

A Science Service Feature

Released May 1, 1926
If used before edit out
"Today" in first line of
third paragraph.

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed April 24, 1926

By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University

MORE FIRE WEATHER WARNINGS

Congress recently made an urgent deficiency appropriation of \$2500 for bettering fire weather work, and a further appropriation of about \$18,000 for the coming fiscal year is pending. The forecasting of fire weather, first undertaken in the West by E. A. Beals some ten years ago, is being rapidly developed both in the United States and Canada. Most progress has been made in the West, where the timber interests are greatest, and where, in some respects, the danger of conflagrations is most acute.

At present, the chief of the U.S. Weather Bureau, Prof. C. F. Marvin, and the head of the forecast division of that Bureau, E. B. Calvert, are on an extended trip through the West, putting the fire weather warning service there on a firm foundation. If the further appropriations, now in prospect, become available, it will be possible to conduct the necessary investigations and extend the fire weather warning system more completely to cover our eastern forests.

In a paper presented today at the meeting of the American Meteorological Society at Washington, D.C., M. F. Burrill demonstrates some methods for making reasonably accurate forecasts of afternoon humidities in conjunction with the forecasts of other weather conditions determining fire hazards. There is prospect of greater care of eastern forests to curb the annual fire bill. Radio sets for receiving fire weather warnings have proved valuable to western fire fighting forces and should be helpful in the East as well. Farmers, campers and others may receive such warnings and take unusual precautions.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

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