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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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AUTUMN STORMS COMMENCE

During the summer we were impressed more by the heat and occasional showers of the afternoons in contrast to the coolness ^{and} fairness of the mornings than by the changes taking place from one portion of a week to the next. For the most part, as Prof. R. DeC. Ward has so clearly shown in his "Climates of the United States", the immediate solar control was dominant. True, there were changes in the general condition of the weather with the changes from high to low pressure, but, on the whole, these were less in temperature than the changes from morning to afternoon.

With the waning influence of the sun, however, and the increasing contrast between low and high latitudes that is now taking place, the cyclonic control of the weather is reasserting itself. The weather maps are beginning to show stronger lows and highs and more general rains, and greater wind velocities over considerable areas. Our autumn storms are beginning.

The first pronounced storm suggestive of autumn held sway over the Midwest and the Northeast from August 20 to 25. With a well marked and cold high in the northeast an ordinary low of the summer type grew into a considerable storm that reached its most intense development over the Great Lakes, in true autumn style. Winds up to gale force, rains of one to three inches in 24 hours, occurred over the Lake region generally and Michigan in particular.

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