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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

"LOWS" COOLER THAN "HIGHS" IN SUMMER

In summer, the cloudy, rainy weather is typically cooler than the clear, sunny spells. In winter, quite the other way, the clear periods of "highs" bring the coldest weather, while "lows" are relatively warm. Perhaps the temperature of any particular day can be thought of as dependent largely on wind direction, heating by the sun, and cooling by radiation. Winter "lows" are relatively warm because they have southerly winds and because the cloud blanket prevents cooling by radiation. In winter, the temperature differences between North and South are much greater than in summer, and the winds are stronger, hence wind direction is a very important temperature control. In summer, heating by sunlight plays a larger role and winds are weaker than in winter. Thus, cloudy weather is likely to be cool weather. In the case of "highs", similarly, we find the controlling features in winter, the cold, dry northerly wind and rapid cooling by radiation at night make them relatively cold, while in summer feeble winds and heat from a blazing sun cause "highs" to be typically warm.

(Tomorrow: Our Weather Travels)

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