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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed July 29, 1927

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AEROLOGY

The word "aerology" means literally a discourse on the air, and was used to some extent in the eighteenth century as the name of the science that is now universally called "meteorology".

Early in the present century many investigations of the free atmosphere were made by means of kites and balloons. This field of research soon became a leading branch of meteorology and a special name was needed for it. Hence in the year 1906 the International Commission for Scientific Aeronautics, at a meeting held in Milan, adopted "aerology" as the name for the study of the free atmosphere throughout its vertical extent, as distinguished from investigations confined to the layer of atmosphere adjacent to the earth's surface.

Ninety times out of a hundred the term is used in this sense in current scientific literature, but the hundredth case has lately become prominent enough to be a possible source of confusion. In the year 1920 Dr. E. Vernon Hill, of Chicago, suggested the use of "aerology" as a name for the science and art of ventilation. He has since founded a monthly magazine called "The Aerologist", in accordance with this use of the term, and this journal is now in its third volume.

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