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A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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TEMPERATURES AT THE SEASHORE

On a sunny day when the wind is not strong one can readily find a temperature condition just to his liking. If the shoreline is not straight the coolest location will be near the water from which the wind is blowing onshore. The warmest will be any sunny glade or hollow protected from the wind. The dry sand above high tide is usually quite warm enough for a comfortable drying off period after a dip. On sunny days a seabreeze of moderate strength is commonly warmed three degrees in thirty yards over hot sands.

Along any portion of a coast all exposed locations are not equally cool. The temperature of the onshore wind varies with the water surface temperatures, on which it depends closely. The coolest locations are on headlands facing the open sea, where winds of nearly any direction are from the water. Here also the cold body water of the ocean mixes most with the warmer surface layers. In Casco Bay, Maine, for example, ocean temperatures this summer have been found to average 56 near headlands, but 58 to 60 along other shores, and the air temperatures have followed suit.

(Pick up one column matrix 8-4.)

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(Tomorrow: The Art of Keeping Cool)

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