this duty at his own request and placed in charge of the Nashville station, in which position he continued until a few years ago, when he was relieved and placed on half-time duty because of failing health. Mr. Bate's entire service was at the Nashville station, with the exception of brief temporary assignments at Toledo, Charlotte, and Washington.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of May, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Adams, Henry P.	Charlotte, N. C.	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from messenger boy at \$480.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Anderson, Morton A...	Washington, D. C.....	Furloughed without pay from May 8, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Barber, Eugene.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled), transferred to States Relations Service.
Bate, Henry C.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Local Forecaster, died May 2, 1917.
Beavers, Thomas H. B..	Columbus, Ohio.....	Furloughed without pay from May 17, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Blosk, Edwin A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.
Bush, Carl L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Designation changed to clerk at \$900 from assistant observer at same salary.
Casey, Paul V.....	Boise, Idaho.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Clarke, Walter D.....	Norfolk, Va.....	Furloughed without pay from May 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Dalton, Robert D.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Furloughed without pay from May 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Davenport, Raphael A..	Amarillo, Tex.....	Furlough without pay extended from May 12, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Dixon, Raymond L.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450, subject to termination of services on return of employee absent on military duty.
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Unskilled laborer (cook-cleaner), resigned; record, good.
Falconer, Hope H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk (draftsman), transferred to Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering.
Geddings, Richard M...	Macon, Ga.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from clerk at \$1,200.
Gintzer, Louis F.....	Harrisburg, Pa.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Gordon, James H.....	Phoenix, Ariz.....	Assistant observer, restored to duty on May 8, 1917, from furlough without pay on account of military duty.
Gottlich, Samuel.....	Houston, Tex.....	Furloughed without pay from June 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Grant, Leland N.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Harding, Wade G.....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480.
Hobbs, Harold B.....	.....	Appointed repairman at \$720.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Hobson, Melvin C.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	Assistant observer, transferred to Bureau of Plant Industry.
Hovde, Hjalmar B.....	Minneapolis, Minn.....	Granted leave of absence without pay from May 8 to August 7, 1917, in order to attend an Army officers' training camp.
Keith, Elmer M.....	Helena, Mont.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Lake, Henry B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Lillie, Don M.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$1,000, by reinstatement.
McGruder, Ralph C....	Amarillo, Tex.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Mitchell, William A....	Helena, Mont.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from \$1,440.
Mize, Ralph C.....	Tatoosh Island, Wash..	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,260.
Murphy, John J.*.....	Eastport, Me.....	Promoted to messenger at \$720 from \$600.
Nation, Ira J.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$860.
Newsom, John F.....	Cape Henry, Va.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from \$1,440.
O'Connor, Bergin.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
Perlman, Joseph.....	New Orleans, La.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Price, Betson D.....	Richmond, Va.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
Rausch, Arthur A.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Rice, Charles E.*.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Rogers, Roy J.....	Baltimore, Md.....	Reduced without prejudice on the rolls of the Weather Bureau to assistant observer at \$540 from \$900; a like amount being paid by the Maryland State Weather Service.
Sidney, Peter.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled), restored to duty on May 21, 1917, from furlough without pay on account of military duty.
Sutton, Leon G.....	Port Angeles, Wash...	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from local forecaster at \$1,440.
Szollas, Edward, jr.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$860.
White, Charles S.....	Key West, Fla.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Wilhite, Erroll L.....	Wichita, Kans.....	Furloughed without pay from May 7, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Williams, Eph L.	Fort Smith, Ark.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Altman, George T.....	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Jones, Ernest L.....	.....
Langworthy, Rae S.....	.....
Faulk, Maurice C.....	Thomasville, Ga.....	} Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,200.
Sandridge, Norman.....	Albany, N. Y.....	
Vail, Herbert E.....	Albany, N. Y.....	
Bishop, Milner*.....	Atlanta, Ga.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Bonifant, Joseph M.*.....	Washington, D. C.....	
Thompson, Benjamin*.....	Green Bay, Wis.....	
Burrough, Hollis O.....	Oklahoma, Okla.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Cable, Edwin A.*.....	Detroit, Mich.....	
Ferry, Harry L.*.....	Baltimore, Md.....	
McIntyre, Dan.....	Amarillo, Tex.....	

*Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this Department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Alter, J. Cecil.....	Cheyenne, Wyo.....	Salt Lake City, Utah, in charge.
Altman, George T.....	.....	Minneapolis, Minn., assistant.
Beals, Edward A.....	Portland, Oreg.....	San Francisco, Cal., in charge.
Bush, Carl L.....	Topeka, Kans.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Daingerfield, Lawrence H.....	Pueblo, Colo.....	Cheyenne, Wyo., in charge.
Dixon, Raymond L.....	.....	Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Fuller, William D.....	San Diego, Cal.....	Pueblo, Colo., in charge.
Harding, Wade G.....	.....	Norfolk, Va., apprentice.
Hobbs, Harold B.....	.....	Neah Bay, Wash., repairman.
Howell, Harry M.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo.....	Pueblo, Colo., assistant.
Jarhoe, James H.....	Pueblo, Colo.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., assistant.
Jones, Ernest L.....	.....	Charleston, S. C., assistant.
Langworthy, Rae S.....	.....	Tatoosh Island, Wash., assistant.
Lillie, Don M.....	.....	Montgomery, Ala., assistant.
Nation, Ira J.....	.....	Birmingham, Ala., messenger boy.
Ray, Clifton L.....	Tatoosh Island, Wash.....	Boise, Idaho, assistant.
Szollas, Edward, jr.....	.....	Denver, Colo., messenger boy.
Tannehill, Ivan R.....	Galveston, Tex.....	Houston, Tex., assistant.
Thiessen, Alfred H.....	Salt Lake City, Utah.....	Portland, Oreg., in charge.
Voskuil, Walter H.....	Phoenix, Ariz.....	New Orleans, La., assistant.
Wells, William A.....	St. Joseph, Mo.....	Topeka, Kans., assistant.
Williams, Noel M.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	St. Joseph, Mo., assistant.

C. H. Marvin.

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

JUNE, 1917.

SELECTIVE DRAFT.

The following memorandum (No. 213) of instructions, relative to the discharge of certain employees from military service under the Selective Military Service Law, was issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under date of July 13, 1917, for the guidance of employees affected thereby:

MEMORANDUM NO. 218.

RELATIVE TO DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES FROM MILITARY SERVICE UNDER THE SELECTIVE SERVICE LAW.

Numerous inquiries having been received with reference to the selective military draft regulations as applicable to employees of this department, the following is given for the guidance of chiefs of bureaus, divisions, and offices, and of employees concerned.

1.

EMPLOYEES WHO MAY CLAIM DISCHARGE FROM DRAFT BECAUSE OF FEDERAL SERVICE.

The rules and regulations prescribed by the President, pursuant to the act of Congress for the government of local and district boards, provide for the discharge from the draft of any person employed in the service of the United States who has been drafted and who is necessary to the adequate and effective operation of the branch of the service of the Federal Government in which employed, and who can not be replaced by another person without substantial material loss in the adequate and effective operation of the Federal Service. (See section 20 of the rules and regulations, an abstract of which is inclosed herewith and marked Exhibit A.)

No doubt employees of this department in Washington and at outside stations, including men in agricultural extension work who are paid wholly or in part from Federal funds and who come within the definition as given in subdivision (e) of section 20 (Exhibit A) will be drafted.

2.

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS TO FILE CLAIMS FOR DISCHARGE.

The chief of each bureau, independent division, or independent office, promptly after receipt of this memorandum, must submit to the Secretary, for his approval, a memorandum designating, by classes or otherwise, the responsible officials in the bureau, independent division, or independent office who shall be charged with the duty of preparing and filing claims for the discharge of registered persons in the service of the bureau, independent division, or independent office who are necessary to the adequate and effective operation of the bureau,

division, or office and who can not be replaced by other persons without substantial material loss in the adequate and effective operation of the Federal Service.

8.

NOTICE OF DRAFT AND PREPARATION AND FILING OF CLAIM FOR DISCHARGE
THEREFROM.

Whenever an employee of this department receives notice from the local board or otherwise that he has been called for examination, he must comply with the terms of the notice and must, immediately upon receipt of the notice from the local board or otherwise, inform the official designated by the chief of his bureau, independent division, or independent office to file claims for discharge of the fact that he has been notified.

4.

If the adequate and effective operation of this department requires the discharge from the draft of any employee coming within the terms of subdivision (e) of said section 20, such discharge should be secured in the following manner:

The official designated by the chief of bureau, independent division, or independent office to file claims for discharge should file with the local board on or before the *seventh* day after the mailing by the local board of notice of such employee's being called for examination, a claim for the discharge of the employee on a form (No. 121 or 122) prepared by the Provost Marshal General and furnished by said board. (See section 20, Exhibit A.)

LOCAL BOARDS.

In every county in the United States and for every city of over 80,000 there are one or more local exemption boards. Each of such boards has charge of the registration cards of persons registered in the area over which the board has jurisdiction, and has jurisdiction of all claims for exemption and discharge, except those based on industrial grounds.

The official designated by the chief of the bureau, independent division, or independent office who files a claim for discharge, as above directed, if such official is in Washington, must immediately deliver a written statement to, and if not in Washington, must immediately telegraph, the chief of his bureau, independent division, or independent office in Washington, giving the name of the employee sought to be discharged and such additional information as may be necessary to enable the chief of such bureau, independent division, or independent office to determine whether the affidavit provided for in subdivision (e) of said section 20 should be made. Immediately upon receipt of information that a claim for discharge has been filed in respect of any employee, the chief of such bureau, independent division, or independent office will determine whether the employee comes within the terms of subdivision (e) of section 20, and if he determines affirmatively, he should promptly, *and in every instance within ten days after filing of the claim for discharge*, make and file with the local board the affidavit required by subdivision (e) of said section 20. The affidavit must be on a form (No. 127) prepared by the Provost Marshal General, and it must state that such employee is, in the opinion of the chief of such bureau, independent division, or independent office, necessary to the adequate and effective operation of the department and can not be replaced by another person without substantial material loss in the adequate and effective operation of the department. (See subdivision (e) of section 20, Exhibit A.)

In the event the determination is made by the chief of bureau that the employee for whom a claim for discharge has been filed by an official designated for the purpose does *not* come within the terms of the subdivision, the chief of

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bureau should promptly notify the official who filed the claim for discharge in order that he may notify the local board that such determination has been made. (This paragraph added in conformity with Secretary's memorandum of July 18.)

When a claim for discharge is filed, notice of such filing and the reasons given for the claim must be immediately reported to this office in writing by the chief of the bureau, independent division, or independent office.

5.

AN APPEAL IF CLAIM DENIED.

If the local board denies the claim for discharge, the employee upon receipt of notice of such denial shall immediately notify the official designated by the chief of bureau, independent division, or independent office to file claims for discharge, and such official shall file an appeal to the district board.

The claim of appeal (Form 153 or 154) and the notice thereof (Form 151 or 152) must be filed and given within *ten days* after the mailing of the notice that the claim is denied.

In order to forestall any possible misinterpretation of this subdivision, you are advised that its intent is that an appeal will be filed only in those cases where the chief of bureau has determined that the employee is within the terms of the subdivision (e) of section 20 and has filed the affidavit in support of the claim for discharge. (This paragraph added in conformity with Secretary's memorandum of July 18.)

The steps for taking the appeal are clearly set out in section 26 of the rules and regulations, a copy of which is attached hereto marked Exhibit B.

When an appeal has been taken, it should likewise be immediately reported to this office in the usual manner.

6.

ACTION ON APPEAL BY DISTRICT BOARD.

As soon as notice is received of the allowance or the disallowance by the district board of a claim for discharge, the official designated by the chief of bureau, independent division, or independent office to file claims for discharge shall notify the chief of his bureau, independent division, or independent office, by wire if necessary, and the said chief will promptly lay the matter before the Secretary.

7.

PERSONS WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT, BUT NO PART OF WHOSE SALARIES IS PAID BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

With reference to extension agents and State officers supervising agricultural extension work, no part of whose salaries is paid by the Federal Government, and who are being paid from local funds and who are working in cooperation with and under the cooperative direction of this department and of the State agricultural colleges, inquiry has been addressed to the War Department for a ruling as to their status under the discharge provisions of the rules and regulations. This department has not yet received a reply to that inquiry, but a reply is expected at an early date and information will be sent to persons requesting same.

8.

For a brief, concise statement of the Selective Service Law and the rules and regulations thereunder, generally, your attention is directed to "INFORMATION FOR PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER THE SELECTIVE SERVICE LAW," appearing in Official Bulletin of Monday, July 9, 1917, pp. 6 and 7.

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The selective draft law and the rules and regulations thereunder were promulgated by the Secretary of War on June 30, 1917, and are published by the War Department in a pamphlet entitled:

**RULES AND REGULATIONS PRESCRIBED
BY THE PRESIDENT
FOR LOCAL AND DISTRICT BOARDS
Under the authority vested
in him by the terms of
the Act of Congress
TO AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT TO INCREASE
TEMPORARILY THE MILITARY ESTAB-
LISHMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
APPROVED MAY 18, 1917
FORM 13**

EXHIBIT A.

From rules and regulations prescribed by the President for local and district boards under authority of act of Congress to authorize the President to increase the military establishment of the United States, approved May 18, 1917.

SEC. 20. PERSONS OR CLASSES OF PERSONS TO BE DISCHARGED BY A LOCAL BOARD.—The following persons or classes of persons shall, if called for service by any local board and not discharged as physically deficient or exempted in accordance with the regulations hereinbefore prescribed, be discharged by such local board upon a claim for discharge being made and filed by or in respect of any such person, and substantiated in the opinion of the local board, and a certificate of absolute, conditional or temporary discharge, as the case may require, issued to any such person.

The claim to be discharged must be made by such person, or by some other person in respect of such person, on a form (use form Nos. 121 or 122) prepared by the Provost Marshal General and furnished by the local boards for that purpose. Such claim must be filed with the local board on or before the seventh day after the mailing by the local board of the notice required to be given such person of his having been called for service.

THE STATEMENT ON THE REGISTRATION CARD OF ANY PERSON THAT DISCHARGE IS CLAIMED SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED OR CONSIDERED AS THE PRESENTATION OF A CLAIM FOR DISCHARGE.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

Any person employed in the service of the United States, upon presentation to such local board at any time within 10 days after the filing of a claim of discharge by or in respect of such person, of an affidavit (use form No. 127) signed by the official of the Government of the United States having direct supervision and control of the department, commission, board, bureau, division, or branch of the Government of the United States in which such person is employed stating that such person is, in his opinion, necessary to the adequate and effective operation of such department, commission, board, bureau, division, or branch in the service of the United States and can not be replaced by another person without substantial material loss in the adequate and effective operation of said department, commission, board, bureau, division, or branch in the service of the United States.

EXHIBIT B.

SEC. 26. APPEALS FROM LOCAL BOARDS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.—An appeal may be taken by or in respect of any person called for service by any local board from the final decision of such local board, disposing of a claim for exemption or discharge, to the district board having jurisdiction in the area in which such local board is located.

The person called, or the person who filed the claim for exemption or discharge in respect of such person, must file with such local board a claim of appeal, if an appeal is taken on a form (No. 153 or 154) prepared by the Provost Marshal General and furnished by the local boards for that purpose and must give notice of the filing of such claim of appeal to the district board having jurisdiction on a form (No. 151 or 152) prepared by the Provost Marshal General and furnished by the local boards for that purpose.

Any such claim of appeal and the notice thereof must be filed and given within ten days after the mailing of a notice to such person and to the person who filed the claim of exemption or discharge in respect of such person that the claim of exemption or discharge is denied.

Upon such claim of appeal being filed with the local board it shall be the duty of such local board, if it has not already done so, to forward to the district board having jurisdiction all affidavits and records in connection with the claim filed by such person or in respect of such person for exemption or discharge.

The foregoing instructions should be followed in detail by the employees of the Weather Bureau throughout the service.

The Chief of the Weather Bureau has designated to the Secretary of Agriculture, as required under section 2, the "Official in Charge" of the various stations as the responsible official of this bureau to file claims for discharge in connection with station employees under conditions therein set forth.

Officials in charge, in telegraphing the names of employees sought to be discharged, as provided in section 4, should not give lengthy reasons for the discharge, as the personal record and information concerning the work performed by the employees of each station are on file and available at the Central Office. In most cases merely the name of the employee and the date of the notification received from the board will be sufficient.

Copies of the rules and regulations prescribed by the President for local and district boards, and the July 9 issue of the Official Bulletin, which are referred to in the instructions, are not available to the Central Office for distribution.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of June, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Alkin, Clarence E.....	Reno, Nev.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,800 from \$1,200.
Ball, Homer W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from clerk at \$1,400.
Bates, Bertram M., jr. . .	Memphis, Tenn.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Beals, Edward A.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Promoted to district forecaster at \$3,240 from \$2,880.
Berger, Herbert C.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Blair, William R.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$3,240 from professor of meteorology at \$2,880.
Bonifant, Joseph M.....	Washington, D. C.....	Temporary promotion announced in list of changes for May, 1917, made permanent.
Bulfinch, Kale D.....	Lewiston, Idaho.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Burchell, Charles R.....	Oklahoma, Okla.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Bush, Carl L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from \$900.
Cable, Edwin A.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Temporary promotion announced in list of changes for May, 1917, made permanent.
Carrier, Robert W.....	Ludington, Mich.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Carroll, Louis W.....	Boston, Mass.....	Furloughed without pay from June 28, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Chancellor, Thomas J... .	Davenport, Iowa.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,200.
Churchman, Clarence H.	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Clifton, Roy C.....	Taylor, Tex.....	Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Cornthwaite, Homer G.	New York, N. Y.....	Observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Covert, Roy N.....	Washington, D. C.....	Designation changed to observer at \$1,400 from clerk at same salary.
Eggers, Sam A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F. ....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Everett, J. Redden.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$1,000, by reinstatement.
Everett, J. Redden.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Everett, William R.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Laborer (unskilled), transferred to Forest Service.
Fitzsimmons, John T... .	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Designation changed to apprentice at \$480 from messenger boy at same salary.
Fox, Harold S.....	.....	Appointed clerk (topographic draftsman) at \$1,000.
Fuller, William D.....	Pueblo, Colo.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,200.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Gardner, Otis E.....		Appointed clerk (topographic draftsman) at \$1,000.
Gildea, Earl G.....	San Diego, Cal.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Gregg, Willis R.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,800 from \$1,560.
Hand, Irving F.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Hays, Roy W.....	Kansas City, Mo.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,080 from \$1,000.
Hessler, Frank M.....	Duluth, Minn.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Hoffman, Joseph.....	Washington, D. C.....	Furloughed without pay from July 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Jarboe, James H.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.....		Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Laborer (unskilled), resigned; record, excellent.
Jones, Edwin H.....	Boise, Idaho.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Kinney, Edward F.....	Albany, N. Y.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Lathrop, William T.....	Greenville, S. C.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from observer at \$1,440.
Lucas, John H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Designation changed to skilled mechanic at \$1,200 from instrument maker (skilled mechanic) at same salary.
Lyman, Herbert.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,400 from \$1,200.
McAuliffe, Joseph P.....	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Reduced, without prejudice, to observer at \$1,260 from printer at \$1,800, at his request.
McCarthy, Richard F.....	Washington, D. C.....	Furlough without pay extended from July 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
McCarty, Herbert K.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$450.
McCarty, Herbert K. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Mace, James E.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480.
Mahaffy, William.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Merchant, Gerald C.....	Greenville, S. C.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,260.
Mosby, Samuel L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,560 from observer at \$1,400.
Neylans, Oscar S.....	Tampa, Fla.....	Leave of absence without pay terminated June 18, 1917.
Nichols, Harold M.....	Grand Rapids, Mich...	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
O'Neil, Philip L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Peterson, E. Ernest....	Tacoma, Wash.....	Name changed on the rolls at his request from "Ernest E. Peterson."
Pohlman, Leonard J....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.
Ramsdell, Jesse J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to Bureau of Markets.
Reed, Thomas R.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Observer, furloughed without pay from June 9, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Reihle, John A.....	Little Rock, Ark.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Rice, Charles E.....	Washington, D. C.....	Temporary promotion announced in list of changes for May, 1917, made permanent.
Skube, Theodore F....	Seattle, Wash.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Smith, Minor T.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to Bureau of Entomology.
Soley, Sim.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450.
Soley, Sim ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$460.
Staps, Albert B.....	.....	Appointed folder and feeder at \$720.
Stewart, John S.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,200 from \$1,080.
Sweeney, Eugene F. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Thiessen, Alfred H....	Portland, Oreg.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$2,280 from \$2,040.
Toliver, James T.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to laborer (unskilled) at \$600 from \$480.
Watt, William W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, services terminated, without prejudice.
Welch, (Miss) Margaret M.	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from \$900.
Wilson, Clarence C....	Springfield, Ill.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Clark, Norman L.....	Grand Rapids, Mich...	} Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Cloud, William S.....	New York, N. Y.....	
Russell, Orville E.....	Memphis, Tenn.....	
Schick, Charles O.....	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	
Frenkel, John M.....	.....	} Appointed temporary assistant observer at \$900, pending the certification of eligibles.
Gildea, Earl G.....	.....
Locklin, Harold G.....	.....
Millison, Harold.....	.....
Rausch, Arthur A.....	.....
Tarr, William L.....	.....
Williams, Eph L.....	.....
Cullen, Edward P. ¹	Philadelphia, Pa.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
Farrell, James F. ¹	New York, N. Y.....	
Fitzsimmons, John T. ¹ ..	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Hinkle, Russell F. ¹	Kansas City, Mo.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
McCarthy, John C. ¹	Dayton, Ohio.....	
Milatzo, John F. ¹	Cheyenne, Wyo.....	
Moher, Emmett J.....	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	
Ollsen, Albert J. ¹	Portland, Me.....	
McClurg, John R.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$860.
O'Brien, Philip D.....	.....
Phillippi, John J.....	.....
Smith, Clifford G.....	.....
Wright, Carl H.....	.....
Bergman, William.....	New York, N. Y.....	} Designation changed to apprentice at \$480 from messenger boy at same salary.
Cramer, Roy.....	Dallas, Tex.....	
Denton, Jesse H.....	Meridian, Miss.....	
Dezelle, Row E.....	Fort Worth, Tex.....	
Diffin, William T.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	
Frankford, Joseph E.....	Des Moines, Iowa.....	
Howe, James M.....	Northfield, Vt.....	
Kessy, Edward A.....	Corpus Christi, Tex.....	
Klinge, Robert N.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	
Little, Errol W.....	Boise, Idaho.....	
Mace, James E.....	Lewiston, Idaho.....	
McNabb, William J.....	Houghton, Mich.....	
Milatzo, John F.....	Cheyenne, Wyo.....	
Moher, Emmett J.....	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	
Molyneux, Harold L.....	St. Joseph, Mo.....	
Mullen, John P., jr.....	Galveston, Tex.....	
Olson, Victor E.....	Keokuk, Iowa.....	
Peterson, Oscar H.....	Sacramento, Cal.....	
Smith, John J. J. L.....	Indianapolis, Ind.....	
Swanson, Swaney.....	Rapid City, S. Dak.....	
Swart, George W.....	Grand Haven, Mich.....	
Verket, Oswald.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	
Wakefield, Robert D.....	Burlington, Vt.....	
Wolcott, Ernest E.....	Walla Walla, Wash.....	

¹ Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military, or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Asher, Charles D.....	Modena, Utah.....	Galveston, Tex., assistant.
Brooks, John W.....	Salt Lake City, Utah..	Modena, Utah, in charge.
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F.	.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).
Everett, J. Redden.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Fox, Harold S.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk (draftsman).
Frenkel, John M.*.....	.....	Galveston, Tex., assistant.
Gardner, Otis E.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk (draftsman).
Gildea, Earl G.*.....	.....	San Diego, Cal., assistant.
Hill, Perry R.....	Portland, Oreg.....	Salt Lake City, Utah, assistant.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.	.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Lathrop, William T.....	New Haven, Conn.....	Greenville, S. C., in charge.
Locklin, Harold G.*.....		Detroit, Mich., assistant.
McCarty, Herbert K.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
McClurg, John R.....		O m a h a, Nebr., messenger boy.
Mace, James E.....		Lewiston, Idaho, messenger boy.
Merchant, Gerald C....	Grand Junction, Colo..	Greenville, S. C., assistant.
Millison, Harold*.....		New York, N. Y., assistant.
Neylans, Oscar S.....	Key West, Fla.....	Tampa, Fla., assistant.
O'Brien, Philip D.....		A l b a n y, N. Y., messenger boy.
Phillippi, John J.....		New Orleans, La., messenger boy.
Rausch, Arthur A.*.....		St. Louis, Mo., assistant.
Reed, William G.....	Portland, Oreg.....	Salt Lake City, Utah, assistant, pending further orders.
Smith, Clifford G.....		Roswell, N. Mex., messenger boy.
Soley, Sim.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Staps, Albert B.....		Washington, D. C., folder and feeder.
Tarr, William L.*.....		New Haven, Conn., assistant.
Williams, Eph L.*.....		Fort Smith, Ark., assistant.
Williams, Eph L.*.....	Fort Smith, Ark.....	Key West, Fla., assistant.
Wright, Carl H.....		Cincinnati, Ohio, messenger boy.

NOTE.—The change in designation of Mr. Thorp B. Jennings from official in charge to first assistant at Topeka, Kans., and the assignment of Mr. Snowden D. Flora as official in charge, is made in the interests of administration and is without prejudice to Mr. Jennings.

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS.

The following-named employees have passed examinations in accordance with existing instructions:

Names.	Subjects.
Clark, Norman L.....	Physics, Astronomy, Advanced Meteorology.
Clark, Norman L.....	} Plant Physiology.
Johnson, Paul E.....	

C. H. Marvin.

Chief of Bureau.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

JULY, 1917.

CARE IN TELEGRAPHING.

The Secretary of Agriculture recently had occasion to invite the attention of all chiefs of bureaus and offices specifically to paragraph 43 of Fiscal Regulations of the Department, which reads as follows:

The telegraph must be used sparingly, and only when the delay in using the mail would be injurious to the public interests. Care should be taken to omit all unnecessary words. In a message from one employee to another, titles should not be used, and in a great many cases the names of the parties in both address and signature may be limited to single words. Numbers should be expressed in words, not in figures; ordinal numbers should not be abbreviated.

This was done because it was evident that sufficient care was not being exercised by many employees to eliminate unnecessary words, and in many cases the telegraph was used when written correspondence would meet all requirements.

In inviting the attention of employees of the Weather Bureau to the Secretary's directions, it is appropriate to state that there is a tendency on the part of many officials to use the telegraph much more freely than is necessary. As an illustration, a telegram containing about 50 words was received at the Central Office in the late afternoon from a station having a mail transit time to Washington of less than 10 hours. The subject-matter was not such as to require immediate action. A letter written at the same time that the message was sent would have been received in ample time for action the next morning. Moreover, a letter would have given fuller information than it was practicable to include in a telegram. Another station sent a message regarding a matter that required prompt action and all necessary information might have been included in 20 words or less. This particular message contained nearly 100 words. It was apparent that proper effort had not been made to edit the telegram.

It is not desired that the use of the telegraph be restricted in instances where time and promptness of action is of essence, and where delay that would result in the use of the mails would not be in the best interest of the bureau; but it should be used sparingly and never when letters would serve the purpose.

EXTRACTS FROM LAWS.

The following extracts from recent acts of Congress are quoted for the information of station employees:

Army appropriation act, approved May 12, 1917:

Provided further, That all officers and employees of the United States or of the District of Columbia who shall be members of the Officers' Reserve Corps shall be entitled to leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of pay, time, or efficiency rating, on all days during which they shall be ordered to duty with troops or at field exercises, or for instruction, for periods not to exceed fifteen days in any one calendar year.

Provided further, That members of the Officers' Reserve Corps who are in the employ of the United States Government or of the District of Columbia and who are ordered to duty by proper authority shall, when relieved from duty, be restored to the positions held by them when ordered to duty.

Sundry civil act, approved June 12, 1917:

Provided further, That all furniture now owned by the United States in other public buildings or in buildings rented by the United States shall be used, so far as practicable, whether it corresponds with the present regulation plan for furniture or not.

MILITARY DUTY.

In response to a recent request of the Secretary of Agriculture the Comptroller of the Treasury rendered a decision relating to the payment of salaries of employees who are in attendance at the Reserve Officers' Training Camps or who have entered or been called into the military or naval service of the United States. In this decision the Comptroller said:

Men in attendance at the Reserve Officers' Training Camps may be divided into three classes, as follows:

1. Those who have received and accepted commissions in the Officers' Reserve Corps and have been ordered to active duty.

2. Those who have taken the prescribed examination for appointment as commissioned officers in the Officers' Reserve Corps and have been informed that their commissions will be issued in due course.

3. Those who have been neither commissioned nor advised that they have qualified for commissions, but who have enlisted for the period of the camp under an agreement to accept appointment in the Officers' Reserve Corps in such grade as may be tendered by the Secretary of War.

Employees of the department who have been permitted to attend a Reserve Officers' Training Camp under either of these conditions are entitled to receive their regular salary or compensation as such civilian employees for such periods as are covered by annual leave with pay granted them in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to the granting of leave with pay to such employees, provided the combined amount of such compensation and the compensation they are entitled to receive as members of the training camp is at a rate which does not exceed \$2,000 per annum, \$166.66½ per month, or \$5.555 per day. In other words, the fact that they are attending one of these camps rather than spending a vacation in the usual way does not affect their pay status.

If, however, the combined amount of the salary or compensation of an employee in the department and the pay for service in attending the training camp exceeds \$2,000 per annum, \$166.66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per month, or \$5.555 per day, the payment to him of any compensation as an employee in the department is prohibited by the provisions of section 6 of the act of May 10, 1916, as amended by the act of August 29, 1916 (89 Stat., 562).

You refer to "military leave" granted under authority of the provision in the Army appropriation act of May 12, 1917 (Public No. 11, page 87), which reads:

"That all officers and employees of the United States or of the District of Columbia who shall be members of the Officers' Reserve Corps shall be entitled to leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of pay, time, or efficiency rating, on all days during which they shall be ordered to duty with troops or at field exercises, or for instruction, for periods not to exceed fifteen days in any one calendar year."

The only service for which leave may be granted under this provision is the service of members of the Officers' Reserve Corps when "ordered to duty with troops or at field exercises, or for instruction, for periods not to exceed fifteen days in any one calendar year." That is to say, the regular annual training service authorized under the provisions of section 89 of the act of June 8, 1916 (89 Stat., 191). None of the men attending the Reserve Officers' Training Camps now being maintained is ordered to duty under the provisions of said section 89. Hence, the leave provision above quoted has no application to employees of your department attending such camps.

Employees who may be called into the service of the United States as officers or enlisted men of the National Guard are not entitled to the so-called military leave provided for under section 80 of the act of June 8, 1916 (89 Stat., 208), because members of the National Guard when called into the service of the United States are not "engaged in field or coast defense training ordered or authorized under the provisions of" said act of June 8.

The provision in the act of August 29, 1916 (89 Stat., 594), to the effect that a member of the Naval Militia who is an employee in the civil service of the United States shall receive his regular compensation as such employee whenever he "attends drills, cruises, or other ordered duty of the Naval Militia" has no application to such employees when called into the service of the United States as members of the Naval Militia.

Your employees who are called into the service of the United States as members of the National Guard or Naval Militia, or who enlist or are drafted into any branch of the military or naval service, are entitled to leave with pay under the same conditions and subject to the same restrictions and limitations as when attending Reserve Officers' Training Camps.

You submit several questions relative to the operation of the provision in the Army appropriation act of May 12, 1917 (Public No. 11, page 87), which reads:

"That members of the Officers' Reserve Corps who are in the employee of the United States Government or of the District of Columbia and who are ordered to duty by proper authority shall, when relieved from duty, be restored to the positions held by them when ordered to duty."

Your questions with reference to this provision do not involve payments to be made under your direction; therefore, I am without jurisdiction to decide them. I may state, however, that I believe this provision was intended to apply to members of the Officers' Reserve Corps ordered to duty before May 12, 1917, as well as to those ordered to duty on or after said date, and that it requires a restoration to a position having the same title, salary, and duties as the one held when ordered to duty as a member of the Officers' Reserve Corps. This

provision does not apply to employees who resign to attend Reserve Officers' Training Camps for the purpose of qualifying for appointment as members of the Officers' Reserve Corps, but should an employee be regularly granted leave of absence to attend such a camp and be commissioned before the expiration of such leave and ordered to active duty, he would upon being relieved from such duty be entitled to the benefits of the provision. Employees who are members of the National Guard or Naval Militia are not affected by this provision, and I know of no law requiring their restoration to the position held by them when called into the military or naval service of the United States.

AIDS IN OFFICE WORK.

The following suggestions concerning the filing of letters and the preparation of addressograph plates have been submitted by the official in charge at Atlanta, Ga., and are presented for the information of station employees:

Folders are used for the different divisions and subdivisions as indicated in Weather Bureau Correspondence Files, on the upper left-hand corner of which the general number and subject are indicated by tabs typewritten on white letter paper and pasted on the files, as for example:

400. MATERIAL AND SUPPLIES.

410. Office Supplies.

410.8 Duplicating apparatus and material.

February 17, 1917, to.....

When the folder becomes too full for convenient handling, it, with its entire contents, is removed to the storage file and a new folder substituted with the same label. The storage folders are filed in the same case that contains the current letter file and in the same order. When the storage case is full its entire contents are removed and packed away, all letters in their original folders, and a new storage file started. If this plan is followed the storage file of letters becomes as accessible as the current letter file.

Every address ordered for the addressograph machine has distinguishing marks to show just what publication is issued to that address, or what title the addressee bears, as for example:

Cooperative Observers:	Wm. M. Towers, <u>Co-op.</u> Rome, Ga.
Receiving Daily Map.	Commercial Exchange, <u>Map.</u> Atlanta, Ga.
Receiving Daily Card.	W. A. Holmes, <u>Card.</u> <u>LaGrange.</u>
Form 1080.	Proctor & Gamble Co., <u>1080.</u> Cincinnati, Ohio.

Crop correspondents have letters to show in which portion of each division of the State they are located, as

M. L. Craig,
N-NE Toccoa, Ga.

indicating a crop correspondent located in the northeastern portion of the northern division.

The addresses cost no more, and the scheme has been found to be useful in several ways.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR DRAFT EXAMINATION.

The question has arisen as to whether the time, taken by Weather Bureau employees who are on duty at places where there are no local boards and who are ordered to another place for examination in connection with the draft, shall be charged to annual leave.

It has been decided that the time necessary for the journey and return, including the time actually required for the examination, is absence on official duty and is not chargeable to annual leave. However, this ruling will not apply to employees who have registered in a district in which they are not actually residing, but who can, under the provisions made for that purpose, arrange to be examined by the local boards in the city in which they reside. Employees affected by the foregoing must submit application for the necessary time required for the examination on the blanks required for annual leave, and indicate thereon in red ink the purpose for which the leave was taken; also append thereto a memorandum showing the time consumed in the journey and the time required for the examination. Any excess of the actual requirements will be charged to annual leave.

LEAVE.

The attention of officials and employees of the bureau is invited to the fact that the trained force of stations has been very materially reduced by the unusual conditions that prevail throughout the service on account of the war. Therefore, the same latitude can not be given regarding leave of absence as in normal times.

It will not be possible, as a rule, to authorize extended leave where to do so would require the sending of a trained employee from another station; or where the authorizing of expense for temporary assistance during the absence on leave is necessary.

While leave of absence with pay is a privilege and not a right, it would be gratifying, if it were possible, to grant the full period of 15 days leave each year to all the field force of the bureau. However, the existing conditions render such action impossible, and it is therefore desired that, until conditions reach more nearly a normal status, officials in charge do not recommend extended leave privilege where the official work of the bureau will suffer thereby.

TYPESETTING.

Mr. R. H. Burriss, printer on duty at the Raleigh office, has prepared a neat and practical pamphlet on "Speed and Accuracy in Typesetting." This pamphlet is written in a pleasing and instructive style and is based on his 15 years' experience at the case.

The official in charge at Raleigh has kindly offered to mail a copy of the pamphlet to employees of the Weather Bureau who are interested in the subject and who will make written application therefor.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of July, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Ashe, Paul J.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$900.
Beacham, Cecil L.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Berry, James C.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to Treasury Department.
Cable, Edwin A.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Carson, Ernest.....	Houston, Tex.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Cole, Frank T.....	Reading, Pa.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Cook, Lorry A.....	Shreveport, La.....	Promoted to apprentice at \$480 from messenger boy at \$360.
Farrell, James F.....	New York, N. Y.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
Ferry, Harry L.....	Baltimore, Md.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for May, 1917, made permanent.
Frank, Earl B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Ginsberg, Joseph J.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$1,000.
Goobich, Henry.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Assistant observer, temporary, resigned; record, good.
Graf, Oliver.....	.....	Appointed printer at \$1,000.
Hackett, Sumner.....	Yuma, Ariz.....	Assistant observer, granted leave of absence without pay from July 21 to September 30, 1917, on account of ill health.
Hessler, Frank M.....	Duluth, Minn.....	Record announced in connection with resignation in list of changes for June, 1917, corrected to read "excellent" instead of "good."
Holmes, David C.....	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Furloughed without pay from August 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Holmes, Palmer Z.....	Terre Haute, Ind.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Hurd, Willis E.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,400 from \$1,200.
Jones, Edwin H.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$1,080, by reinstatement.
Lawton, George E.....	Oklahoma, Okla.....	Observer, granted leave of absence without pay from August 8 to October 6, 1917, inclusive, on account of ill health.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Little, Errol W.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
McCarthy, John C.....	Dayton, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion, announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
McClurg, John R.....	Omaha, Nebr.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Marcus, Isadore.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Martin, Howard H.....	Fort Worth, Tex.....	Assistant observer, granted leave of absence without pay from July 27 to September 30, 1917, on account of ill health.
Milliken, Claude A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Nelson, John P.....		Appointed repairman at \$720, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Ray, Clifton L.....	Boise, Idaho.....	Furloughed without pay from July 16, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Rollison, Raymond.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$450.
Smith, Dave.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480.
Stadler, Carlisle W.....	Sandusky, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Stevenson, Herbert F.....	Little Rock, Ark.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Thompson, Donald C.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Tyler, George L.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Wright, Herbert H.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Baker, William S.....		Appointed temporary assistant observer at \$900, pending certification of eligibles.
Bush, William J. F.....		
Carson, Ernest.....		
Chambers, William A.....		
Dobrowolski, Arthur J.....		
Garrison, Mark A.....		
Goobich, Henry.....		
Little, Delbert M.....		
Moritz, John A.....		
Shaver, Carl W.....		
Stevenson, Herbert F.....		Promoted, temporarily, to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Tyler, George L.....		
Anderson, Robert D.....	Lansing, Mich.....	
Anderson, Irving R. ¹	Springfield, Mo.....	
Boller, Harold H. ¹	Peoria, Ill.....	
Bussineau, Joseph ¹	Escanaba, Mich.....	
Joyce, Gerald J. ¹	Scranton, Pa.....	
McGrew, Arthur M.....	North Platte, Nebr.....	
Nation, Ira J.....	Birmingham, Ala.....	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Baker, Graeme B.....		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360; temporary appointment terminated.
Cook, Lorry A.....		
Guthrie, Leon J., jr.....		
Hunter, James B.....		
Murphy, Peter F.....		
Sellers, Fred.....		
Babbit, Carl M.....		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Clark, Ambrose.....		
Fitzgerald, Richard J.....		
Spear, Max F.....		
Teal, Raymond M.....		
Wertz, Harold.....		
Westfall, Frank.....		

¹ Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Ashe, Paul J.....		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Babbitt, Carl M.*.....		Little Rock, Ark., messenger boy.
Baker, Graeme B.....		Sheridan, Wyo., messenger boy.
Baker, William S.*.....		Fort Wayne, Ind., assistant.
Ball, Homer W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Drexel, Nebr., assistant, pending further orders.
Bemis, Charles N.....	Houston, Tex.....	New York, N. Y., assistant.
Bush, William J. F.*.....		San Francisco, Cal., assistant.
Carson, Ernest*.....		Houston, Tex., assistant.
Chambers, William A., jr.*.....		New York, N. Y., assistant.
Chancellor, Thomas J.....	Davenport, Iowa.....	Washington, D. C., observer, pending further orders.
Clark, Ambrose*.....		Seattle, Wash., messenger boy.
Clark, Norman L.....	Grand Rapids, Mich....	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Cloud, William S.....	New York, N. Y.....	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Cole, Frank T.....	Reading, Pa.....	Washington, D. C., observer, pending further orders.
Cook, Lorry A.....		Shreveport, La., messenger boy.
Dobrowolski, Arthur J.*.....		Memphis, Tenn., assistant.
Eklund, Ernest E.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	San Francisco, Cal., assistant.
Fitzgerald, Richard J.*.....		Houston, Tex., messenger boy.
Garrison, Mark A.*.....		Oklahoma, Okla., assistant.
Ginsberg, Joseph J.....		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Goobich, Henry*.....		San Francisco, Cal., assistant.
Graf, Oliver.....		Lincoln, Nebr., printer.
Guthrie, Leon J., jr.....		Fort Smith, Ark., messenger boy.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Hunter, James B.....		Fort Wayne, Ind., messenger boy.
Jones, Edwin H.....		Grand Junction, Colo., assistant.
Little, Delbert M.*.....		Boise, Idaho, assistant.
Little, Errol W.....		Boise, Idaho, apprentice.
McAuliffe, Joseph P.....	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Davenport, Iowa, assistant.
Moritz, John A.*.....		Reading, Pa., assistant.
Murphy, Peter F.....		Charleston, S. C., messenger boy.
Nelson, John P.*.....		Portland, Oreg., repairman.
Neylans, Oscar S.....	Tampa, Fla.....	Fort Worth, Tex., assistant.
Relhle, John A.....	Little Rock, Ark.....	Washington, D. C., observer, pending further orders.
Rollison, Raymond.....		Washington, D.C., messenger boy.
Russell, Orville E.....	Memphis, Tenn.....	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Schick, Charles O.....	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Sellers, Fred.....		Shreveport, La., messenger boy.
Shaver, Carl W.*.....		Grand Rapids, Mich., assistant.
Smith, Dave.....		Chicago, Ill., messenger boy.
Spear, Max F.*.....		Terre Haute, Ind., messenger boy.
Stevenson, Herbert F.*.....		Little Rock, Ark., assistant.
Teal, Raymond M.*.....		Los Angeles, Cal., messenger boy.
Thompson, Donald C.....		Pittsburgh, Pa., apprentice.
Tyler, George L.*.....		Los Angeles, Cal., assistant.
Walker, Charles D.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Jacksonville, Fla., printer.
Wertz, Harold*.....		Lincoln, Nebr., messenger boy.
Westfall, Frank*.....		Detroit, Mich., messenger boy.

* Indicates temporary appointment.

C. H. Marvin

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

AUGUST, 1917.

THE WEATHER BUREAU AND THE WAR.

Never in the history of conflicts of the world has the weather proved such a potent factor as in the war that is now in progress in Europe. This is largely due to the use of aeroplanes, dirigibles, and captive balloons, to the highly perfected and powerful artillery, and to the modern methods of warfare first brought into practise in this conflict. Foreknowledge of existing and expected weather conditions, both in the air and on the surface, has therefore become of the utmost importance. When active preparations for the military preparedness of this country were begun, when the declaration was made by the United States that a state of war existed with the German Government, it was apparent that the Weather Bureau had an important part to play. In recognition of this fact the Secretary of Agriculture communicated with the Secretary of War and invited attention to the service which might be rendered by the Weather Bureau, in furnishing the fullest possible information concerning the meteorological conditions in the United States and adjacent regions. He also indicated the service that trained meteorologists could render as aids to commanders in planning military operations. The Secretary of War heartily accepted the suggestions and preparations were made at once for the fullest cooperation in carrying out the plan.

It was obvious that the activities of the bureau for the time being at least would necessarily resolve themselves into two primary projects: (1) the forecasting of the weather for purely military operations, (2) the sounding of the upper air for the benefit of aviators, balloonists, and artillerists.

In connection with the first project, Mr. E. H. Bowie, who for several years has been one of the foremost forecasters of the bureau, and in which work he has attained marked success, has been commissioned major in the Signal Officers' Reserve Corps and has been granted a furlough from the Weather Bureau for that purpose. Major Bowie has departed from the United States, and it is understood that he will be assigned to the staff of General Pershing, as principal forecaster. In the furtherance of his duties it is expected that the closest coop-

eration will exist with the French and English meteorological services in the use of data and reports obtained by them, supplemented by additional observations in the field and cable reports from the United States and its possessions. It is likely that Major Bowie will remain in Europe during the period of the war.

Dr. William R. Blair, meteorologist, who has been in charge of the aerological investigations of the bureau, has also been commissioned a major in the Signal Officers' Reserve Corps and placed in charge of the military aerological work. Major Blair is now probably in France, in connection with his new duties, but it is expected that he will soon return to the United States. The aerological work heretofore performed by the Weather Bureau will be continued, in addition to the enlarged activities made possible by the appropriation of \$100,000 for this work, as contained in the Army bill, which became a law May 12, 1917. This item reads as follows:

For the establishment and maintenance by the Weather Bureau of additional aerological stations, for observing, measuring and investigating atmospheric phenomena in the aid of aeronautics, including salaries, travel and other expenses in the city of Washington and elsewhere, \$100,000, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

The work to be conducted by Major Blair in the Signal Corps will include the taking of observations of the upper air, for the immediate benefit of aviators, artillerists, etc. This work will be continued, not only at the front, but at military camps in the United States. It is planned that, for the duration of the war, the aerological work of the Weather Bureau and the Signal Corps shall be closely coordinated, and that such of the free air observations made at the six primary stations to be operated by the Weather Bureau, as may be required, shall be made telegraphically available to the military authorities, supplementing similar observations made at the various military stations conducted independently by the Signal Corps. All of the data secured at the Weather Bureau and military stations will be turned over to the Weather Bureau for tabulation and study.

Action is being taken as rapidly as possible to establish the five aerological stations, in addition to the one already maintained at Drexel, Nebr., that will be required by the Weather Bureau. One of these stations will be located at Ellendale, N. Dak., and the work in connection therewith has progressed to such an extent that it is expected that it will be in full operation before October 1. The sites for the other stations have been tentatively selected and the announcement of the exact location will be made later.

The number of assistants that will be required by Major Bowie has not been determined, but it is likely that it will be limited. The personnel of the additional aerological stations to be conducted by the Weather Bureau will be selected in a large measure from the

employees of the bureau, but the work to be conducted by the Army under Major Blair's supervision will in all probability be done by employees not connected with the Weather Bureau. Those not familiar with meteorological work will be temporarily detailed to various Weather Bureau offices in order that they may become acquainted with general meteorological duties.

MANITOU CABLE.

Arrangements are being made to increase the usefulness of the Weather Bureau cable connecting North and South Manitou Islands, in northern Lake Michigan, with the mainland. This line provides the only means of communication with the islands, and under present conditions only day service is possible. By cooperation with the Coast Guard Service, 24-hour service will be made possible, to the material advantage of the Weather Bureau, the Coast Guard Service, and the residents of the islands.

The mainland terminal of the cable will be removed from Glen Haven, Mich., to the Sleeping Bear Coast Guard Station, about one mile distant. The keeper of the station will be designated as chief operator, and will make transfer connections with commercial lines, which will have direct communication with the Sleeping Bear Station. The keepers of the Coast Guard Stations on North and South Manitou Islands will be made operators, in charge of the messages to and from their respective islands.

This change is in accordance with the general policy to have all Government owned telephone, telegraph, and cable lines maintained and operated, as far as practicable, by officers of the Government, especially in time of war.

At the suggestion of the official in charge of the Chicago station, the supervision of the Manitou Island cable, as well as that of the cable between Beaver Island and Charlevoix, Mich., has been transferred from that station to the Telegraph Division of the Central Office.

CHANGES IN PROGRAM OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The present program of meteorological observations was put into effect forty odd years ago; it was organized with special reference to the daily forecasts and warning service and, needless to say, no material changes therein have been made unless dictated by consideration of the forecast service. For some years past, however, it has been recognized within the bureau, and to a less extent without, that a series of observations and reports which may be eminently satisfactory as a basis for weather forecasts and warnings may not be well adapted to the study of many problems in which the weather plays an important part.

For this and other reasons a committee of Central Office officials

was appointed on November 1, 1916, to consider the observational work of the bureau and report what, if any, revision or extension is practicable.

The committee has submitted its report and the latter has been approved, effective January 1, 1918.

It seems desirable that a brief preliminary statement be made at this time with reference to the changes that are in contemplation.

For several reasons, chief of which is the press of other important work, the ideal observational program can not be adopted, but the committee has recommended a few minor additions to the present program which it is believed will not greatly augment the present volume of work at stations. These additions are as follows:

- (1) The making of an observation of relative humidity and cloudiness at all principal stations at the uniform hour of noon, local mean time;
- (2) The compilation of wind direction and velocity from the automatic record sheets at selected stations;
- (3) The collection of statistics of hail, thunder-storms, and tornadoes in greater detail than at present.

While the present program permits the taking of a midday observation of humidity, the time of taking it is optional with the official in charge. The change recommended and approved requires an observation at the uniform hour of noon, local mean time, to which is added a deliberate observation of the clouds, their direction and approximate speed, made with all the skill that is at the command of the observer.

There is perhaps greater need of improvement in current methods of cloud observation than in the observation of any other single element. The classification or naming of the clouds by observers in accordance with the standard nomenclature is particularly in need of improvement and the ability to distinguish between upper and lower clouds should also be studiously cultivated. The plan contemplates the use of a nephoscope in determining cloud motions at the noon hour, and eventually that apparatus will be used in all cloud observations whenever conditions permit.

Everyone who has considered the tremendous development in aviation in the last few years must be impressed by the fact that one of the most pressing needs of the hour in meteorology is that of detailed information respecting the great air currents of the globe—their direction, continuity, speed, and changes with the seasons. According to a recent writer the inauguration of commercial air routes over the continents is close at hand, but such development must, to a certain extent, wait upon the further study of air currents by such means as are at hand. The existing knowledge of the movement of the air in higher levels is largely based on cloud observations; hence at this time it is peculiarly appropriate that a sustained effort be made to

study the air movements across the United States by means of cloud observations. Each observer should therefore put forth his best efforts to secure accurate and reliable data, and he should also cherish the thought that the results of his observations will in time serve a most useful purpose.

In compiling data of wind direction and force from each of the eight principal points of the compass, as was formerly done, the object is to secure more detailed information as to the movement of the surface winds than is now available.

The fact that thunder-storms are a menace to the safe navigation of the air makes it imperative that concerted observation of this phenomenon be made at a large number of points and the results collected and analyzed. It may be possible to thus discover whether the expedient of flying around the storm is feasible without too wide a detour. The alternative of flying over the thunder-storm may of course be considered, hence information as to the height of the thunder-storm cloud would be very valuable. The details of the thunder-storm campaign will be announced later. The general plan contemplates the enlistment of a large number of thunder-storm observers throughout a zone, say, 200 miles wide, extending from Iowa to New England, thus forming part of a transcontinental route. It will doubtless be necessary to extend the network of thunder-storm observations over other zones.

The taking of phenological observations was favored by some, but since that subject is, and has been, in conference in the Interbureau Committee of the Department, no action was taken by the program committee.

The new work proposed by the committee, especially the daily noon cloud observation and the thunder-storm observations, is believed to be of the greatest practical importance, and all employees are urged to contribute their best service toward making it a marked success.

PREPARING MANUSCRIPT.

Station employees and others in preparing manuscript occasionally disregard some of the very simple requirements of a good manuscript. Some of these requirements are indicated below:

- (1) Always use hard paper for the first, or original, copy; a second or third copy may be made on tissue paper, but never use tissue for the first copy.
- (2) Use sheets of uniform size.
- (3) Always leave ample space on the top and bottom and on the left side of each sheet.
- (4) *Spacing.*—Single spacing in the typewritten copy should not be used, except as a distinctive spacing to show that the matter so spaced is quoted from other printed matter.

(5) *Foot-notes.*—Foot-notes are not necessarily relegated to the bottom of the manuscript page, but should appear in the text immediately below the matter quoted, as in the following example:

"It has been stated by Abercromby* that" * * *

*Principles of Forecasting by Means of Weather Charts. London. 1885. p.—.

(6) Care should be taken to develop the subject logically. If that is done the paragraphing will present no difficulties. As a check on the arrangement of the paragraphs, the author should prepare and forward a table of contents with each manuscript; also, in duplicate, a list of illustrations with the titles of each.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of August, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Albert, John E.....	Columbus, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Allen, Charles T.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450; temporary appointment terminated.
Allen, Charles T.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Anthony, Robert J.....	Oswego, N. Y.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Baker, Graeme B.....	Sheridan, Wyo.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Baker, James R.....	Ellendale, N. Dak.....	Apprentice, resigned; record, excellent.
Baker, James R.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$840, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Blair, William R.....	Washington, D. C.....	Meteorologist, furloughed without pay from September 4, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Bowie, Edward H.....	Washington, D. C.....	District forecaster, furloughed without pay from September 8, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Brennan, John J., jr.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$1,000.
Brockway, Albert L.....	Seattle, Wash.....	Observer, furloughed without pay from August 28, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Burriss, Roger H.....	Raleigh, N. C.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,080 from \$1,000.
Caldwell, Albert B.....	New York, N. Y.....	Printer, resigned; record, excellent.
Carson, William J.....	Houston, Tex.....	Printer, resigned; record, excellent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Cushing, Frederick S. ¹ ..	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$1,000.
Davis, William ¹	Cleveland, Ohio.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,380.
Deane, Hal B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Diffin, William T.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Apprentice, furloughed without pay from August 1 to October 31, 1917, for the purpose of serving as clerk at the military cantonment at Columbia, S. C.
Dixon, Raymond L. ¹ ..	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Dunn, Frank J.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$360, pending return of an employee from military duty.
Everett, (Mrs.) Jennie F.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Laborer, unskilled (cook-cleaner), resigned; record, good.
Faubion, Owen E.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,800 from \$1,080.
Fitch, Earl A.....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled), at \$600.
Frank, Earl B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, furloughed without pay from September 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Frenkel, John M.....	Galveston, Tex.....	Assistant observer, temporary appointment terminated.
Garrason, John S.....	Charleston, S. C.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,380 from \$1,260.
Gormley, Joseph G. ¹ ..	Boston, Mass.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Grabill, Lee R., jr.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Grady, Thomas B.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$360, pending return of employee from military duty.
Hadley, Carl E.....	Des Moines, Iowa.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, fair.
Hamrick, Andrew M...	Honolulu, T. H.....	Meteorologist, furloughed without pay from September 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Hazen, John M.....	Canton, N. Y.....	Student assistant, resigned; record, excellent.
Hovde, Hjalmar B.....	Minneapolis, Minn....	Assistant observer, furlough without pay extended from August 8, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Hunter, James B.....	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.

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Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Jewby, William A.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$450, temporarily, pending return of employee from military duty.
Keeter, Rufus J.....		Appointed clerk at \$1,000, by transfer and promotion from \$900 in the Office of Markets and Rural Organization.
Klinge, Robert N.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	Apprentice, furloughed without pay from August 5, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Lehning, Charles T.....	Cairo, Ill.....	Messenger, temporary promotion, announced in list of changes for April, 1917, made permanent.
Levy, Oscar.....	New York, N. Y.....	Messenger, resigned; record, excellent.
Lippman, Ruben D.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Locke, Charles A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to Office of the Secretary.
Mareroft, Clyde L.....	Salt Lake City, Utah..	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Molz, Ralph V.....	Topeka, Kans.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Murphy, John J.....	Eastport, Me.....	Messenger, furloughed without pay from August 23, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Murphy, Lewis V.....	Drexel, Nebr.....	Laborer (unskilled), resigned; record, good.
Nisley, Alva D.....	Knoxville, Tenn.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Nitzer, Arthur G.....	Evansville, Ind.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion, announced in list of changes for April, 1917, made permanent.
Oden, John T.....	Cape Henry, Va.....	Appointed repairman at \$720; temporary appointment terminated.
Palmer, Andrew H.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,880 from \$1,260.
Pearre, James W.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
Plumb, Walter W.....	Augusta, Ga.....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from August 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Pohlman, Leonard J....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Power, Marvin S.....	Portland, Oreg.....	Repairman, resigned; record, good.
Purdy, John, jr.....		Appointed temporary apprentice at \$480.
Rauh, Oscar C.....		Appointed skilled mechanic (instrument maker) at \$1,260.
Reed, William J.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,200.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Richardson, Charles H.	Norfolk, Va.	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,380.
Schmidt, Robert B.	Grand Rapids, Mich.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Shapiro, Harry		Appointed clerk at \$900.
Shapiro, Harry	Washington, D. C.	Clerk, resigned; record, good.
Shock, C. Wayne	Sandusky, Ohio	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Sidney, Peter ¹	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to laborer at \$600 from \$480.
Simms, Robert F.	Cleveland, Ohio	Promoted to printer at \$1,080 from \$1,000.
Spencer, John W.		Appointed laborer (unskilled), at \$600.
Storek, Howard K.	Columbus, Ohio	Messenger, resigned: record, good.
Sweetney, John	Washington, D. C.	Laborer (unskilled), furloughed without pay from August 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Swart, George W.	Grand Haven, Mich.	Apprentice, resigned; record, excellent.
Taylor, Arthur D.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from August 17, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Thatcher, Fraser G.	Santa Fe, N. Mex.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Thompson, Layton ¹	Lexington, Ky.	Promoted to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Toliver, James T.	Washington, D. C.	Laborer, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
Tyler, George L.	Los Angeles, Cal.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Voskuil, Walter H.	New Orleans, La.	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from August 20, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Weidman, Frank B.		Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Williams, Alec R.	Key West, Fla.	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from August 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Wolf, Vernon N.	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.
Gross, Henry C.	Chattanooga, Tenn.	} Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,200.
Shipman, Truman G. ¹	Little Rock, Ark.	
Whittier, Bernard B.	Lansing, Mich.	
Hess, Paul	New Haven, Conn.	} Promoted to observer at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Howard, Mark S. ¹	Binghamton, N. Y.	
Johnson, Harley N.	Rapid City, S. Dak.	
Peterman, Elton	Harrisburg, Pa.	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Finch, Verne E.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	} Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Herman, Kennen D. ¹	Springfield, Ill.....	
Maughan, William E.....	Davenport, Iowa.....	
Naughton, Percy J. ¹	New Orleans, La.....	
Weld, Walter M.....	Spokane, Wash.....	
Bottiger, Walter M. ¹	Baltimore, Md.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Gross, Philip H. ¹	Atlantic City, N. J.....	
Knott, William J. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	
Prather, Brian ¹	Washington, D. C.....	
Owen, Elbert A. ¹	Palestine, Tex.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Rubush, Theodore R. ¹	Indianapolis, Ind.....	
Sellers, Fred ¹	Shreveport, La.....	
Ulrich, William L. ¹	Erie, Pa.....	
Hinkle, Russell F.....	Kansas City, Mo.....	} Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
McCarty, Herbert K.....	Washington, D. C.....	
Olsen, Albert J.....	Portland, Me.....	
Soley, Sim.....	Washington, D. C.....	
Sweeney, Eugene F.....	Washington, D. C.....	
Abernethy, William M.....	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Brewer, Hall A.....	.....
Buffat, Roy S.....	.....
Coyle, Frederick R.....	.....
Duey, Damian P.....	.....
Hardy, Erle L.....	.....
Nelson, Raymond A.....	.....
Organ, Lawrence C.....	.....
Panchot, Kenneth.....	.....
Rathbun, John G.....	.....
Sikes, Alfred W.....	.....
Waguespack, William J., jr.....	.....
Warner, Rudolph G., jr.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$860, temporary appointment terminated.
White, Millard C.....	.....
Anderson, Redfield A. F.....	.....
Butler, Ralph S.....	.....
Johnston, Lee Roy.....	.....
Plummer, Ira C.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$860, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Seaver, Archer W.....	.....
Boehler, Thomas A.....	.....
Eldredge, Elmer G.....	.....
Galbraith, Malcolm H.....	.....
Kahrs, William D.....	.....
Kennedy, Leo T.....	.....
Molz, Ralph V.....	.....
Park, Donald E.....	.....
Phillipp, George J., jr.....	.....
Shock, C. Wayne.....	.....
Stephens, Jerome T.....	.....

¹Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Abernethy, William M.*		Key West, Fla., assistant.
Allen, Charles T.		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Altman, George T.	Minneapolis, Minn.	Duluth, Minn., assistant.
Anderson, Redfield A. F.		Concord, N. H., messenger boy.
Baker, James R.	Drexel, Nebr.	Ellendale, N. Dak., apprentice.
Baker, James R.*		Ellendale, N. Dak., assistant.
Boehler, Thomas A.*		Cheyenne, Wyo., messenger boy.
Brennan, John J., jr.		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Brewer, Hall A.*		Miami, Fla., assistant.
Buffat, Roy S.*		Knoxville, Tenn., assistant.
Butler, Ralph S.		Ludington, Mich., messenger boy.
Coyle, Frederick R.*		New York, N. Y., assistant.
Ducy, Damian P.*		Pueblo, Colo., assistant.
Dunn, Frank J.		Jacksonville, Fla., messenger boy.
Eldredge, Elmer G.*		Salt Lake City, Utah, messenger boy.
Fitch, Earl A.		Drexel, Nebr., laborer (unskilled).
Galbraith, Malcolm H.*		Columbus, Ohio, messenger boy.
Grady, Thomas B.		Nashville, Tenn., messenger boy.
Hardy, Erle L.*		Santa Fe, N. Mex., assistant.
Hickmon, Walter C.	Mobile, Ala.	Little Rock, Ark., assistant.
Hutchison, James E.	Lincoln, Nebr.	Boise, Idaho, assistant.
Jakl, Vincent E.	Drexel, Nebr.	Ellendale, N. Dak., in charge.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.		Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).
Jewby, William A.*		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Johnston, Lee Roy		El Paso, Tex., messenger boy.
Justice, Alonzo A.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo.	Denver, Colo., assistant, pending further orders.
Kahrs, William D.*		Augusta, Ga., messenger boy.
Keeter, Rufus J.		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Kennedy, Leo T.*		Omaha, Nebr., messenger boy.
Leshansky, Joseph	Miami, Fla.	Key West, Fla., assistant.
Lippman, Ruben D.*		Montgomery, Ala., apprentice.
Molz, Ralph V.*		Topeka, Kans., messenger boy.
Murphy, George P.	Little Rock, Ark.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., assistant.
Nelson, Raymond A.*		Los Angeles, Cal., assistant.
Olsen, Edward J.	Boise, Idaho.	Evansville, Ind., assistant.
Organ, Lawrence C.*		Des Moines, Iowa, assistant.
Panchot, Kenneth*		Seattle, Wash., assistant.
Park, Donald E.*		Columbus, Ohio, messenger boy.
Phillipp, George J., jr.*		Fort Wayne, Ind., messenger boy.
Plummer, Ira C.		Springfield, Ill., messenger boy.
Purdy, John, jr.*		Pensacola, Fla., apprentice.
Rathbun, John G.*		Lincoln, Nebr., assistant.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Rauh, Oscar C.....		Washington, D. C., skilled mechanic (instrument maker).
Sanial, Albert D.....	Duluth, Minn.....	La Crosse, Wis., assistant.
Seaver, Archer W.....		Fresno, Cal., messenger boy.
Shapiro, Harry.....		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Sherry, Bertram J.....	Drexel, Nebr.....	Washington, D. C., meteorologist.
Shock, C. Wayne*.....		Sandusky, Ohio, messenger boy.
Sikes, Alfred W.*.....		Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Spencer, John W.....		Drexel, Nebr., laborer (unskilled).
Stephens, Jerome T.*.....		Topeka, Kans., messenger boy.
Waguespack, Wilhelm J., jr.*.....		New Orleans, La., assistant.
Warner, Rudolph G., jr.*.....		Nashville, Tenn., assistant.
Weidman, Frank B.*.....		Wichita, Kans., messenger boy.
White, Millard C.*.....		Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., assistant.
Yoder, Lee O.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	Minneapolis, Minn., assistant.

*Indicates temporary appointment.

C. H. Marvin.

Chief of Bureau.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

SEPTEMBER, 1917.

BAROMETER ERRORS.

Station Regulations provide that an employee who makes two errors in his barometer readings during a 6-month period shall be admonished, and that an employee responsible for three such errors within a like period shall be subject to disciplinary action. The large number of barometer errors during recent years has led the Central Office to make still further efforts to impress upon the minds of officials and employees the necessity for accuracy in connection with the making, enciphering, and telegraphing of the barometric readings by an informal amplification of the provisions contained in paragraph 588 of Station Regulations.

Accordingly some time ago the Central Office began the practise of writing a letter to the employee responsible in the case of practically every error, even though the error involved might be small or the first one made in a number of years. These letters are intended to be helpful rather than as a disciplinary measure, and affect an employee's standing and are regarded as disciplinary *only* when they are written in connection with frequent or numerous errors, in which case the matter is treated in accordance with the paragraph quoted above and related paragraphs.

The foregoing explanation is given at this time in order that officials and employees may appreciate the intent of these letters and cooperate in every way possible with the Central Office in its efforts to reduce the number of barometer errors. It must be remembered that, even though the majority of station men make but few errors in their barometric reports, and though the number of errors made in comparison with the number of observations taken may be relatively small, still the aggregate number of errors is large. This naturally has a tendency to lower the accuracy and reliability of the weather forecasts and warnings of the bureau, in the preparation of which the forecaster must depend to a very large extent upon the barometric reports telegraphed from the various stations throughout the country. This is especially true when, as was recently the case, two observers located at stations in close proximity happen to make similar errors on the same date and at the same hour.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANT OBSERVERS.

On account of the very considerable number of observers who have entered the military service, the Civil Service Commission has been unable to supply a sufficient number of eligibles to fill vacancies. Therefore, authority has been granted for the employment of temporary assistant observers pending the certification of eligibles. It is understood that no examination for assistant observers will be held by the Civil Service Commission this fall. If such be the case, there is every likelihood that these temporary employees will be continued on duty for a considerable time.

There appears to be uncertainty in the minds of some officials in charge as to the procedure when they are authorized to select and appoint temporary assistant observers. Paragraphs 121-131 of Station Regulations do not apply in so far as securing authority and making reports through the district secretary of the Civil Service Commission are concerned. The recommendations are made directly to the Central Office, by which all action in connection with the appointments is taken. The actual selection of persons to be appointed will rest with the station officials, who should use their best efforts to obtain men whom they deem to be qualified for the work.

The natural growth of the service will doubtless enable the bureau to make permanent the appointments of altogether efficient and capable temporary employees, if they so desire, provided they interest themselves in securing civil service eligibility, for which purpose it will be necessary for them to make some study of elementary meteorology and otherwise qualify themselves to pass a civil service examination at as early a date as practicable.

EFFICIENCY REPORTS.

The semiannual efficiency reports heretofore required for employees in the scientific grades will be omitted this fall, and it is probable that hereafter station officials will be called on to furnish them but once in each year, in April. This action is taken because few conditions arise within a period of six months that require material changes in the statements of general facts constituting the efficiency reports, and for the further reason that stations and the Central Office will be relieved of a large amount of clerical work required in the analysis of such reports. Cases that arise from time to time which affect the standing of employees will be considered as they occur and appropriate notations made on the register.

The foregoing does not apply to reports on printers, repairmen, apprentices, messengers, messenger boys, and laborers, which will be rendered twice annually, as heretofore.

ASSISTANCE FROM POSTMASTERS.

The following extract from a communication received from Mr. William G. Reed, meteorologist, who is engaged in frost investigation work in the Western States, is printed for the information of Weather Bureau officials traveling on official business in districts where they are not acquainted:

For the benefit of Weather Bureau officials who may have occasion when on official business to visit cities and towns where they may be strangers, I have the honor to invite your attention to the fact that I have found the postmasters of very great assistance. Although I have had no other introduction than my identification card, I have been able to get information about the locality and the names of prominent fruit growers from these officials. There has been no difficulty in seeing them.

CHANGE IN METHOD OF COMPUTING PER DIEM ALLOWANCE.

Effective November 1, 1917, per diem allowance, in lieu of subsistence allowed officials of the Weather Bureau while traveling on official business, will be computed on a time instead of a meal basis, as at present.

The day will begin at midnight instead of with breakfast, as heretofore, and will be divided into four 6-hour periods. If an employee is in a subsistence status for six hours or less, either as a period by itself or at the beginning and ending of a longer period, he will be entitled to one-fourth day; if from over six hours to twelve hours, to one-half day; if from over twelve hours to eighteen hours, to three-fourths day; and from over eighteen hours to twenty-four hours, to one day.

Printed leaflet insert, amending existing Fiscal Regulations of the Department of Agriculture (February, 1915) will be mailed to all stations as soon as available.

TOPICS FOR WEATHER BUREAU MEN AT WAR.

It has been suggested that the employees of the Weather Bureau who have entered the military or naval service, for duty at home or abroad, might be glad to keep in touch with their former associates and with the service, through the medium of TOPICS AND PERSONNEL. Officials in charge of the stations at which these men were serving at the time they entered the military or naval service are requested to furnish the present addresses of these former employees as far as they are able to do so, in order that this office may communicate with them on the subject.

JOSEPH C. STEHLIN.

Joseph C. Stehlin, who for a number of years was employed as messenger boy in the New York office, is now in the French Aviation

Corps (Lafayette Escadrille). He has completed his training course in flying and is now in the fighting squad, where already he has had some exciting experiences. His record in the Weather Bureau was in every way an excellent one, and his personal qualities will fit him for the daring work in which he is engaged. He has distinguished himself in athletics, and especially in swimming. He is credited with eight rescues and fifteen assists at rescue of persons from drowning. For one heroic rescue he received a medal from the Mayor of New York. His work over the enemy lines will be followed with interest by his former associates in the Weather Bureau.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

It has been the custom of several officials in charge of State centers to send each year before the Christmas season cards or letters to cooperative observers and crop correspondents, expressing appreciation on the part of the Weather Bureau of the service rendered by them during the year, and extending to them the best wishes of the season. Inasmuch as these observers and correspondents serve without pay and perform valuable services, often at a considerable sacrifice of time and personal comfort, the Central Office considers the plan an excellent one. In addition to the recognition of their services, it undoubtedly accomplishes much in promoting interest and good relationship.

It is believed that the practise might well be adopted at all climatological centers, and to this end attractive cards with suitable envelopes are being prepared and will be ready for distribution about November 1. The officials in charge of climatological centers are requested to make requisition for the quantities that will be required by them.

It is not practicable to apply this plan to river observers, storm warning displaymen, cotton region observers, corn and wheat region observers, or other paid substation employees, except in cases where cooperative observers and crop correspondents also fill these positions during portions of the year.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FOR ASSISTANT OBSERVER.

Notification has been received from the Civil Service Commission that an examination for Assistant Observer in the Weather Bureau will be held November 7, 1917. This examination will be limited to unmarried men who have reached their 18th but not their 30th birthday on the day of the examination. Application for permission to take the examination and for information concerning its scope should be made directly to the Civil Service Commission. Under Executive Order employees who desire to take this examination must secure prior permission from the Chief of Bureau.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of September, 1917, is published for the exclusive information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Abernethy, William M.	Key West, Fla.....	Assistant observer, resigned, record, good.
Altman, George T.....	Duluth, Minn.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Andrus, Clarence G....	New Haven, Conn.....	Appointed observer at \$1,200, by reinstatement.
Ashe, Paul J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from \$900.
Austin, Manville H.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450.
Axley, William W.....	Chattanooga, Tenn....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Beavers, Thomas H. B..	Columbus, Ohio.....	Messenger, resigned; record, excellent.
Benson, Gustav.....	Duluth, Minn.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Bishop, Milner.....	Atlanta, Ga.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Blake, August J.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$360.
Brown, Lansing.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Buckel, Harold F.....	Saginaw, Mich.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Bussineau, Joseph.....	Escanaba, Mich.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for July, 1917, made permanent.
Clark, Raymond E. ¹	Grand Rapids, Mich...	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,200.
Clifton, Roy C.....	Taylor, Tex.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
Coleman, Frank H. ¹	Saginaw, Mich.....	Promoted to local forecaster at \$1,560 from meteorologist at \$1,440.
Collom, McLin S. ¹	Lander, Wyo.	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,200.
Cullen, Edward P.....	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for June, 1917, made permanent.
Day, Elden W.....	Davenport, Iowa.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
DeShazo, George K.....	Key West, Fla.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Dey, (Miss) Laura M. ¹ ..	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Dey, (Miss) Laura M....	Washington, D. C.....	Reduced to clerk at \$1,000 from \$1,200, without prejudice, because of return of an employee from furlough without pay on account of military duty.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Drake, T. Francis ¹	Portland, Oreg.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,600 from local forecaster at \$1,560.
Evans, Budd ¹	Valentine, Nebr.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Fitzgerald, John.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Reduced, at his request, to observer at \$720 from \$1,200, to render four hours' service daily.
Frank, Earl B.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, restored to duty on September 24, 1917, from furlough without pay on account of military duty.
Frankford, Joseph E...	Des Moines, Iowa.....	Promoted to apprentice at \$600 from \$480.
Galbraith, Malcomb M..	Columbus, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Gernrich, Henry R.....	Hartford, Conn.....	Apprentice, furloughed without pay from September 19, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Gormley, Joseph G.....	Boston, Mass.....	Messenger, furloughed without pay from September 6, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Graeff, Earl W.....	Reading, Pa.....	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from messenger boy at \$480.
Graf, Oliver.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Printer, resigned; record, good.
Halfter, Carl P. J.....	.....	Appointed temporary lithographer at \$1,500, pending the certification of eligibles.
Handelsman, Samuel...	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to the Bureau of Markets.
Howe, James M.....	Northfield, Vt.....	Promoted to apprentice at \$600 from \$480.
Howell, Harry M.....	Pueblo, Colo.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from September 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Hubbard, Charles E.....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled), at \$720.
Johnson, Paul E.....	Marquette, Mich.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from September 27, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Keiter, William I.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to the Treasury Department.
Kenneth, (Miss) Valla E.	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, fair.
Kesler, Forrest L.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Keyworth, William G.....	.....	Appointed topographic draftsman at \$1,000, temporarily.
Kistler, Merle D.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$900.
Lansdale, Roger F.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$1,000.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
McGrew, Arthur M.....	North Platte, Nebr....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for July, 1917, made permanent.
McNabb, William J.....	Houghton, Mich.....	Promoted to apprentice at \$600 from \$480.
Markovich, Frank P....	Portland, Oreg.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Meaker, Kenneth ¹	Phoenix, Ariz.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,380 from \$1,260.
Mitchell, Milton L.....	Block Island, R. I....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from September 1, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Moritz, John A.....	Reading, Pa.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Much, George F.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$450.
Nespital, William F....	Chicago, Ill.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Oates, Walter A.....	New York, N. Y.....	Observer, furloughed without pay from September 17, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Park, Donald E.....	Columbus, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Phillippi, John J.....	New Orleans, La.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Powell, Robert P. ¹	Parkersburg, W. Va...	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,380.
Quick, (Miss) Agnes.....		Appointed messenger at \$860, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Riley, William G.....	Evansville, Ind.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from September 22 to December 20, 1917, for the purpose of entering an aviation school with the view of enlisting in the Coast Patrol of the Aviation Corps.
Sanford, Morgan R. ¹	Syracuse, N. Y.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from \$1,600.
Shaver, Robert M. ¹	El Paso, Tex.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,380 from \$1,260.
Sheasgreen, Walter J...	Washington, D. C....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Sherry, Bertram J.....	Washington, D. C....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,800 from \$1,620.
Sikes, Alfred W.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Simpson, Claude F.....	San Antonio, Tex.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Spenny, Blake.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Tait, George W. ¹	Port Huron, Mich.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Tarr, William L.....	New Haven, Conn.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Thompson, Benjamin...	Green Bay, Wis.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for May, 1917, made permanent.
Thompson, Howard J...	Trenton, N. J.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from October 8, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Tipping, Jacob R. K....	Asheville, N. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Tomlin, Robert M.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from minor clerk at \$900.
Ulrich, William L.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Vanderpool, Jesse L. ¹ ..	Rochester, N. Y.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,440 from observer at \$1,880.
Van Schelven, John W. ....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Verket, Oswald ¹	La Crosse, Wis.....	Promoted to apprentice at \$600 from \$480.
Wakefield, Robert D....	Burlington, Vt.....	Apprentice, resigned; record, excellent.
Washington, John D....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Weidman, Frank B.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
White, J. Gilbert.....	Harrisburg, Pa.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
White, Charles S.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$900, by reinstatement.
Whitney, Frank I.....	Ellendale, N. Dak....	Promoted to observer at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$900.
Williams, Noel M.....	St. Joseph, Mo.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Wright, Allen C.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Wyland, Will L. ¹	Hatteras, N. C.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,200 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Davidson, Glenn ¹	Lincoln, Nebr.....	} Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Kennedy, Gerald S. ¹	Pensacola, Fla.....	
Labovich, William M...	Minneapolis, Minn....	
Leshansky, Joseph.....	Key West, Fla.....	
McNeal, Don ¹	Pittsburgh, Pa.....	
Murphy, George P. ¹	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	
Sanial, Albert D.....	La Crosse, Wis.....	
Smith, Jesse W. ¹	Montgomery, Ala.....	
Springman, Herbert C..	Kansas City, Mo.....	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Buzzelle, George, jr		} Appointed assistant observer at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Day, Elden W		
Daywalt, John H		
Keiter, I. Martin		
Klumpp, Harold A		
Lackey, Walter J		
Laughlin, Lacey		
McManaman, Clifton E.		
Marshall, Orville D		
Matthews, Joseph W		
Nespital, William F		
Phillippi, John J		
Richmond, Hubert		
Smith, Charles E		
Sponny, Blake		
Vesper, J. Lake		
Warrell, Theodore O		
Barto, Eugene M	Ithaca, N. Y.	} Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Callen, Arthur H. C. ¹	Milwaukee, Wis	
Hayden, Francis S. ¹	Rochester, N. Y	
Nespital, William F	Chicago, Ill	
Penn, Ephriam E	Columbia, S. C.	
Dunn, Frank J., jr	Jacksonville, Fla.	} Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Johnston, Leo Roy	El Paso, Tex.	
Seaver, Archer W. ¹	Fresno, Cal	
Smith, Clifford G. ¹	Roswell, N. Mex	
Szollas, Edward, jr. ¹	Denver, Colo	
Dixon, William E		} Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Hill, Harold H		
Meyer, John P		
Clark, Ambrose		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360; temporary appointment terminated.
Serodino, Norbert R		
Spear, Max F		
Westfall, Frank		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
George, Clarence O		
Goodman, Robert M		
Gutknecht, Carl G. J		
Miller, Roy F		
Mott, Merton P		
Walton, Caldwell M		
Willmarth, Clifford L		

¹ Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Andrus, Clarence G.		New Haven, Conn., assistant.
Austin, Manville H.		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Bavendick, Frank J.	Dubuque, Iowa	Washington, D. C., observer, pending further orders.
Blake, August J.		New Orleans, La., messenger boy.
Brooks, Thomas R.	Raleigh, N. C.	Washington, D. C., assistant observer.
Brown, Lansing.		Spokane, Wash., messenger boy.
Buzzelle, George, jr. * ..		Bismarck, N. Dak., assistant.
Clark, Ambrose.		Seattle, Wash., messenger boy.
Cole, Frank T.	Washington, D. C.	Drexel, Nebr., assistant, pending further orders.
Day, Elden W. * ..		Davenport, Iowa, assistant.
Daywalt, John H. * ..		Grand Junction, Colo., assistant.
Dixon, William E. * ..		Asheville, N. C., messenger boy.
George, Clarence O. * ..		Saginaw, Mich., messenger boy.
Goodman, Robert M. * ..		Knoxville, Tenn., messenger boy.
Gutknecht, Carl G. J. * ..		Columbus, Ohio, messenger boy.
Halfter, Carl P. J. * ..		Washington, D. C., lithographer.
Harder, Robert G. W. ...	Wichita, Kans.	St. Joseph, Mo., assistant.
Hill, Harold H. * ..		Chattanooga, Tenn., messenger boy.
Howard, Mark S.	Binghamton, N. Y.	Hatteras, N. C., in charge.
Hubbard, Charles E.		Ellendale, N. Dak., laborer (unskilled).
Jones, Edwin H.	Grand Junction, Colo. ..	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., assistant.
Keiter, I. Martin * ..		Raleigh, N. C., assistant.
Keyworth, William G. * ..		Washington, D. C., topographic draftsman.
Kistler, Merle D.		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Klumpp, Harold A. * ..		Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Lackey, Walter J. * ..		Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Lansdale, Roger F.		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Laughlin, Lacey * ..		Phoenix, Ariz., assistant.
Lawton, George E.	Oklahoma, Okla.	Yellowstone Park, Wyo., in charge.
McManaman, Clifton E. * ..		Lincoln, Nebr., assistant.
Marshall, Orville D. * ..		Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Matthews, Joseph W. * ..		Mobile, Ala., assistant.
Meyer, John P. * ..		Duluth, Minn., messenger boy.
Miller, Roy F. * ..		Harrisburg, Pa., messenger boy.
Moses, Fred I.	Syracuse, N. Y.	Washington, D. C., observer, pending further orders.
Mott, Merton P. * ..		Block Island, R. I., messenger boy.
Much, George F.		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Nespital, William F. * ..		Chicago, Ill., assistant.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Parry, Benjamin.....	New Orleans, La.....	New York, N. Y., printer.
Phillippi, John J.*.....	New Orleans, La., assistant.
Quick, (Miss) Agnes*.....	Grand Rapids, Mich., messenger.
Reihle, John A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Ellendale, N. Dak., assistant, pending further orders.
Richmond, Hubert *.....	Key West, Fla., assistant.
Serodino, Norbert R.....	San Diego, Cal., messenger boy.
Smith, Charles E.*.....	Ellendale, N. Dak., assistant.
Spear, Max F.....	Terre Haute, Ind., messenger boy.
Spenny, Blake *.....	Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Ulrich, William L.....	Erie, Pa., messenger boy.
Van Schelven, John W.*.....	Grand Haven, Mich., apprentice.
Vesper, J. Lake *.....	Columbus, Ohio, assistant.
Walton, Caldwell M.*.....	Portland, Oreg., messenger boy.
Warrell, Theodore O.*.....	Key West, Fla., assistant.
Washington, John D.....	Washington, D. C., laborer (unskilled).
Weidman, Frank B.....	Wichita, Kans., messenger boy.
Westfall, Frank.....	Detroit, Mich., messenger boy.
White, Charles S.....	Syracuse, N. Y., assistant.
Whitney, Frank I.....	New Orleans, La.....	Ellendale, N. Dak., assistant.
Willmarth, Clifford L.*.....	Canton, N. Y., messenger boy.
Wyland, Will L.....	Hatteras, N. C.....	Wichita, Kans., assistant.

* Indicates temporary appointment.

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS.

The following-named employees have passed examinations in accordance with existing instructions:

Names.	Subjects.
Howell, Harry M.....	} Physics, Astronomy, Advanced Meteorology.
Jarboe, James H.....	
Maughan, William E.....	
Sanders, John E.....	

C. H. Marvin

Chief of Bureau.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

OCTOBER, 1917.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Announcement is made that 56 employees of the Weather Bureau have responded to the call of their country for military and naval service. The following list is believed to be complete, but if any omissions are noted it is requested that the Central Office be informed :

CENTRAL OFFICE EMPLOYEES.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Branch of Service.</i>
Anderson, Morton A.....	Aviation Section, Signal Corps.
Blair, William R.....	Do.
Bowie, Edward H.....	Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.
Everett, J. Redden.....	Medical Reserve Corps.
Haight, Walter D.....	Naval Militia.
Hoffman, Joseph.....	Regular Army.
McCarthy, Richard F.....	National Guard.
Rice, Charles E.....	Naval Militia.
Sherry, Bertram J.....	Aviation Section, Signal Corps.
Sweetney, John.....	National Guard.
Weightman, R. Hanson.....	Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.

STATION EMPLOYEES.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Branch of Service.</i>
Altman, Peter.....	National Guard.
Andrykoski, Joseph P.....	Naval Militia.
Bates, Bertram J., jr.....	Regular Army.
Beavers, Thomas H. B.....	National Army.
Brockway, Albert A.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Bulfinch, Kale D.....	Hospital Corps, U. S. Navy.
Cable, Edwin E.....	Medical Unit, National Guard.
Carroll, Louis W.....	Engineer Reserve Corps.
Clarke, Walter D.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Connoroe, Henry.....	Naval Militia.
Cotter, Clarence E.....	Coast Artillery Corps.
Dalton, Robert D.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Davenport, Raphael A.....	National Guard.
Franklin, William F.....	Regular Navy.
Friedman, Robert P.....	National Guard.
Gernrich, Henry R.....	National Army.
Gormley, Joseph G.....	Do.
Gottlich, Samuel.....	Regular Navy.
Hamrick, Andrew M.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Hersey, Henry B.....	Aviation Section, Signal Corps.
Holmes, David C.....	National Guard.

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Hovde, Hjalmar B.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Howell, Harry M.....	National Army.
Johnson, Paul E.....	Do.
Klinge, Robert N.....	National Guard.
Laskowski, Bernard R.....	Do.
Mitchell, Milton L.....	National Army.
Murphy, George P.....	Do.
Murphy, John J.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Nisley, Alva D.....	National Army.
Oates, Walter A.....	Aviation Section, Signal Corps.
Ostrom, Ralph A. A.....	Naval Militia.
Pearre, Buford D.....	National Guard.
Peterson, Oscar H.....	National Army.
Plumb, Walter W.....	Marine Corps.
Ray, Clifton L.....	Regular Army.
Reed, Thomas R.....	Aviation Section, Signal Corps.
Shurick, Kenneth C.....	National Guard.
Taylor, Arthur D.....	National Army.
Thompson, Howard J.....	Do.
Voskuil, Walter H.....	Officers' Training Camp.
Weston, Aylmer E.....	Regular Navy.
Whitney, Frank B.....	National Army.
Wilhite, Erroll L.....	Regular Army.
Williams, Alec R.....	Officers' Training Camp.

The list contains only the names of those who are in the service. We wish that it were practicable to give the names of the many of our patriotic employees who proffered their services, but were not accepted.

Recently Major Atkisson of the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps, who is organizing what is known as the "Gas and Flame Service," requested cooperation in securing two men with meteorological knowledge and experience to serve with two companies now being organized. The very nature of the work requires activity in the front battle lines. In making the request he said, "I want for my officers two men who understand the game, are resourceful, physically fit, and who are anxious to offer their country some real, red-blooded service."

On account of the especially hazardous nature of the enterprise a call for volunteers was made. No better evidence of the patriotism and loyalty of our service could be shown than the fact that nearly 50 men volunteered. The final selections have not been made, but they will be announced in a later issue of TOPICS AND PERSONNEL.

MOTION PICTURE ACTIVITIES.

The following communication was recently received by the Chief of Bureau from the committee having charge of motion picture activities of the Department of Agriculture:

The department has executed a contract with the Universal Film Company, of New York, for the distribution of our motion pictures. Under this contract the

company agrees to cooperate with the department in the production of new pictures, and to keep in circulation through its exchanges at least thirty copies of each of our pictures, including those now on hand and those to be produced during the coming year. The company will also pay for the use of the departments negatives and will furnish us six positive prints for our own use free of charge. It is hoped that under this arrangement we may bring the activities of the department to the attention of several millions of people, and also through the cooperation of the company produce more interesting films.

In order to produce a sufficient number of new pictures for distribution under the terms of the contract, it will be necessary for each branch or department to suggest pictures representing its work. The committee would, therefore, appreciate it very much if at your earliest convenience you would submit scenarios or outlines of the pictures which you would like to have taken in the near future. It will not be necessary for you to prepare finished scenarios, but you should indicate clearly just what you desire to show, and where, when, and under what circumstances the pictures may be taken.

Inasmuch as the committee desires to begin the taking of new pictures at once, I should appreciate the submission of suggestions from the Weather Bureau at the earliest practicable moment.

It is recognized that the number of activities of the bureau that are adaptable to moving pictures and in which the pictures themselves will carry the story is limited, but station employees are encouraged to submit to this office scenarios of such activities as in their judgment will be suitable for the purpose.

It is understood that the contract with the Universal Film Company, of New York, relates to the production of motion pictures taken by the officials of the department, and does not preclude the taking of motion pictures by other companies under such conditions as will safeguard the department from expense and will secure at least one copy of the film for the department files. Station officials should not grant permission for the taking of motion pictures of projects under their supervision without first presenting the matter to this office and securing approval.

THE SECOND LIBERTY LOAN.

The second liberty loan was a great success.

The full extent of the activities of the field force of the Weather Bureau in connection with this loan is not known, but judging from several letters that have been received, there is every reason to believe that the station employees of the bureau generously and loyally contributed their funds and services. It is believed that the following facts concerning the participation of employees of the bureau in Washington in this loan will be interesting:

The amount subscribed was \$24,500.

There are 219 employees on the rolls, including those absent on annual or sick leave.

Bonds were purchased by 176 of these employees, or more than 80 per cent of the whole.

The total pay per month for all our Washington employees is \$23,538.59.

The amount of bonds purchased equals an entire month's pay of all employees and nearly \$1,000 in addition.

The average per annum pay of the 176 who purchased bonds is \$1,263.

Bonds were purchased by 43 employees receiving a per annum salary of less than \$1,000.

There are 43 messengers, messenger boys, and laborers on the roll, no one of whom receives more than \$720 per annum.

Bonds were purchased by 34 of these messengers, messenger boys, and laborers.

A bond was purchased by one charwoman whose pay is \$20 per month.

AID TO CLOUD OBSERVATIONS.

Greater accuracy in determining the direction of movement of upper clouds has been attained at some stations of the bureau by the use of a black mirror of simple construction.

The mirror is made by painting one side of a piece of glass six inches square with glossy black paint. A piece of felt the same size as the glass is pressed against the paint while it is still fresh, and allowed to dry on. This prevents scratching of the reflecting surface when in use, and also reduces liability of breakage. North and south, and east and west lines are then drawn on the unpainted side with an ordinary glass cutter, and short scale marks added to these.

In use, the mirror is placed upon a window sill, and the head of the observer is rested against the window frame or other rigid support. Care must be observed to have the plane of the mirror horizontal.

This simple device was in use at one station of the bureau as early as the year 1905.

TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

An employee of the department was ordered from a point in Nebraska to a station in Utah for permanent duty. This employee was a widower with dependent children. He was not able to engage in housekeeping at his station and desired to have his household goods shipped on Government bill of lading to Kansas City to be used by a member of his family in connection with the care of his children. The Comptroller in rendering a decision on the case, said:

It would seem that under the act of March 4, 1911, and the regulations of the Department of Agriculture (Fiscal Regulations, par. 78 p.), Mr. ——— would, within the discretion and under the written instructions of the Chief of the Bureau in which he serves, be allowed packing, crating, freight, and drayage charges for the transfer of his household effects, and other personal property *used in official work*, from his former official station, ———, Nebr., to his present station in Utah.

The expense of transfer of effects and other personal property under the law seems to rest upon the condition that the property is to follow the officer or employee who is transferred from one official station to another for permanent duty.

Kansas City, Mo., is not the official station of Mr. ———, nor are the household goods to be used by him in connection with official work at his new station if shipped there; but on the contrary are to be used personally in connection with the care of his motherless children.

I am of the opinion that the transportation of the goods in question to Kansas City, Mo., at Government expense is unauthorized.

CHECKING ANEMOMETER DIAL READINGS.

The following suggestion, submitted by Mr. Joseph Leshansky, of the Key West, Fla., station, for checking the dial reading of the anemometer with the total number of miles recorded during the month, is furnished for the information of those to whom it may make an appeal by reason of their familiarity with bookkeeping practise in preference to the process given in paragraph 191, "Instructions for Preparing Meteorological Forms."

To illustrate from a concrete instance:

	<i>Dr.</i>	<i>Cr.</i>
Dial reading at 12 noon of the 1st	64	
Number of miles recorded from midnight to 12 noon of the 1st...		110
Anemometers changed for cleaning:		
Reading of "Station" when taken down		601
Reading of "Extra" when put up	487	
Reading of "Station" when replaced.....	785	
Reading of "Extra" when taken down.....		451
Total number of miles recorded during the month (midnight to midnight)	6,751	
Dial reading at 12 noon of the 1st of following month		29
Number of miles recorded from midnight to 12 noon of 1st of following month		184
	8,121	1,191

The difference between the "debit" and "credit" columns should obviously be 0 or a multiple of 990. In the above instance it is 6930 or 7 (990).

MISS ELEANOR BUYNITZKY.

In the death of Miss Eleanor Buynitzky, which occurred on October 7, the bureau lost an employee of exceptional zeal and ability. Miss Buynitzky had been an assistant in the Central Office library for six years, and possessed a rare combination of talents that fitted her admirably for her position. Besides having an expert knowledge of library work, she was a fine linguist, an excellent stenographer, and an industrious student of meteorology; and her sympathetic aid was always placed ungrudgingly at the disposal of persons who wished to make use of the library.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of October, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Adams, John C.....		Appointed printer at \$1,000.
Anderson, Redfield A. F.	Concord, N. H.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
Anderson, Robert D....	Lansing, Mich.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, poor.
Bair, Jefferson L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to skilled artisan at \$840 from skilled laborer at \$660.
Baker, Roy F.....	Helena, Mont.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Barto, Eugene M.....	Ithaca, N. Y.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for September, 1917, made permanent.
Bates, James H.....	Memphis, Tenn.....	Messenger boy, temporary appointment terminated.
Bavendiek, Frank J....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Butler, Merel C.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Buynitzky, (Miss) Eleanor.	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, died October 7, 1917.
Cooper, Harold H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Transferred to clerk at \$900 from assistant observer at the same salary.
Cournos, Alexander....	Huron, S. Dak.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from October 5, 1917, until further orders, pending investigation.
Curtis, Richard W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to unskilled laborer at \$660 from \$600.
Dell, Morris.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Dey, (Miss) Laura M....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Dick, Harvey B.....	Kalispell, Mont.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,080, to offset former allowances of quarters, fuel, and lights.
Dixon, William E.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Edwards, William H. J..	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to unskilled laborer at \$600 from \$480.
Farrell, James F.....	New York, N. Y.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Franklin, William F....	Tampa, Fla.....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from September 28, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Freas, Howard E.....	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Frise, Harry A.....	Sheridan, Wyo.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,200.
Goldsmith, Samuel M.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$360.
Gnant, Joseph C.....	Trenton, N. J.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Haight, Walter D.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from October 29, 1917, until further orders, on account of naval duty.
Harder, Robert G. W....	St. Joseph, Mo.....	Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Harding, Wade G.....	Norfolk, Va.....	Apprentice, resigned; record, excellent.
Hill, Harold H.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Holcombe, William L.....		Appointed folder and feeder at \$720.
Houle, (Miss) Phoebe.....		Appointed clerk at \$900.
Howe, James M.....	Northfield, Vt.....	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from apprentice at \$600.
Inston, Thomas S.....	Mobile, Ala.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
LaCombe, Arthur.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Lawton, George E.....	Yellowstone Park, Wyo	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from \$1,200.
Lee, William D.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Lindley, Robert T.....	Cairo, Ill.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from \$1,440.
McCuen, James.....	Washington, D. C.....	Unskilled laborer, resigned; record, excellent.
McGinness, James P....	Washington, D. C.....	Folder and feeder, temporary appointment terminated.
McIntyre, Dan.....	Amarillo, Tex.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
McKinley, Gerald.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Mace, James E.....	Lewiston, Idaho.....	Apprentice, resigned; record, good.
Mark, John S.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Martin, Howard H.....	Fort Worth, Tex.....	Assistant observer, restored to duty on October 24, 1917, from leave of absence without pay.
Martin, Howard H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Modeen, Roy D.....	Minneapolis, Minn....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Moses, Fred I.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Murphy, George P.....	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo.	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from October 18, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Nelson, George C.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480.
Nelson, John P.....	Portland, Oreg.....	Repairman, resigned; record, good.
Nichols, Benjamin S....	Eureka, Cal.....	Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Owen, Elbert A.....	Palestine, Tex.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.
Patrick, William.....	Washington, D. C.....	Reduced at his request to skilled laborer at \$860 from skilled artisan at \$840, without prejudice, on account of advanced age.
Pepera, John A.....	St. Paul, Minn.....	Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Peterson, Oscar H.....	Sacramento, Cal.....	Apprentice, furloughed without pay from September 22, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Prather, Brian.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Purdy, John, jr.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Apprentice, temporary appointment terminated.
Rausch, Arthur A.....		Appointed assistant observer at \$900; temporary appointment terminated.
Rice, Charles E. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Riedinger, Albert A....	San Antonio, Tex.....	Messenger boy, temporary appointment terminated.
Robb, Carl O.....	Lansing, Mich.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Rohrer, Charles W. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,600 from \$1,400.
Rollison, Raymond ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Root, Clarence, J.....	Springfield, Ill.....	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from section director at \$1,560.
Rosner, Leo.....	Providence, R. I.....	Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Rupert, Karl C.....	Yellowstone Park, Wyo	Observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Sellers, Fred.....	Shreveport, La.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.
Sidney, Peter.....	Washington, D. C.....	Unskilled laborer, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Siegel, Samuel		Appointed printer at \$1,000.
Spilman, Joseph L. F.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Taylor, Kenneth A.		Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Thompson, Donald C.	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Apprentice, resigned; record, good.
Turner, Linwood	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to unskilled laborer at \$720 from \$660.
Wade, Roy W. ¹	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to clerk at \$1,400 from \$1,200.
Walton, Caldwell M.	Portland, Oreg.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Warrell, Theodore O.	Key West, Fla.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, fair.
Weightman, R. Hanson	Washington, D. C.	Clerk, furloughed without pay from October 11, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
West, Ralph C.	Alpena, Mich.	Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Whitney, Frank B.	Denver, Colo.	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from October 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Betcher, Edward S.		} Appointed assistant observer at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Brunkow, William H.		
Freas, Howard E.		
Gnant, Joseph C.		
Hand, Clarence F.		
Hessler, Frank M.		
Anderson, Irving R.	Springfield, Mo.	} Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for July, 1917, made permanent.
Boller, Harold H.	Peoria, Ill.	
Joyce, Gerald J.	Scranton, Pa.	
Nation, Ira J.	Birmingham, Ala.	
Alt, Howard W. ¹	St. Louis, Mo.	} Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Guthrie, Leon J., jr.	Fort Smith, Ark.	
Malkin, George ¹	Oklahoma, Okla.	
Murphy, Peter F. ¹	Charleston, S. C.	
Plummer, Ira C. ¹	Springfield, Ill.	
Goodman, Robert M.		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360; temporary appointment terminated.
Kennedy, Leo T.		
Stephens, Jerome T.		
Biggs, John A. F.		} Appointed messenger boy at \$360, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Johnson, Herbert J.		
Peacock, Matthew I.		
Riedinger, Albert A.		
Robb, Carl O.		
Rose, William B.		
Swartz, John R.		
Tyner, Paul H.		

¹ Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Adams, John C.		Houston, Tex., printer.
Betteher, Edward S. * ..		Denver, Colo., assistant.
Biggs, John A. F. * ..		San Antonio, Tex., messenger boy.
Brunkow, William H. * ..		Dubuque, Iowa, assistant.
Butler, Merel C. * ..		Denver, Colo., messenger boy.
Cooper, Harold H.	Amarillo, Tex.	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Del., Morris * ..		Philadelphia, Pa., messenger boy.
Dixon, William E.		Asheville, N. C., messenger boy.
Freas, Howard E. * ..		Philadelphia, Pa., assistant.
Gnant, Joseph C. * ..		Trenton, N. J., assistant.
Goldsmith, Samuel M.		Memphis, Tenn., messenger boy.
Goodman, Robert M.		Knoxville, Tenn., messenger boy.
Hand, Clarence F. * ..		Binghamton, N. Y., assistant.
Hessler, Frank M. * ..		Duluth, Minn., assistant.
Hill, Harold H.		Chatanooga, Tenn., messenger boy.
Holcombe, William L.		Washington, D. C., folder and feeder.
Houle, (Miss) Phoebe ..		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Johnson, Herbert J. * ..		Mobile, Ala., messenger boy.
Kennedy, Leo T.		Omaha, Nebr., messenger boy.
LaCombe, Arthur * ..		Marquette, Mich., apprentice.
McKinley, Gerald * ..		Sacramento, Cal., apprentice.
Mark, John S. * ..		Lewiston, Idaho, apprentice.
Nelson, George C.		Chicago, Ill., messenger boy.
Peacock, Matthew I. * ..		Eastport, Me., messenger boy.
Rausch, Arthur A.		St. Louis, Mo., assistant.
Riedinger, Albert A. * ..		San Antonio, Tex., messenger boy.
Robb, Carl O. * ..		Lansing, Mich., messenger boy.
Rose, William B. * ..		Minneapolis, Minn., messenger boy.
Siegel, Samuel ..		Lincoln, Nebr., printer.
Stephens, Jerome T.		Topeka, Kans., messenger boy.
Swartz, John R. * ..		Reading, Pa., messenger boy.
Taylor, Kenneth A. * ..		Hartford, Conn., apprentice.
Tyner, Paul H. * ..		Atlanta, Ga., messenger boy.

* Indicates temporary appointment.

C. H. Marvin.

Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

NOVEMBER, 1917.

CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES UNDER THE SELECTIVE SERVICE LAW.

The following quotations from Department of Agriculture Memorandum, No. 224, dated December 5, 1917, applicable to Weather Bureau employees, are published herewith for their information and guidance:

Numerous inquiries having been received with reference to the deferred classification employees of the department provided for in the New Rules and Regulations issued by the War Department the following is given for the guidance of chiefs of bureaus, divisions, and offices, and of employees concerned:

EMPLOYEES WHO MAY BE PLACED IN A DEFERRED CLASS UNDER THE SELECTIVE DRAFT LAW BECAUSE OF FEDERAL SERVICE.

New rules and regulations, effective December 15, 1917, prescribed by the President under the authority of the Selective Service Law, have just been issued. They provide a new plan for the selection of men for military service and revoke all exemptions and discharges therefrom made prior to noon on December 15, 1917. They prescribe also that the names of all men liable to selection shall be arranged in five classes in the inverse order of their importance to the economic interests of the Nation.

A list of questions, entitled "Questionnaire," has been prepared which serves the purpose of practically all the forms hitherto used by the registrants in presenting claims to the local district boards, "and requires answers to questions which search the entire economic, domestic, industrial, and agricultural relation of the registrant." The front page of the "Questionnaire" contains a succinct analysis thereof.

The Rules and Regulations provide that there shall be placed in Class III, Division I, any person employed in the service of the United States, *when in accordance with the Rules and Regulations it is found by the local board that such person is necessary to the adequate and effective operation of the service in which he is engaged, and that he can not be replaced without substantial material loss and detriment to the adequate and effective operation of such service*, but no consideration of a claim for discharge of such person will be given by a local board except upon sworn answers to the "Questionnaire," and an affidavit called "an affidavit of necessity" executed by the chief of the bureau, division, or office in which the employee is engaged that such employee is necessary to the service in the manner indicated, which "affidavit of necessity" must be approved by the Secretary.

* * * * *

AFFIDAVIT OF NECESSITY.

If the chief of any bureau, independent division, or independent office, after due consideration of all the facts which he has obtained concerning such em-

ployee, is of the opinion that such employee is necessary to the adequate and effective operation of the bureau, division, or office, and can not be replaced by another person without substantial material loss and detriment to the adequate and effective operation of such service, he shall immediately prepare and execute an "affidavit of necessity" on a blank to be furnished by this office, and having executed said affidavit, he must attach the same to Form 1001-A, which may be obtained from the Secretary's Office or from the Office of the Provost Marshal General. Such chief shall place a cross mark in Column A, opposite the letter "I" (division) in "Class III", opposite the words "Necessary employee in service of United States", and shall also fill in the blanks and sign his name at the place indicated on said Form 1001-A under the title "Registrant or other interested person must answer the following question". Having executed the affidavit and attached it to said Form 1001-A, and having signed and filled in said form, as above mentioned, each chief must then immediately deliver the same to the Office of the Secretary, *together with a memorandum giving fully the facts upon which he bases his conclusion that the employee should be placed in deferred classification.* If the Secretary approves the affidavit, he will mark thereon "Approved" and return the same to the chief of the bureau, division, or office, who must then immediately file the same with the local board. If the local board is in the District of Columbia, such chief shall file the said affidavits and forms personally. If the local board is not in the District of Columbia and it is necessary to mail said affidavits and forms, such chief shall send them by registered mail to the local board and demand a "return receipt".

APPEAL TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

The chief of each bureau, independent division, or independent office, promptly after receipt of this memorandum must submit to the Secretary, for his approval, a memorandum designating the officials or responsible persons in the bureau, independent division, or independent office, who shall be charged with the duty of, and deputized by such chief for, filing appeals to the district boards in the event claims are disallowed by the local boards. When the said list has been approved by the Secretary, the chief shall thereupon deputize each of the said persons to file appeals.

If any local board denies the claim for preferred classification of any employee of this department, the official or responsible person appointed as above mentioned to file appeals for employees shall immediately take an appeal from the decision of the local board by filling in the blank for that purpose on page 16 of the registrant's "Questionnaire" at the office of the local board.

ACTION ON APPEAL BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

As soon as notice is received of the allowance or disallowance by the district board of a claim for deferred classification, the official or responsible person designated by the chief of bureau, independent division, or independent office to file appeals for employees who should be placed in deferred classification, shall notify the chief of his bureau, independent division, or independent office by wire, if necessary, and the said chief will promptly lay the matter before the Secretary.

For a brief concise statement of the Selective Service Law and the rules thereunder generally, your attention is directed to information appearing in the Official Bulletins of November 10, 16, and 24, 1917.

METEOROLOGICAL TRAINING FOR SIGNAL CORPS MEN.

The Weather Bureau is cooperating with the Science and Research Division of the U. S. Signal Corps in the training of men who will be

assigned to the meteorological service of the Army in France. In furtherance of this cooperation it will be necessary for many Weather Bureau stations to instruct several men in general meteorological work. From three to ten men will be assigned at one time to each of the selected stations. The work will consist of instruction in the taking and recording of observations, the preparation of weather maps, the compilation of data and preparation of forms, and the care of instruments. The necessary instructions will be issued to the various stations concerned at the time of the assignments. In nearly all cases the men will have had training in various lines of scientific work at universities or colleges. They will be directed to proceed to the Weather Bureau stations from cantonments, where they are now under military instruction.

On account of the limited facilities of the Weather Bureau stations in office space and assistants, the number of men to be assigned to any one station will be held to as low a limit as possible, probably not more than six except in a few cases. A group of considerable size will be taken care of in the Central Office, in addition to a special class in advanced meteorology in its application to military operations to be composed of men of technical training who have attained post graduate degrees. Already eleven men have been instructed at stations, and immediate arrangements will be made for about one hundred and seventy-five more. This number may be considerably increased in the near future.

ADDITIONS TO THE ROLL OF HONOR.

- Butler, Benjamin F. Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.
- Davis, Milton A. Regular Army.
- Diffin, William T. Regular Navy.
- Dobrowolski, Arthur J. Regular Army.
- Lake, Henry B. Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.
- Thiessen, Alfred H. Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.

GAS AND FLAME SERVICE.

It has developed that the number of men required for the Gas and Flame Service will be less than was at first anticipated. Mr. Charles I. Dague, observer, who was on duty at Dallas, Tex., is the only one thus far selected. He has joined his company and is now on his way to France.

AID TO PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS.

The official in charge of the Boise, Idaho, station has suggested that officials in charge of climatological section centers can render effective aid to the State councils of defense, the Red Cross, and other organizations having charge of officially approved patriotic movements in their respective States.

The duties of section directors give them intimate knowledge of all sections of the State, and through substation observers they are able to reach the various desired classes quickly and effectively. Weather Bureau officials are encouraged to render such aid, provided it will not interfere with their official duties and does not involve the use of Government funds and postage.

**TRANSFERS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FROM OTHER
GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENTS.**

The following memorandum (No. 223) was issued by the Secretary under date of December 3, 1917:

For the information and guidance of the bureaus and offices of the department, there is quoted below Executive Order of November 24, 1917, regarding transfers of employees in the executive departments and other Government establishments:

During the continuance of the present war no executive department or other Government establishment in Washington shall hereafter give or offer employment, directly or indirectly, conditionally or unconditionally, to any officer or employee in any part of the executive civil service without first obtaining the written consent of the head of the executive department or other Government establishment in which such person is then employed, together with the statement that such consent is based upon the conclusion, after due consideration, that the person can render better service for the Government in the place in which his employment is proposed: *Provided*, That this shall not be construed as applicable to enlistments or appointments in the military or naval forces of the United States.

This order is purely a war emergency measure. In their effort to meet the additional burden of war work some of the executive departments and agencies have obtained clerks from other departments by offers of higher salaries. While it is not desired to place any obstruction in the way of deserved promotion, this practise has gone so far as to threaten disorganization in the clerical forces of some of the departments, with consequent loss of efficiency in the operations of the executive departments, as a whole.

The letter and spirit of this order must be strictly observed by officers and employees of the Department of Agriculture. No negotiations whatever for transfer or employment shall be entered into with employees in other branches of the Government service, except in compliance with this order, and then only when the chief of the bureau or office concerned reaches the conclusion, after due consideration, that the person can render better service for the Government in this department. All recommendations to the Secretary for transfers to this department must be accompanied by the written consent of the head of the department or other Government establishment concerned, giving the information required by Executive Order of November 24.

The same procedure must be followed with respect to transfers or employment within this department. No bureau, division, or office of the Department of Agriculture shall give or offer employment, *directly or indirectly, conditionally or unconditionally, to any employee in any other bureau, division, or office without first obtaining the written consent of the chief of the bureau, division, or office in which such person is employed*, together with a statement that such consent is based upon the conclusion, after due consideration, that the person can render better service for the department in the branch in which his employment is proposed.

The following extract from the Urgent Deficiency Act, approved October 6, 1917, is quoted for the information and guidance of Weather Bureau employees:

Sec. 6. That section five of the act of June twenty-second, nineteen hundred and six, prohibiting the transfer of employees from one executive department to another, shall apply with equal force and effect to the transfer of employees from executive departments to independent establishments and vice versa and to the transfer of employees from one independent establishment to another: *Provided*, That the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall be considered a Government establishment for the purposes of this section.

Sec. 7. That no civil employee in any of the executive departments or other Government establishments, or who has been employed therein within the period of one year next preceding his proposed employment in any other department or other Government establishment, shall be employed hereafter and paid from a lump sum appropriation in any other executive department or other Government establishment at an increased rate of compensation. And no civil employee in any of the executive departments or other Government establishments, or who has been employed therein within the period of one year next preceding his proposed employment in any other executive department or other Government establishment and who may be employed in another executive department or other Government establishment, shall be granted an increase in compensation within the period of one year following such reemployment: *Provided*, That the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall be considered a Government establishment for the purposes of this section: *Provided further*, That this section shall not be construed to repeal section five of the act of June twenty-second, nineteen hundred and six, which prohibits the transfer of employees from one department to another.

The Comptroller, in decisions regarding the foregoing act, has ruled as follows: (a) That it does not affect the transfer and promotion of an employee from one statutory place to another. (b) That it does not affect the field service. (c) That it does not prohibit the transfer with promotion of an employee who occupies a temporary position in the department from which the transfer is made. (d) That it is a perversion of the intent of the act to transfer persons from one department to field positions in another department with promotion, and to detail them to duty in Washington, D. C.

DISCONTINUANCE OF KIOSKS.

Announcement is made that it is the policy of the bureau to purchase no additional instruments for display in kiosks. Broken or defective instruments will be replaced only as long as the limited supply at the Central Office lasts, after which the instruments that become unserviceable will be removed and the space formerly occupied by them may be utilized for the display of bulletins, etc. Where it appears that the kiosk itself can be disposed of without important sense of loss on the part of the public, recommendation to that effect should be made in order that the expense of maintenance may be discontinued.

DISCONTINUANCE OF FORM NO. 1086—MET'L.

The discontinuance of the daily Form No. 1086—Met'l, recently announced as an amendment to paragraph 574, Station Regulations,

will economize in paper, save a few minutes of time each day at river centers, and, in the aggregate, labor, not only on the part of Weather Bureau employees, but also postal employees. At stations issuing a river bulletin one copy of the bulletin will be mailed to the Central Office as at present.

DEATHS

Oscar H. Buhrman, Washington, D. C., on December 5, 1917. Mr. Buhrman was a compositor in the Central Office and was connected with the bureau for fifteen years.

William U. Simons, at Del Rio, Tex., on November 13, 1917. Mr. Simons entered the Signal Corps on April 30, 1872, and was transferred to the Weather Bureau on its organization.

Mr. Howard K. Holcomb, at Iola, Kans., on November 25, 1917. Mr. Holcomb entered the Weather Bureau as an assistant observer on July 14, 1898, and his service had been continuous up to the time of his death, with the exception of about one year when he was not on duty on account of ill health.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of November, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Alt, Howard W.....		Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Ashe, Paul J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, good.
Austin, Manville H. ¹ ...	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Baldwin, Eugene F.....		Appointed apprentice at \$480.
Barto, Eugene M.....	Key West, Fla.....	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from messenger boy at \$600.
Byrd, Bryan.....	Cape Henry, Va.....	Promoted to vessel reporter at \$840 from \$720.
Callen, Arthur H. C....	Denver, Colo.....	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from messenger boy at \$600.
Chamberlin, Ovid L.....		Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$600.
Clark, Ambrose.....	Seattle, Wash.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Dague, Charles I.....	Dallas, Tex.....	Observer, furloughed without pay from November 17, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
DeMent, Harry C.....	Parkersburg, W. Va...	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from messenger at \$720.
Denton, Jesse H.....	Meridian, Miss.....	Apprentice, resigned, record, excellent.
Desmond, Ralph H.....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Dezelle, Row E.....	Fort Worth, Tex.....	Apprentice, resigned: record, good.
Dunn, Frank J., jr.....	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for September, 1917, made permanent.
Gaskins, Horace T.....	.....	Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$600.
Groves, Price T.....	Washington, D. C.....	Watchman, transferred to the Office of the Secretary.
Holcomb, Howard K...	Iola, Kans.....	Observer, died November 25, 1917.
Holcombe, William L...	Washington, D. C.....	Folder and feeder, resigned; record, good.
Hutchinson, Daniel B.....	.....	Appointed fireman at \$720, temporarily.
Jewby, William A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Kistler, Merle D.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from \$900.
Langworthy, Rae S.....	Tatoosh Island, Wash..	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Lillie, Don M.....	Washington, D. C.....	Transferred to clerk at \$1,000 from assistant observer at the same salary.
Lippman, Ruben D.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	Apprentice, temporary appointment terminated.
Locklin, Harold G.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Assistant observer, temporary appointment terminated.
Manuel, J. Earl.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Martin, Howard H.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$1,080, by reinstatement.
Meyer, John P.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Middleton, Hileary.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled) removed from the rolls because of misconduct and unsatisfactory services.
Morton, Robert H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Designation changed to watchman from fireman.
O'Brien, Phillip D.....	Albany, N. Y.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
Rathhun, John G.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, fair.
Rice, Charles E.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from November 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of naval duty.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Robinson, Jesse C. ¹	Elkins, W. Va.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Schmalzigan, Harold...	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, temporary appointment terminated.
Sherry, Bertram J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Meteorologist, furloughed without pay from November 14, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Simons, William U.....	Del Rio, Tex.....	Observer, died November 18, 1917.
Stevens, Arthur E.....	Kansas City, Mo.....	Observer, resigned; record, fair.
Thompson, Layton.....	Lexington, Ky.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Towner, Noble ¹	New Haven, Conn.....	Promoted to messenger at \$720 from \$600.
Van Schelven, John W.	Grand Haven, Mich...	Appointed apprentice at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Voskuil, Walter H.....	New Orleans, La.....	Assistant observer, on furlough without pay on account of military duty, removed from the rolls for the good of the service.
Ward, James M., jr.....	Cape Henry, Va.....	Skilled mechanic, resigned; record, excellent.
Warner, Rudolph G., jr.	Nashville, Tenn.....	Assistant observer, temporary appointment terminated.
Whitney, (Miss) Ada I.	.....	Appointed repairman, temporarily, at \$720.
Whitney, (Miss) Ada I.	Portland, Oreg.....	Repairman, temporary appointment terminated.
Wolcott, Ernest E.....	Tatoosh Island, Wash..	Promoted to assistant observer at \$900 from apprentice at \$480.
Wright, Carl H.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Martin, Howard H. ¹	Columbus, Ohio.....	} Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Pugh, Horace L. ¹	New Orleans, La.....	
Rogers, Orlin R.....	Columbia, Mo.....	
Thomas, Ralph W.....	Erie, Pa.....	
Adams, Henry P.....	Washington, D. C.....	} Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Bemis, Charles N.....	New York, N. Y.....	
Diamond, Jay G.....	Helena, Mont.....	
Eklund, Ernest E.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	
Gray, Julian T. ¹	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	
Hibbard, Foy N. ¹	Chicago, Ill.....	
Hickmon, Walter C.....	Little Rock, Ark.....	
McGruder, Joseph F...	Cairo, Ill.....	
Norton, Grady.....	Meridian, Miss.....	
Welfer, Reed S. ¹	Augusta, Ga.....	
Wells, Roy A.....	Washington, D. C.....	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Allen, Charles T.	Washington, D. C.	} Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.
Anthony, Robert J.	Oswego, N. Y.	
Bottiger, Walter M.	Baltimore, Md.	
Gross, Philip H.	Atlantic City, N. J.	
Rubush, Theodore R.	Indianapolis, Ind.	
Smith, Clifford G.	Roswell, N. Mex.	
Tait, George W.	Port Huron, Mich.	
Thompson, Layton	Lexington, Ky.	
Allen, Charles T. ¹	Washington, D. C.	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Delgado, Eugenio ¹	Santa Fe, N. Mex.	
Green, Joe J. ¹	St. Louis, Mo.	
Heisler, Joseph W. ¹	Columbia, Mo.	
McCarty, Herbert K. ¹	Washington, D. C.	
Warren, Leslie A. ¹	Kansas City, Mo.	
Babbitt, Carl M. ¹	Little Rock, Ark.	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Butler, Ralph S. ¹	Ludington, Mich.	
Fitzgerald, Richard J. ¹	Houston, Tex.	
Serodino, Norbert R.	San Diego, Cal.	
Spear, Max F. ¹	Terre Haute, Ind.	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Beacham, Cecil L. ....	.....
Cole, Herbert E. ....	.....
Jenkins, Otis ....	.....
Meyer, William McK. ....	.....
Grayson, Samuel F.	} Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Luchinsky, Michael F. ....	.....
Powers, J. Frederick ....	.....
Cummins, Henry	} Appointed messenger boy at \$450, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Elliott, William E. ....	.....
Schwier, John W. ....	.....
Stanton, John B. ....	.....
George, Clarence O.	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360; temporary appointment terminated.
Teal, Raymond M. ....	.....
Wertz, Harold L. ....	.....
Breen, Harry W.	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Emerson, Alexander M. ....	.....
Henry, (Miss) Hattie A. ....	.....
LeVanway, Harold L. ....	.....
McGregor, A. Roy ....	.....
Merget, Edgar A. ....	.....
Richardson, Frank R. ....	.....
Schmalzigan, Harold ....	.....

¹Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Adams, Henry P.	Charlotte, N. C.	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Alt, Howard W.	St. Louis, Mo., messenger boy.
Asher, Charles D.	Galveston, Tex.	Independence, Cal., in charge.

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Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Baldwin, Eugene F.....		Montgomery, Ala., apprentice.
Barto, Eugene M.....	Ithaca, N. Y.....	Key West, Fla., assistant.
Beacham, Cecil L.....		Dallas, Tex., assistant.
Breen, Harry W.*.....		Cincinnati, Ohio, messenger boy.
Callen, Arthur H. C.....	Milwaukee, Wis.....	Denver, Colo., assistant.
Chamberlin, Ovid L.....		Drexel, Nebr., laborer (unskilled).
Cole, Herbert E.....		New York, N. Y., assistant.
Cummins, Henry*.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Desmond, Ralph H.*.....		Walla Walla, Wash., apprentice.
Elliott, William E.*.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Emerson, Alexander M.*.....		Portland, Oreg., messenger boy.
Felton, Ernest L.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Washington, D. C., observer.
Gaskins, Horace T.....		Cape Henry, Va., laborer (unskilled).
George, Clarence O.....		Saginaw, Mich., messenger boy.
Grayson, Samuel F.*.....		Meridian, Miss., apprentice.
Hutchinson, Daniel B.*.....		Washington, D. C., fireman.
Henry, (Miss) Hattie A.*.....		Sandusky, Ohio, messenger.
Hyre, Harley E.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Wausau, Wis., in charge.
Jenkins, Otis.....		Charlotte, N. C., assistant.
Justice, Alonzo A.....	Denver, Colo.....	Milwaukee, Wis., assistant.
LeVanway, Harold L.*.....		Lansing, Mich., messenger boy.
Lillie, Don M.....	Montgomery, Ala.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Luchinsky, Michael F.*.....		Pittsburgh, Pa., apprentice.
McGregor, A. Roy*.....		Seattle, Wash., messenger boy.
Manuel, J. Earl*.....		Tampa, Fla., messenger boy.
Martin, Howard H.....		Columbus, Ohio, assistant.
Maughan, William E.....	Davenport, Iowa.....	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Merget, Edgar A.*.....		Milwaukee, Wis., messenger boy.
Meyer, John P.....		Duluth, Minn., messenger boy.
Meyer, William McK.....		Cincinnati, Ohio, assistant.
Peck, Cecil R.....	Parkersburg, W. Va.....	Montgomery, Ala., assistant.
Powers, J. Frederick*.....		Burlington, Vt., apprentice.
Rheinfrank, Arthur C.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Chicago, Ill., assistant.
Richardson, Frank R.*.....		Trenton, N. J., messenger boy.
Russell, Orville E.....	Washington, D. C.....	Drexel, Nebr., assistant, pending further orders.
Schick, Charles O.....	Washington, D. C.....	Drexel, Nebr., assistant, pending further orders.
Schwier, John W.*.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Schmalzigan, Harold*.....		Cincinnati, Ohio, messenger boy.
Stanton, John B.*.....		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Teal, Raymond M.....		Los Angeles, Cal., messenger boy.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Van Schelven, John W.		Grand Haven, Mich., apprentice.
Wells, Roy A.	Denver, Colo.	Washington, D. C., assistant observer, pending further orders.
Wertz, Harold L.		Lincoln, Nebr., messenger boy.
Whitney, (Miss) Ada I.*		Portland, Oreg., repairman.
Wiesner, Abe	Port Huron, Mich.	Detroit, Mich., assistant.
Wolcott, Ernest E.	Walla Walla, Wash.	Tatoosh Island, Wash., assistant.
Wright, Marsden	Richmond, Va.	Iola, Kans., in charge.

* Indicates temporary appointment.

E. H. Marvin.
Chief of Bureau.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WEATHER BUREAU TOPICS AND PERSONNEL

DECEMBER, 1917.

STATUS OF SOLDIERS RECEIVING METEOROLOGICAL TRAINING.

In some instances a misunderstanding has arisen as to the status of the soldiers that are under meteorological training at a number of Weather Bureau stations, caused by the fact that the military authorities have sent to our officials for execution vouchers, property receipts, and other papers relating to these men.

These soldiers are on detached duty at Weather Bureau stations. They are still under military jurisdiction of the camps from which they were assigned, and it is probable that they will return to these camps in the event that they are not finally selected for the meteorological unit of the Signal Corps. Therefore, our officials should return the invoices and other papers to the military authorities from which they were received, as the Weather Bureau is not responsible for the property and equipment or for the arrangements for the subsistence of the soldiers. In the event of final assignment to the meteorological work of the Army, the military authorities will arrange for formal transfer to the Signal Corps from the arm of the service to which the men are now attached.

Reports of progress are desired for each man. A form for this purpose has been prepared and mailed to the stations concerned. They should be rendered, in duplicate for each man, two weeks from the date on which he reported at the station and each two weeks thereafter until the time of his departure, when a final report is desired.

ADDITIONS TO THE ROLL OF HONOR.

Bornschein, C. H.	Regular Navy.
Chambers, W. A., jr.	Naval Reserve.
Finch, Ruy H.	Meteorological Section, Naval Flying Corps.
Kiefer, A. H.	Regular Army.
Lake, Henry B.*	Meteorological Section, Naval Flying Corps.
Laskowski, Bernard R.*	Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.
Nichols, Benjamin S.	Regular Army.
Reed, William F., jr.	Meteorological Section, Naval Flying Corps.
Rogers, Roy J.	Meteorological Section, Signal Corps.
Walters, Leon K. W.	National Army.

* Corrected announcement.

MILITARY MENTION.

Mr. A. H. Thiessen, formerly official in charge at Portland, Oreg., has been commissioned captain in the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, and Mr. William F. Reed, jr., formerly in charge of the station at Pensacola, Fla., has been commissioned senior lieutenant in the Navy. Captain Thiessen will be connected with the meteorological unit in France that was described in the August issue of TOPICS AND PERSONNEL, while Lieutenant Reed will be engaged in somewhat similar service for the Navy abroad. Lieutenant Reed will be assisted in this work by Messrs. Ruy H. Finch, Henry B. Lake, and Samuel Gottlich, formerly employees of the Weather Bureau.

LOCAL DISSEMINATION OF COLD WAVE AND FROST WARNINGS.

A recent letter from a Weather Bureau station emphasizes the value of the whistle signals as a means for the dissemination of cold wave and frost warnings, particularly on Sundays and holidays when the usual means of dissemination are not available. The use of this method is stated to have resulted in one instance in the saving of thousands of dollars worth of plumbing. The method is in vogue at the station mentioned and at other cities nearby.

This means of disseminating forecasts and warnings was adopted and practiced by the Weather Bureau many years ago, but in later years it appears to have fallen into disuse. It is believed that the system may be practiced to advantage at many stations, especially those located in comparatively small cities. It frequently occurs that cold wave and frost warnings are issued on Sundays and holidays, when the usual means of dissemination are impracticable. The use of whistles on such occasions would be quite effective. The possibility of extending the area of dissemination into surrounding regions not within hearing distance of the whistles located in the city could be provided for by arranging to have whistles in the outside communities repeat the warning. The explanation of whistle signals may be found on Card Form No. 4010A-Mis.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY.

The Secretary has just issued an order to the effect that no leave of absence without pay shall be taken by any employee until the application has been received, approved by the chief clerk of the department, and the applicant advised of its approval. Each application for such leave must be supported by a memorandum setting forth the reasons for which the leave is requested.

This order is not intended to prevent the taking of leave without pay in cases of illness, or when an employee's personal services are

absolutely necessary in caring for a sick member of his immediate family. The practice has been growing for employees to request leave without pay, in addition to annual leave granted them, for purely personal purposes. The work of the government, especially during the period of the war, require the utmost efforts of all employees, and its needs should be made paramount to personal considerations. Therefore, no applications for leave without pay, except in cases where the absence is made necessary because of illness, will be favorably considered.

IMPROVED STYLE OF STEREO TYPE BARS.

An improved type of stereotype bars which is said to prevent any possibility of leakage has recently been adopted for use in the Indianapolis office. The bars are made by a local machine company from strips of steel about one inch wide and of proper thickness. The side bars and end pieces are "lap joined" riveted and brazed securely together, the distance between the side bars being such as to easily hold the chalk plate. The Bucher stereotype box is used, and when heated for the cast the top is not quite so hot as the bottom. It is found that by placing the bars and chalk plate in the box upside down; that is, with the chalk surface facing the hotter bottom plate, the steel side being against the cooler plate above, no paper or paste-board lining is necessary to insure proper chilling. There is no leakage of metal nor any tendency of the plate to "fall down," and the lines and figures of the cast come out uniformly sharp and clear.

MARGIN ON LETTERS.

The attention of employees is directed to the provisions of paragraph 297 of Station Regulations regarding the preparation of correspondence. Many letters, and oftentimes manuscripts, are received at the Central Office in which these directions have not been complied with, especially in regard to the margin allowance at the top of the page. Metal clips for holding papers relating to a single subject are in general use. Unless a sufficient margin is left at the top of the second and succeeding pages the reading of the papers becomes annoying and difficult.

A side margin of one inch should be allowed and a top margin of one and one-half inches.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

The following, relative to changes in the personnel of the Weather Bureau ordered during the month of December, 1917, is published for the *exclusive* information of employees of the Weather Bureau:

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Alter, J. Cecil ¹	Salt Lake City, Utah...	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,800 from \$1,620.
Anderson, Irving R.....	Springfield, Mo.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Arnold, James W.....	.....	Appointed assistant observer at \$900.
Bell, (Miss) Mary E.....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$900.
Bertetti, Bartolomeo T., Jr.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$860.
Biggs, John A. F.....	San Antonio, Tex.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Blosk, Edwin A.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Bormann, Walter R.....	Milwaukee, Wis.....	Observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Bornschein, Charles H.....	Sioux City, Iowa.....	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from January 1, 1918, until further orders, on account of naval duty.
Brandenburg, Fredk. H.....	Denver, Colo.....	Promoted to district forecaster at \$8,240 from \$2,880.
Brown, Keefer H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled), services terminated, served but one day.
Buhrman, Oscar H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Composer, died December 5, 1917.
Butler, Benjamin F.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, furloughed without pay from December 21, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Butler, Merel C.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Clark, William F.....	Washington, D. C.....	Transferred to clerk at \$1,200 from observer at the same salary.
Cline, Isaac M.....	New Orleans, La.....	Promoted to district forecaster at \$8,240 from \$2,880.
Cooper, Harold H. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to clerk at \$1,000 from \$900.
Davis, Harry S.....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Davis, Milton W.....	San Francisco, Cal.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from December 11, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Davison, I. Fontaine.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Delgado, Eugenio.....	Santa Fe, N. Mex.....	Messenger boy, on leave of absence without pay from December 8, 1917, until further orders.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Diffin, William T.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Apprentice, furloughed without pay from December 7, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Dixon, Raymond L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.
Dixon, Raymond L.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Dobrowolski, Arthur J.	Memphis, Tenn.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Dwight, Leo.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Edwards, William H.....	Washington, D. C.....	Laborer (unskilled), temporary promotion announced in list of changes for October, 1917, made permanent.
Emerson, Alexander M.	Portland, Oreg.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, fair.
Fankhauser, Albert G.	Wausau, Wis.....	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Fassett, Claude L.....	Oklahoma, Okla.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,800 from \$1,080.
Friedman, Charles.....	Syracuse, N. Y.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Grant, Charles C.....	Norfolk, Va.....	Observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Grimsley, Herbert D.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Halfter, Carl P. J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Reduced to temporary lithographer at \$1,200 from \$1,500, without prejudice, on account of change to a statutory position.
Hamilton, Robert A.....	Buffalo, N. Y.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$600 from \$480.
Hamrick, Andrew M.....	Honolulu, T. H.....	Meteorologist, restored to duty on December 1, 1917, from furlough without pay on account of military duty.
Hanson, Michael E.....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Hill, Harold H.....	Chattanooga, Tenn.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Hurley, John F.....	Buffalo, N. Y.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from printer at \$1,800.
Jarboe, (Mrs.) Lucile A.	Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo	Laborer (unskilled), resigned; record, excellent.
Jewby, William A.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Keough, William.....	Washington, D. C.....	Lithographer, furloughed without pay from December 16, 1917, to March 15, 1918, inclusive, on account of ill health.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Kiefer, Arthur H.	Columbus, Ohio.	Printer, furloughed without pay from December 28, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Knott, William J.	Washington, D. C.	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for August, 1917, made permanent.
Lackey, Walter J.	Chicago, Ill.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
LaCombe, Arthur. ....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480; temporary appointment terminated.
Leatherman, William B. ¹	Louisville, Ky.	Promoted to messenger boy at \$720 from \$600.
Lindgren, Gustave S.	Pensacola, Fla.	Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,800 from local forecaster at \$1,560.
McIntyre, Robert J. ....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Magrum, Albert F. ¹	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to clerk at \$1,400 from \$1,200.
Meserole, (Miss) Irene V. ....	.....	Appointed clerk at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Millison, Harold.	New York, N. Y.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Mitchell, Charles L.	Chicago, Ill.	Promoted to meteorologist at \$2,160 from \$1,800.
Much, George F. ¹	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Mullen, John P., jr.	Galveston, Tex.	Apprentice, resigned; record, excellent.
Murphy, Peter F.	Charleston, S. C.	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for October, 1917, made permanent.
Nance, Edgar L. ¹	St. Louis, Mo.	Promoted to printer at \$1,080 from \$1,000.
Nation, Ira J.	Birmingham, Ala.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Newsom, J. Franklyn, jr. ....	.....	Appointed repairman at \$720, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Nichols, Benjamin S.	Eureka, Cal.	Messenger boy, furloughed without pay from January 1, 1918, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Nourie, Adelard A. ¹	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to clerk (telegraph operator) at \$1,200 from \$1,000.
Oden, John T.	Cape Henry, Va.	Repairman, resigned; record, good.
Polley, George. ....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily.
Polley, George.	Amarillo, Tex.	Messenger boy, services terminated, served but a few days.
Price, Betson D.	Richmond, Va.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Redd, William J.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480.
Reed, William F., jr....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Meteorologist, furloughed without pay from January 1, 1918, until further orders, on account of naval duty.
Riley, William G.....	Evansville, Ind.....	Assistant observer, restored to duty on December 21, 1917, from furlough without pay.
Rivera, Joseph A.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$600, temporarily.
Rogers, Roy J.....	Baltimore, Md.....	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from December 18, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Rollison, Raymond.....	Washington, D. C.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for October, 1917, made permanent.
Sandridge, Norman.....	Washington, D. C.....	Transferred and promoted to compositor at \$1,350 from observer at \$1,260.
Seaver, Archer W.....	Fresno, Cal.....	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Skipper, James R.....	.....	Appointed apprentice at \$480.
Smith, Ralph W.....	Minneapolis, Minn.....	Observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Stanton, John B.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$450; temporary appointment terminated.
Stanton, John B. ¹	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$450.
Szollas, Edward, jr.....	Denver, Colo.....	Messenger boy, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for September, 1917, made permanent.
Thiessen, Alfred H.....	Portland, Oreg.....	Meteorologist, furloughed without pay from January 1, 1918, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Thomas, Walter W.....	Lewiston, Idaho.....	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,260.
Thurman, Roy D.....	.....	Appointed messenger boy at \$480, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Tomlin, Robert M.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, transferred to the Office of the Secretary.
Tracy, Anson R.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, resigned; record, excellent.
Udden, Anton D.....	.....	Appointed observer at \$1,440.
Wade, Roy W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Clerk, temporary promotion announced in list of changes for October, 1917, made permanent.
Walker, Charles D.....	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Promoted to printer at \$1,080 from \$1,000.
Walker, Charles W.....	Washington, D. C.....	Promoted to messenger boy at \$660 from \$600.

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Walters, Leon K. W.	Bismarck, N. Dak	Assistant observer, furloughed without pay from December 21, 1917, until further orders, on account of military duty.
Washington, Charles E.	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to laborer (unskilled) at \$660 from \$600.
Washington, John D.	Washington, D. C.	Promoted to laborer (unskilled) at \$600 from \$480.
Welch, George W. E.	Portland, Oreg	Appointed clerk at \$900.
Wells, Edward L.	Portland, Oreg	Promoted to meteorologist at \$2,280 from \$1,800.
Wertz, Harold L.	Lincoln, Nebr	Messenger boy, resigned; record, good.
Westfall, Frank	Detroit, Mich	Promoted temporarily to messenger boy at \$480 from \$860.
Williams, Eph L.	Key West, Fla.	Assistant observer, resigned; record, good.
Wilson, Charles E.	Dayton, Ohio	Assistant observer, resigned; record, excellent.
Wolf, Vernon N.	Washington, D. C.	Messenger boy, resigned; record, excellent.
Wolf, Vernon N.	Portland, Oreg	Appointed clerk at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Young, Floyd D.	Portland, Oreg	Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Cox, Henry J.	Chicago, Ill.	} Promoted to meteorologist at \$3,960 from professor of meteorology at \$8,500.
Frankenfield, Harry C.	Washington, D. C.	
Henry, Alfred J.	Washington, D. C.	
Brotzman, William S.	Pittsburgh, Pa	} Promoted to meteorologist at \$1,620 from observer at \$1,440.
Norquest, Clinton E.	Boise, Idaho	
Williamson, Robert M.	Nashville, Tenn.	
Craig, John	Williston, N. Dak	} Promoted to observer at \$1,440 from \$1,200.
Holcomb, Edward W.	Indianapolis, Ind	
Lodholz, Louis	Minneapolis, Minn	
McKenzie, Herbert W.	Seattle, Wash	
Hamme, Clemmy C.	Baltimore, Md.	} Promoted to observer at \$1,260 from assistant observer at \$1,080.
Hill, Perry R.	San Antonio, Tex.	
Larson, Edwin G.	Bismarck, N. Dak	
McGinnis, Philip G.	Huron, S. Dak.	
Maughan, William E.	Washington, D. C.	
Schnurbusch, William J.	Grand Haven, Mich.	
Unger, Elwood E.	Taylor, Tex	
Choate, Herbert L.	Drexel, Nebr	} Promoted to assistant observer at \$1,080 from \$900.
Hanlin, George	Louisville, Ky.	
Heisler, Bernard A.	St. Louis, Mo.	
Neylans, Oscar S.	Fort Worth, Tex	
Parker, Harold P.	Birmingham, Ala.	
Peterson, E. Ernest	Tacoma, Wash	
Rausch, Arthur A.	St. Louis, Mo.	
Sampson, Harold M.	Hartford, Conn.	
Cramer, Roy	Dallas, Tex . . . . .		} Promoted to apprentice at $600 from $480.
Molyneux, Harold L.	St. Joseph, Mo	
Olson, Victor E.	Keokuk, Iowa	
Smith, John J. J. L.	Indianapolis, Ind	

Appointments, promotions, reductions, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Stations.	Remarks.
Boehler, Thomas A. ¹	Cheyenne, Wyo.....	} Promoted to messenger boy at \$480 from \$360.
Grady, Thomas B. ¹	Nashville, Tenn.....	
Teal, Raymond M. ¹	Los Angeles, Cal.....	
Barber, George M., jr.....	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Buys, Paul.....	
Cooke, William V.....	
Cover, Donald McK.....	
Crater, (Miss) Hazel.....	
Delaney, James H.....	
Duffocq, Harold D.....	
Green, Burnett E.....	
Martinelli, Lloyd A.....	
Mullen, John P., jr.....	
Phillips, Garrett A.....	
Price, Betson D.....	} Appointed assistant observer at \$900, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Raidt, Charles W.....	
Sprunt, Alexander, jr.....	
Vose, Milton R.....	
Brown, Keefer H.....	
Mitchell, George C.....	} Appointed laborer (unskilled) at \$480.
Rightsell, (Mrs.) Minnie E.	
LeVanway, Harold L.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360; temporary appointment terminated.
Rose, William B.....	
Tyner, Paul H.....	
Campbell, William H.....	} Appointed messenger boy at \$360, temporarily, pending certification of eligibles.
Cassidy, James J.....	
Cours, Albert M.....	
Dodd, Charles L.....	
Havner, Talmage G.....	
Hodnett, H. Gaines.....	
McKinney, Robert G.....	
Richardson, Frank B.....	
Young, Vance E.....	

¹ Subject to demotion to the position and salary from which he is hereby promoted if such demotion be necessary in order to restore to his position and salary in this department any absentee who has gone into the military or naval service of the United States upon return to duty of such absentee.

Assignments, etc.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Arnold, James W.....	.....	Huron, S. Dak., assistant.
Asher, Charles D.....	Independence, Cal.....	Tonopah, Nev., in charge.
Barber, George M., jr*.....	.....	Lincoln, Nebr., assistant.
Bavendiek, Frank J.....	Washington, D. C.....	Ellendale, N. Dak., assistant.
Bell, (Miss) Mary E.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Bertetti, Bartolomeo T., jr.....	.....	San Antonio, Tex., messenger boy.
Brown, Keefer H.....	.....	Washington, D. C., laborer (unskilled).
Butler, Merel C.....	.....	Denver, Colo., messenger boy.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Buys, Paul*.....	.....	Salt Lake City, Utah, assist- ant.
Campbell, William H.*.....	.....	Ithaca, N. Y., messenger boy.
Cassidy, James J.*.....	.....	Albany, N. Y., messenger boy.
Clark, William F.....	Louisville, Ky.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Cooke, William V.*.....	.....	Norfolk, Va., assistant.
Cours, Albert M.*.....	.....	Sioux City, Iowa, messenger boy.
Cover, Donald McK.*.....	.....	Tacoma, Wash., assistant.
Crater, (Miss) Hazel*.....	.....	Grand Rapids, Mich., assist- ant.
Daily, John.....	Grand Rapids, Mich.....	Dayton, Ohio, assistant.
Davis, Harry S.*.....	.....	Fort Worth, Tex., apprentice.
Delaney, James H*.....	.....	Albany, N. Y., assistant.
Dodd, Charles L.*.....	.....	Lincoln, Nebr., messenger boy.
Duflocq, Harold D.*.....	.....	New York, N. Y., assistant.
Dwight, Leo*.....	.....	Amarillo, Tex., messenger boy.
Gildea, Earl G.....	San Diego, Cal.....	Los Angeles, Cal., assistant.
Green, Burnett E.*.....	.....	Alpena, Mich., assistant.
Grimsley, Herbert D.*.....	.....	Washington, D. C., messen- ger boy.
Hanlon, Michael E.*.....	.....	Galveston, Tex., apprentice.
Havner, Talmage G.*.....	.....	Fresno, Cal., messenger boy.
Hill, Perry R.....	Salt Lake City, Utah ..	San Antonio, Tex., assistant.
Hodnett, H. Gaines*.....	.....	Birmingham; Ala., messen- ger boy.
Holcomb, Elward W.....	Huron, S. Dak.....	Indianapolis, Ind., assistant.
Jewby, William A.....	.....	Washington, D. C., messen- ger boy.
LaCombe, Arthur.....	.....	Marquette, Mich., appren- tice.
Legler, Hugo.....	Tonopah, Nev.....	Independence, Cal., in charge.
LeVanway, Harold L.....	.....	Lansing, Mich., messenger boy.
Lindgren, Gustave S.....	Sandy Hook, N. J.....	Pensacola, Fla., in charge.
Lodholz, Louis.....	New Orleans, La.....	Minneapolis, Minn., assist- ant.
McGinnis, Philip G.....	Columbia, Mo.....	Huron, S. Dak., assistant.
McIntyre, Robert J.*.....	.....	Syracuse, N. Y., apprentice.
McKinney, Robert G.*.....	.....	Lexington, Ky., messenger boy.
McNeal, Don.....	Pittsburgh, Pa.....	Louisville, Ky., assistant.
Martinelli, Lloyd A.*.....	.....	San Francisco, Cal., assistant.
Meserole, (Miss) Irene V*.....	.....	Washington, D. C., clerk.
Mitchell, George C.....	.....	Washington, D. C., laborer (unskilled).
Mullen, John P., jr.*.....	.....	Galveston, Tex., assistant.
Newsom, J. Franklyn, jr.*.....	.....	Cape Henry, Va., repairman.
Norquest, Clinton E.....	Indianapolis, Ind.....	Boise, Idaho, in charge.
Parrack, Cecil A.....	San Antonio, Tex.....	Del Rio, Tex., in charge.
Phillips, Garrett A.*.....	.....	New Orleans, La., assistant.
Polley, George*.....	.....	Amarillo, Tex., messenger boy.
Price, Betson D.*.....	.....	Richmond, Va., assistant.
Raidt, Charles W.*.....	.....	Memphis, Tenn., assistant.
Redd, William J.....	.....	Norfolk, Va., apprentice.
Reible, John A.....	Ellendale, N. Dak.....	Drexel, Nebr., assistant, pending further orders.

Assignments, etc.—Continued.

Names.	Relieved from—	Assigned to—
Richardson, Frank B.*		Richmond, Va., messenger boy.
Rightsell, (Mrs.) Minnie E.		Wagon Wheel Gap, Colo., laborer (unskilled).
Riley, William G.	Evansville, Ind.	New York, N. Y., assistant.
Rivera, Joseph A.*		Santa Fe., N. Mex., messenger boy.
Rose, William B.		Minneapolis, Minn., messenger boy.
Sandridge, Norman	Albany, N. Y.	Washington, D. C., compositor.
Skipper, James R.		Pensacola, Fla., apprentice.
Sprunt, Alexander, jr.*		Charleston, S. C., assistant.
Stanton, John B.		Washington, D. C., messenger boy.
Thurman, Roy D.*		Chattanooga, Tenn., messenger boy.
Tracy, William H.	Boston, Mass.	Sandy Hook, N. J., in charge.
Tyner, Paul H.		Atlanta, Ga., messenger boy.
Udden, Anton D.		Davenport, Iowa, assistant.
Vose, Milton R.*		Boston, Mass., assistant.
Welch, George W. E.		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Wells, Edward L.	Boise, Idaho	Portland, Oreg., in charge.
West, Ralph C.	Alpena, Mich.	Port Huron, Mich., in charge.
Wolf, Vernon N.*		Washington, D. C., clerk.
Young, Vance E.*		Davenport, Iowa, messenger boy.

* Indicates temporary appointment.

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS.

The following-named employees have passed examinations in accordance with existing instructions:

Names.	Subjects.
Bemis, Charles N	} Physics, Astronomy, Advanced Meteorology.
Belt, Charles A	
Hess, Paul	
Weitz, Bernard O	} Plant Physiology.
Yoder, Lee O	

C. H. Marvin

Chief of Bureau.

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