

No. 158

A Science Service Feature

Nov. 12

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

WHAT KIND OF WINTER?

From Pacific to Atlantic and from Caribbean to Arctic there now appears to be no condition that would justify one in making any prediction whatever in regard to the coming winter. To be sure, fur and feather specialists have long since told us of the mild or cold, open or snowy winter, we are to expect, and more respectable amateur meteorologists have published their definite conclusions. But the Weather Bureau forecasters have not noticed anything sufficiently out of the ordinary to justify a long-range prediction of any kind.

Weather is likely to continue more or less the same rather than change, partly because fundamental controls of the weather, such as solar heat and ocean temperatures change but slowly. Early cold snaps interspersed with periods of sunny, mild to hot weather have characterized this autumn practically throughout the United States and Canada. This is because the Arctic for some months has discharged over us great quantities of cold dry air, while at the same time precipitation has been below normal over much of the country.

(Tomorrow: A Warm Autumn in Alaska)

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