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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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ICE SALES AND TEMPERATURES

If hot weather suits no one else it pleases the iceman, or to be more accurate, the stock owners of the ice company. One large ice company in a city of 180,000 charted its sales of ice and the temperatures daily last summer. Hot weather certainly brings out the ice cards. On mid-week days with an average temperature of 80 degrees Fahrenheit about twice as much ice was sold as on days averaging 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Saturday sales were usually about two-thirds again as great as mid-week day sales, but showed a similar dependence on temperature. Monday sales were irregular and fell between the Saturday and mid-week groups. For the mid-week days the average figures for a single day were approximately:

40 tons sold at 50 degrees Fahrenheit
50 " " " 60 " "
75 " " " 70 " "
100 " " " 80 " "

Ice sales naturally tend to lag behind the weather changes. That is, on the first day of a hot spell considerably less ice is bought than on an equally warm second or third day. Ice will keep best if the refrigerator stands in a closed cellar, a very inconvenient location. If the refrigerator is placed in a pantry or entry, it is well to keep shades down and doors and windows closed in the daytime and open at night, during hot weather.

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