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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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ARCTIC WEATHER STATIONS

The recently organized International Society for the Exploration of the Arctic Regions by Means of Aircraft--otherwise known as the "Aeroarctic"--has developed ambitious plans for establishing stations in the Arctic, which are to make regular weather observations and report the results by radio. These are intended to supplement the work of a number of similar stations already in operation or projected in high northern latitudes and it is expected that their reports will be of great value to weather forecasters throughout the northern hemisphere.

Locations tentatively selected for some of these stations are North Land (formerly called Nicholas II Land), Peary Land, Grant Land, Borden Island and Banks Land. A large airship is to be used for transporting men and materials to the selected sites. After the stations are established the airship is to visit them once a year in order to replenish their supplies and replace the observers previously on duty by others. Each station is to be equipped for sending radio reports three times a day.

As weather reports are greatly needed from the vast oceanic areas within the Arctic Circle, the society proposes to establish several stations on the ice. Detailed plans for these floating observatories have been drawn up by Dr. H. U. Sverdrup, the meteorologist of the "Maud" expedition. Each station is to be provided with dogs and sledges to facilitate removal of the portable buildings from place to place on the ice, if the condition of the latter should make this necessary, and to perform various other tasks around the station.

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