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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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MOUNTAIN AND PLATEAU CLIMATES

Mountains are so magnetic to vacationers not only because of their scenery, but also because of their cool, bracing climates. The up-and-climb-it impulse is strongest on those superbly clear cool days, when exertion is not overheating to one lightly dressed. The sunshine provides local heat and invisible stimulating rays; the cool air, the breeze and the rapid evaporation quickly dissipate surplus bodily heat. The daytime formation of clouds and shadows, culminating, perhaps, in an afternoon shower, provide changing settings and interesting uncertainties.

Why is the mountain climate different? The brightness of the sunlight, and, particularly, the intensity of the health-giving ultra-violet rays increase rapidly as one climbs out of the more humid and somewhat dusty and smoky lower air. At the same time, air becomes cooler as the broad expanse of heated surface is left below and larger masses of the less heated free air are encountered blowing past the higher lands, and at night radiation through the clear air rapidly reduces the temperature, sometimes even to uncomfortable coldness after a bright warm day.

(Tomorrow: Weather Bureau Vs. Dummy)

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