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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed September 24, 1928

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology

WARM ANTARCTIC WEATHER

It is not reported that Commander Byrd is taking palm-leaf or electric fans with him to the Antarctic, yet it is entirely possible that his expedition may experience weather in which their use would be desirable. Though, on the average, the coldest region of the world, the Antarctic is not entirely exempt from warm weather.

When Captain Scott's party was in the ice pack in December, 1910, many warm days were experienced. Two or three times the explorers enjoyed basking in the sunshine, and even went to sleep on the open deck. Though the thermometer recorded a temperature below freezing, the air was calm and the sunshine felt quite hot. While the party was installing its station at Cape Evans the men were able to indulge in a short siesta out of doors after lunch.

Dr. Griffith Taylor's party, in South Victoria Land, actually suffered from the heat. Taylor writes: "I never remember a hotter walk ..... The sun simply made the perspiration pour off of us."

Such conditions are peculiar to the short southern summer, when the sun is above the horizon throughout the 24 hours.

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