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A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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RAINIEST PARTS OF A LOW

In a storm, or low pressure area, not all sections are equally rainy. The two regions likely to get the most rain are the so-called "warm front" and "cold front". The warm front is the forward boundary of the advancing warm air on the easterly side of the Low. Here the warm southerly wind is crowding into colder air and rising up over it. This elevation of the warm, moist wind causes condensation and precipitation of its moisture, and a steady rain is likely to result.

Along the cold front, the rain is likely to be of a more showery character. The "cold front" is the forward boundary of the northerly or westerly current on the back of the Low. Here we have, in general, the opposite situation, a cold wind invading a warm region. The wind is delayed by friction at the ground and so arrives first aloft. The unstable condition produced by cold heavy air above warm light air may start a convectional or vertical circulation. The cold air falls down, the warm air is pushed up, showers result.

(Pick up one col. matrix herewith numbered 4-9.)

(Tomorrow: Easter Weather)

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