

Released on receipt
but intended for use
Dec. 23, 1926

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed Dec. 16, 1926

By Dr. Charles F. Brooks
of Clark University

LONG PERIOD METEOROGRAPHS

On high mountain peaks it is not often practicable to maintain weather stations with observers throughout the year. Yet continuous records from a few such points are of considerable scientific interest. Long period meteorographs are ingenious devices which will make automatic records of the weather sometimes for a whole year without attention. A meteorograph is simply a group of instruments all recording on the same clock cylinder. Five different pens commonly show temperature, pressure, wind velocity, wind direction, and relative humidity.

S.P. Fergusson, designer of such instruments, says that the chief problems of maintenance are supplying sufficient ink, adequate lubrication for the anemometers, which revolve and measure wind velocity, and protection from injury, moisture, dirt, and insects. Special large closed pens are employed to hold the ink, or occasionally pencils with small soft leads, while siphon lubricators are used to deliver oil periodically to the anemometer bearings. Meteorographs have been greatly improved recently by the invention of duralumin, "thermostatic" metal, and Friez's distance thermograph. This thermograph will record indoors, which allows most of the meteorograph apparatus to be installed under substantial shelter, only a few elements being exposed outside.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

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