

No. 206

A Science Service Feature

Jan. 9

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Prooks,
of Clark University,
tells of:

THE NORTHEASTER'S VARIATIONS

The approach of the winter northeaster may mean the promise of any one of several kinds of foul weather, all depending upon the temperature that it meets upon its arrival. During its presence the country which it overspreads may be divided into various zones of weather. In the most southerly there may be only rain; in the next zone farther north sleet and rain which freezes on the ground as it falls, forming glaze; next a zone of sleet mixed with snow; and finally in the northerly zone a heavy snowfall. It may happen, however, that the temperature is low up and down the country, in which case snow falls everywhere. Whether or not a coming storm is likely to be marked by rain, glaze, and sleet, or merely snow, is usually indicated by the temperature and the strength of the southerly winds prevailing in the southern states. The stronger and the warmer these winds the greater is the danger of an ice storm, and the smaller is the likelihood of a snow-storm, for under such conditions the warm wind, from which copious rains rather than snows are usually precipitated, may ride far north over the cold air near the ground.

(Tomorrow: Sleet)

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