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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

CIRRUS SPOKES.

Cirrus spokes seem to radiate from the center of a great storm like a hurricane or intense thunderstorm, and sometimes their appearance in the sky is the first warning of the approach of the dangerous disturbance. They appear to converge in a more or less dense cloud on the horizon. They are formed by the outward movement of cloudy air, though all those visible at one time are moving in nearly the same direction. Only when the storm is relatively small, as in the case of the spreading top of a local thunderstorm, are true divergences visible. The nearly parallel, though actually slightly radiating streaks of cloud seem to come from a common point, just as the rails on a long stretch of straight track seem to come from a point. If the point of convergence remains the same for some time it is reasonably presumed that the storm is coming toward the observer, especially if the clouds get denser and denser.

(Tomorrow: Equinoctial Storms)

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