

No. 290

A Science Service Feature

April 16

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Brooks,
of Clark University,
discusses:

POLAR EASTERLIES INVADE U.S.

With the migration of the sun as the earth presents first more of the southern then more of the northern hemisphere toward it, there is a shifting of the zone of greatest heating and a change in the size and effectiveness of the zones of cooling. The resulting pressure and wind belts, therefore, migrate more or less with the sun, though over a reduced latitude range of about 10 degrees. But these shifts of the wind belts are not at all regular from season to season or from longitude to longitude. The polar easterlies, or the westward deflected outflow of cold air from the polar and high latitude accumulations of cold air, usually prevail in northern or central Canada, while but rarely does the polar front stay for one or more weeks in the United States. From March 10, 1924, however, even into April, the polar easterlies have prevailed in the eastern halves of the northern United States and southern Canada, almost without a break. The weather was not exceptionally cold, but warm days were notably absent. The wind continuing day after day from north to east seemed to have forgotten how to blow from the west, as usual.

(Tomorrow: Storms Far South)

All rights reserved by Science Service

Science Service,
1115 Conn. Ave.,
Washington, D.C.