

Editors: Please substitute the following corrected copy for Why The Weather article dated for use November 10, Corrections are indicated by underlining.

For use on  
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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed November 8, 1926

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of Clark University

### AURORA BOREALIS

Look for a display of aurora borealis tonight and tomorrow night, and possibly Friday night. You may not see one, but the chances are pretty good that you can if the sky is clear, for today and tomorrow a disturbed area on the sun will be crossing the center of the sun's disk as soon from the earth. This disturbed area which had a strong development in September was still marked by great sunspots on its October appearance. On September 16 there was a fine aurora. From October 14 to 16, when this eruptive area crossed the center of the sun's disk, a great aurora and magnetic storm occurred on the earth. The aurora was first visible and made quite a display the night of October 14, but on the following evening reached its culmination. At that time the northern sky took on a beautiful curtain formation, and lights of many colors flashed. North of latitude 43 the aurora reached into the southern sky, forming a great corona near the zenith. The display faded away in the early hours of the 16th.

For many years scientists have accepted the theory that auroral displays on earth are due to the excessive discharge of electrons from disturbed regions on the sun, and a certain periodicity of the occurrence of auroras has been found to attend the successive presentation of these disturbed regions to the earth about every 27 days, which is the period of rotation of tropical latitudes of the sun as seen from the earth.

As yet there has been established no connection between the aurora and the weather, other than that the aurora is not visible except on clear or partly cloudy nights. The greatest clarity to the north usually goes with a cold dry wind from that direction, and this may have led people to expect a cold period after an auroral display. Eskimos won't start on a journey, Dr. Ekblaw says, immediately after an aurora.

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