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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University

"OCTOBER, ALL OVER."

"June, too soon; July, stand by; August, look out you must; September, remember; October, all over!" So goes the summary of the hurricane season in our Southeast. In June 1926, there were no storms of tropical origin reported in West Indian waters. In July there was one hurricane, that which ruined Nassau, and one other tropical low. August produced two hurricanes and one other cyclone possibly of tropical origin. The first hurricane made its first landing at Cape Breton Island and Newfoundland, while the second, a more severe one, took its toll of death and destruction on the Louisiana coast. In September the season came to its peak with three hurricanes and three weaker tropical storms. The first hurricane, an Atlantic storm, did not touch the coast with its gales, but did drown several people and damage shipping with its surf on the New England coast. The second, immediately after, was the greatest hurricane of the year, striking Miami, Pensacola and Mobile with its greatest fury, killing hundreds of people and doing untold property damage. The third hurricane spent itself on Vera Cruz. October had one storm, probably not of hurricane intensity, in the Atlantic, and then the Havana hurricane, which fortunately slid by the previously stricken Miami.

This may not be the full list for 1926, for tropical storms have been known in West Indian waters at the end of October and in November, but we can look at the total to date and compare it with other figures. There have been seven hurricanes, and five or six other tropical cyclones, a total of twelve or thirteen. This is twice the average annual number for the period since 1886, and is exceeded in these 39 years only by 1887, when there were sixteen. There were twelve in 1909 and thirteen in 1916. There have been about as many this year as in the past three put together.

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