

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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MEASUREMENTS OF ATMOSPHERIC DUST

Daily counts of the dust particles in the air of thirteen cities of the United States have been in progress since last autumn, in accordance with a cooperative arrangement between the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the United States Weather Bureau, and the health authorities of the cities concerned. The measurements are made, as a rule, at local noon, and a record is made at the same time of atmospheric humidity, temperature, clouds and wind. The dust is counted in particles per cubic foot of air, by means of Dr. E.V.Hill's dust-counter, which shows only particles large enough to be of practical significance in connection with the industrial and hygienic effects of dust. The following cities are included in the program: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Lincoln, New York, Madison, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Salt Lake City and Washington. The observations at these places are to cover a period of one year; after which a similar program will probably be carried out at another group of cities. The dust and weather observations are all made at Weather Bureau stations, and the results, as well as daily health reports from the city health departments, are sent to the Pittsburgh laboratory of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers for study and eventual publication.

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