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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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LOW BAROMETER AND WIND

Low pressures as indicated by low barometer readings, combined with various wind directions, have weather significance useful to the layman.

It is commonly recognized that if the pressure is low and rising rapidly and the wind is turning towards the west, clearing and colder weather may be expected. If the wind is south to southwest, the pressure low and rising slowly, it is likely to clear soon and remain fair several days. Low pressure, barometer falling rapidly, and wind south to southeast indicate a severe storm at hand, followed by clearing and cooler in 24 hours.

When the wind is southeast to northeast and the pressure low and falling slowly, rain will probably continue one or two days. With a more rapid fall in pressure you may expect the storm to pass more quickly and look for rain and high winds with clearing and cooler weather in 24 hours.

If the wind is east to north with the same pressure conditions the outlook is not cheerful. Northeast gales with heavy rain or snow are in order, followed in winter by a cold wave.

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