

A Science Service Feature

Released on receipt  
but intended for use  
October 29, 1927

? WHY THE WEATHER? Mailed October 22, 1927

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THE GOVERNMENT'S WEATHER MAGAZINE

The United States Government is a multifarious publisher. Among its publications are hundreds of periodicals - daily, weekly, monthly and annual - devoted to almost every possible subject of interest to the public. Several of these deal in a dry, statistical way with weather, and one is a full-fledged meteorological magazine.

The Monthly Weather Review, as this journal is called, is issued by the Weather Bureau, but is sold by the Superintendent of Documents, at a subscription price of \$1.50 a year. It is of quarto size, and each issue contains from 45 to 50 pages. The greater part of each number consists of original articles on meteorological topics, together with translations and abstracts of similar literature from other current publications. Some of these contributions are caviare to the general because unfortunately it is impossible to set forth the fundamental facts about certain doings of the atmosphere without resort to higher mathematics and the language of advanced physics. On the other hand, the Review has frequently published articles that the layman could enjoy in a hammock on a hot summer afternoon. Some articles that have appeared in the Review have become classic sources of information on subjects of general interest. Among these are Albert Matthews' history of the term "Indian summer," published in 1902, and W.L. McAtee's account of the various strange things that occasionally fall from the sky, published in 1917.

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