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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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KANSAS HAILSTORMS

According to figures recently published by S. D. Flora, of the U.S. Weather Bureau, the state of Kansas was terribly scourged by hailstorms in 1928, the losses for the state aggregating \$12,375,000. Two hailstorms caused losses of \$3,000,000 each. Both occurred in the southwestern part of the state shortly before the beginning of wheat harvest. The first, on June 8, mowed a path 4 to 20 miles wide and 100 miles long through Greeley, Wichita, Kerary, Finney, Gray and Ford Counties. The second, on June 19-20, covered a zone 10 to 30 miles wide and 140 miles long through Johnson, Morton, Grant, Stevens, Haskell, Seward, Meade and Clark Counties. The destruction of crops was almost unbelievable, some of the counties struck reporting half their wheat wiped out. After the storm had passed hail lay a foot deep in places.

Near midnight June 7-8 two hailstorms struck southern Kansas, causing losses aggregating \$2,000,000, mostly to wheat. Another outstanding hailstorm struck in southwestern Pratt County and the northern parts of Barber and Harper Counties on June 14, causing losses estimated at \$1,400,000. Altogether, Kansas experienced 47 severe hailstorms in 1928, and most of them occurred just before harvest.

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