

June 20

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

COASTS AS SUMMER RESORTS

As everyone knows, the seashore is generally cooler than the interior in summer because of the fundamental fact that since water does not heat as rapidly as land the ocean always remains relatively cool in the hot months. The coast benefits from this coolness of water because by day the sea breeze, or wind off the ocean, usually blows.

The summer climate of different coasts varies considerably in accordance with the general direction of the coast line and the temperature of the water off shore. Obviously, the colder the water, the stronger the sea breeze and the cooler the shore. As water temperatures around 55 to 65 degrees are the rule in the Pacific off California, even the southern shore is cool in summer. Water off the coast of Maine is notably cold, 50 to 55 degrees. Maine shore resorts are almost sure to be cool because southerly winds, which elsewhere bring sultry spells, reach Maine only after being cooled by blowing across the ocean. Where the shore line runs generally in a north and south direction, a southerly or southwesterly wind is likely to be a hot wind off the land. Where the temperature difference is less between ocean and land as in the southeastern states, warm, damp weather is common along the coast. Relatively cold water, on the contrary, favors dryness by day, for the cool damp wind from the ocean is warmed enough by the shore to dry it considerably.

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(Tomorrow: Distribution of Sunshine)

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