

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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A WEATHER BUREAU FOR EAST AFRICA

Plans are under consideration for the establishment of a new meteorological service which will have as its field of operation the various British colonies in East Africa - Kenya, Zanzibar, Uganda, Tanganyika, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland - and will work in cooperation with the meteorological services of Egypt and South Africa. It is also expected that a number of weather stations in the Belgian Congo and in Portuguese East and West Africa will cooperate. Although the British Government has not yet given final sanction, the project is warmly supported by the various colonial governments concerned. If the service is established, its first director will be Mr. A. Walter, who has been for some years in charge of the Royal Alfred Observatory in Mauritius.

A generation ago an enterprise of this character in faraway Africa would have had little claim upon the attention of Americans. Nowadays, however, most people are aware that the weather conditions in any one part of the world are intimately related to those of other parts, near and distant. When the new African service begins broadcasting regular reports of weather conditions within its territory, these reports will doubtless be useful adjuncts of weather forecasting in America. The service will also facilitate the operation of flying routes all over Africa and the adjacent oceans; another matter of world-wide interest.

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