

No. 344

A Science Service Feature

June 18

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

TWO "LOWS" FROM ONE

Intense low pressure areas sometimes cut themselves in two, making two moderate storms from one strong one. This is accomplished readily in late spring and early summer, when the strong sunlight on the following side of the low warms the cooler, drier westerly winds which succeed the warmer, moister, southerly ones. One day the weather map may show a big, strong "low", as on May 24, 1924, with cool, brisk to high northwest winds following it. The next day it will be seen that these winds along the back of the "low" have turned almost at right angles to their former course and are now coming from the southwest. Heat from a high sun has warmed the dry air readily, starting convection. The northwest surface wind which we saw on the map has thus become mixed with the general southwest wind above it and now, as a result of a redistribution of pressure, the whole wind motion appears as southwest. This turning of the cooler, drier, and, therefore, heavier wind has apparently driven a wedge of higher pressure into the low and split it into first and second sections. The second or westward section is likely to be forced backwards, or from east to west, a reversal of the usual motion. Hence part of the storm may return to give more rain at a place where it has already previously rained and cleared off.

(Tomorrow: Summer Weather Prospects)

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