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A Science Service Feature

Dec. 1

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Brooks,
Secretary, American Meteorological Society,
tells about:

DECEMBER WEATHER

Cold waves become more frequent and severe during December, particularly in the interior and northern states, and very low temperatures occasionally occur. The Weather Bureau's low record for the month is 50 below zero in north-central Montana, and from 10 to 15 below have occurred as far south as central Oklahoma, and 5 below in portions of Tennessee and North Carolina. The lowest temperature ever experienced along the Gulf Coast was 14 degrees above in extreme northwestern Florida and southern Alabama.

The coldest average temperatures for December are found in northeastern North Dakota and Minnesota, with 10 above. To the southward the average increases rather rapidly to 55 degrees along the Gulf coast. On the Atlantic seaboard, Boston averages 32 degrees for the month, New York 35, Philadelphia 36, Washington 37, Atlanta 45, and Key West 70 degrees.

East of the Great Plains the heaviest precipitation is in the region from Arkansas and Tennessee south to the Gulf. The rainy season of the Pacific coast is well established. Snowfalls are frequent in the northern states, particularly in parts of Michigan and in central New York and New England.

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