

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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WEATHER REPORTS FROM SHIPS

Owing to the fact that, broadly speaking, the weather of the temperate zones travels from west to east, radio weather reports from ships on the Atlantic, are on the whole, more valuable to the forecasters of western Europe than they are to those of the eastern United States and Canada.

Such reports are utilized on a large scale by forecasters in Great Britain. According to a statement from the Meteorological Office, in London, 4,292 radio weather reports were received during the year 1927 from 32 North Atlantic liners. Of this number 1,273 reached the office within an hour after the time of observation, 1,283 with a delay of between 1 hour and 2 hours, 868 were delayed 2 to 4 hours, and 868 more than 4 hours.

It is also stated that 2,107 reports were sent from ships west of longitude 40 through American coast stations direct to the United States Weather Bureau. A selection of these, retransmitted to Europe, were used with those received direct for obtaining the distribution of barometric pressure and weather right across the Atlantic.

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