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A Science Service Feature

! WHY THE WEATHER ! Mailed November 10, 1927

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THE RANGE OF WEATHER FORECASTS

The period of time covered by an official weather forecast in the United States and Canada is generally from one to two days. For some years the United States Weather Bureau has issued every Saturday a forecast in quite general terms relating to the whole of the following week. These long range forecasts are made for extensive areas of the country, such as the North and Middle Atlantic States, the Ohio Valley and Tennessee, or the Great Lakes region.

"From the weekly forecast," says an official publication, "a farmer may know whether it is safe to cut his hay at the beginning of the week or whether it would be better to wait till the last of the week, and a produce dealer may know whether it is safe, at a particular time in the early spring, to start a carload of strawberries to a northern market."

The British Meteorological Office issues its regular forecasts for twenty-four hours, but occasionally, when conditions are fairly settled, makes announcements of what is termed the "further outlook". The period covered by the latter predictions has sometimes been as long as two weeks.

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