

Dec. 18, 1925

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University

HIGH BAROMETER AND WIND PROGNOSTICS

Many aneroid barometers have weather indications written on the dial to aid the amateur forecaster, for instance, "Fair" by the high pressure and "Stormy" by the low, with perhaps "Changeable" in between. These crude forecasts can be improved upon if wind direction as well as pressure is taken into consideration. A table by E. B. Garriott, and adapted by Dr. W. J. Humphreys of the Weather Bureau, should be especially helpful to the amateur observer with a barometer. First take the high pressures.

If the barometer is high and steady and the wind Southwest to Northwest you may expect fair weather with little change in temperature for one or two days. The same wind with high pressure and the barometer rising rapidly indicates fair weather followed by warmer, and rain within two days. Or if it is high and falling slowly, expect rain in from 24 to 36 hours. Unusually high pressure falling slowly with the wind from Southwest to Northwest means fair weather and slowly rising temperature for two days.

Suppose the wind is South to Southeast, the indications are somewhat different, Pressure high and falling slowly usually means rain within 24 hours, but if the fall is rapid the wind is likely to increase and rain may come in 12 hours. Winds between Southeast and Northeast are still more threatening, bringing rain in 12 to 18 hours, according to the rate of fall. If the wind is East to Northeast and the pressure high and falling slowly, the weather may remain fair in summer; but in winter rain is probable in 24 hours. If with this wind direction the fall in pressure is rapid, look for increasing wind and rain or snow.

(Tomorrow: Inside Temperature and Outside Weather)

All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.

SCIENCE SERVICE,
B and 21st Sts.,
Washington, D. C.