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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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ALASKAN WINTERS

Two facts about the climate of Alaska are perennially unfamiliar to people living in more southerly latitudes. One is that the interior of that great northern territory is subject to hot summers, when the temperature not infrequently rises to 90 or above. The other is that the southern part of the territory along the coast has comparatively mild winters. At Sitka, for example, the mean temperature in January is about a degree higher than that of the same month at St. Louis, Mo. Most places in southeastern Alaska have somewhat higher average temperatures in January than Chicago.

At Sitka and Kodiak the temperature falls to zero only about once a year, on an average. At Juneau, Sitka and Ketchikan the temperature did not go down to zero at any time during the four years 1918-21, inclusive. In 1915 the lowest temperature of the year at Juneau was 13, and at Sitka and Ketchikan 20.

It is an amusing fact that an insurance company once refused to insure the life of a man living at Ketchikan because of the supposedly rigorous climate prevailing at the place.

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