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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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RESERVOIRS AND FLOODS

One of the many measures proposed for the mitigation of floods is the construction of great storage reservoirs to take care of the excess water. Such a plan is generally admitted to be impracticable in connection with the floods of the Mississippi, because of the vast areas of land that would be required for effective storage and the enormous cost. It does not follow, however, that the method is not applicable elsewhere.

In reference to the recent almost unprecedented floods in New England, an editorial in the Stone & Webster Journal says:

"Reports from the flooded areas indicate that comparatively little damage was done on certain tributaries on which storage reservoirs have been located in connection with hydroelectric developments. These reservoirs not only held back the flood waters above but were not wholly filled in so doing. The saving in property loss from this storage must be a substantial sum. It thus appears that New England's hydroelectric developments not only conserve fuel resources and make electric power available to rural as well as urban areas, but, through their control of abnormal river flow, are also a definite aid in preventing agricultural and industrial loss."

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