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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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DUST MEASUREMENTS IN CITY AIR

The United States Weather Bureau is about to undertake, at the request of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, what might be described as a dust census of American cities. Daily dust counts are to be made with instruments of identical pattern at the weather stations located in about a dozen large cities. These will probably be continued for a year, after which the instruments will be transferred to other places for use in making similar measurements.

The instrument adopted for this dust survey is one in which a measured volume of air is drawn by a small exhaust pump into the tube of a microscope. The dust is caught on a plate of glass ruled in squares and coated with an adhesive substance. It is viewed and counted directly without removal from the instrument, the operation taking not more than ten minutes.

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