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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University.

MARCH TEMPERATURES

February is but slightly warmer than January, on the average, but with March, a real rise in temperature begins. In the Northeast, March is usually about 10 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than February, and April 10 degrees warmer still. March, at best, though, remains a distinctly wintry month in the North. It is generally warmer than December, to be sure, but almost as snowy. Compared with November, March is both snowier and colder.

Though March is essentially part of winter its weather is subject to violent fluctuations, now the lion, now the lamb is uppermost. December weather is more steady, perhaps because the southern states are cooler. In March, an average temperature of 60 degrees has advanced as far north as central Georgia, while the mean in Massachusetts is from 30 to 35 degrees. A strong southerly wind therefore, can import balmy spring days while it lasts.

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21st and B Sts.,
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