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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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WEATHER CURIOSITIES

Most people have bad memories for weather events, but at a scientific meeting in Germany a few years ago a man named Schrader demonstrated his ability to answer correctly, without long reflection, questions asked him about the weather in Berlin on any specified day during the previous forty years.

According to a publication of the U.S. Weather Bureau ("Climatological Data", Kansas Section, May, 1918, p. 58), the village of Codell, Kansas, was struck by a tornado in three successive years, each time on May 20 and at about the same hour of the day.

During a drought in Australia several people offered to pray for rain, provided they were paid for doing so.

The town of Kensett, Arkansas, during a drought, passed an ordinance forbidding the singing of that classic ditty, "It Ain't Goin' to Rain No Mo'"--but this was only done as a joke.

Clement L. Wragge, at one time in charge of an official weather service in Australia, was in the habit of naming every storm that appeared on the daily weather maps. He named a particularly disagreeable one "Conroy", after a member of the Australian parliament who had incurred his enmity.

The United States Weather Bureau recently received a letter from a man who asked: "What is the difference between a cyclone and a volcano?"

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