

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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A WORLD CONFERENCE OF WEATHERMEN

International meetings of various kinds are held by meteorologists. These include meetings of the International Meteorological Committee, held at least once every three years, and of the various "commissions" attached to this committee, held at irregular intervals. There are also triennial meetings of the meteorological section of the International Geodetic and Geophysical Union. Most important of all, however, are the "conferences of directors," held at least every six years. One of these conferences is to take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, during the third week of next September. The last one was held at Utrecht, Holland, in 1923.

The membership of a conference comprises the heads of all the official meteorological services of the world; hence the Chief of the United States Weather Bureau and the Director of the Meteorological Service of Canada are members. There are several cases in which two or more mutually independent services exist in a single country—Germany, for example, has seven or eight of them—but in voting on the various questions submitted to the conference each country is entitled to only one vote.

Some of the matters to be discussed at the coming meeting will be the adoption of a new international cloud atlas, the organization of a complete radio weather service on the oceans, and the publication of the results of world-wide upper-air observations on specified "international" days.

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