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A Science Service Feature

July 2

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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

CLIMATES OF LAKE-SIDE CAMPS

On the advertising page we often find a cool, summer camp to rent on the shore of some lake, a camp which the owners proudly assert is "right on the water". Undoubtedly this is a great convenience for those who do not wish compulsory walking or climbing mixed with their water sports; from a climatic standpoint, however, the advantage of being right on the water is not quite so clear. On the immediate shore, the nights will be both cooler and damper than on a hillside a little above the lake. The lake is likely to lie in a depression among hills, one of those pockets into which the cool air drains at night from the hillsides. The motion of this air in the evening can often be seen in the little fog streams which flow from small valleys out onto the lake. We all like cool nights, but there is such a thing as overdoing it, a night temperature of 40 degrees in July is lower than that really required for sound sleep and only necessitates loading the vacation trunks with all the winter blankets.

Later in the day, also, the hill camper may have the advantage climatically. He is neither as hot by day nor as cool by night, for he is spared the glare of sunlight on the lake and beaches, and may suffer less mugginess on warm days because he is in drier location and because, if his camp site is well chosen, he should get a better breeze than the lake camper below. The lake camper, however, as he jumps from his front porch into his canoe will persist in pitying the hill camper and will be quite ready to allow him his climatic consolations.

(Tomorrow: Heat of the Dog Days)

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