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A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Brooks,  
Secretary, American Meteorological Society  
says:

AIRPLANE BETTERS CLOUD RECORD

Until a few months ago the speed of lofty cirrus clouds racing grandly across the spring sky seemed beyond human attainment. Their highest known rate is 230 miles an hour. American and French airplanes have now gone faster than that. They can outstrip any cloud in the sky.

In summer the average velocity of the cirrus in the northern United States is 60 miles an hour, in winter 90 miles. Seen from the ground their apparent motion is usually not rapid, just as the fastest/airplane high above the earth appears to have no great velocity. They are far away from the eye and there is nothing near them with which to compare the swiftness of their flight.

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(Tomorrow: Moon's Ring Herald Storms )

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