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March 29, 1926.

A SCIENCE SERVICE FEATURE

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed March 22, 1926.

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A DISCOURAGINGLY LATE SPRING.

When mid-winter passed and even the first of February arrived without much cold weather and generally very little snow, people began looking forward to an early spring. Last year spring began virtually at the end of the first week in February: this year we might say that in the more favored parts of the eastern United States and Canada north of latitude 35 it is only now commencing. This is 7 weeks later than last year. The week ending February 10, 1925, was actually 10 to 20 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than that ending March 16, 1926, in most of the eastern United States and Canada. This week of mid-March was colder and snowier than the average for January, the coldest month. Freezing temperatures reached south to central Florida and snowfall into Alabama and Georgia.

Owing to the heavy snowfall of February near the coast and of March farther inland the Northeast still is deeply covered with winter's baggage. As late as March 15 snow on the ground was four or more feet deep over considerable areas in Quebec, northern New England and New York, and Upper Michigan. And the Great Lakes were still well covered with thick ice.

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