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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University

WAS THE GROUND HOG RIGHT ?

Candlemas or Ground-hog day this year was cloudy over most of the eastern United States, In the Middle-West generally there was no shadow to frighten him into his hole for another nap during six weeks more of winter, but in the East the sun did come out to give him the cue for much cold weather still to come.

Mr. Mid-west Ground-hog must have had a shivery time if he stayed out, for though the weather remained above normal there for one to four weeks after his stated emergence it turned cold enough in March to wipe out the plus departures except on the west side of the Mississippi. If Mr. Lower Lakes Ground-hog was uncertain whether he saw his shadow during the snow flurries on February 2, we hope that he thought so, for four or five of the six weeks following have been cold.

Mr. Northeastern Ground-hog did just the right thing, for the period of renewed winter indicated by his hypothetical shadow prevailed and the average for the six weeks was below normal. In fact, in much of his territory he is still a prisoner beneath some feet of dense snow and ice that still resist the attacks of the advancing sun. His cousin, Southeastern, hardly needed to have taken his extra nap, since less than half the period was cold.

Was the ground hog right? Yes and no ; as usual!

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21st and B Sts.,
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