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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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SNOW CLOUDS

Snow falls on high mountains even in the summer time, for far enough aloft temperatures are always below freezing. Though east of the Rockies summer snow on mountains is infrequent, clouds of snow are continually drifting over us. Clouds over 2-1/2 miles high are likely to be snow clouds. Snow clouds have somewhat hazy, streaky margins unlike the sharp outlines which mark dense clouds composed of water droplets. Often trails of snow can be seen falling from high clouds. But this snow melts and becomes rain before dropping far, and very likely soon evaporates and never reaches the ground. Only when the air is decidedly moist or rain abundant can rain fall to the ground from far above without all evaporating en route. Under favorable conditions a suggestion of some of the coldness of the snow cloud is transmitted to earth in cool rain.

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