

Released on receipt
but intended for use
August 16, 1929

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed August 9, 1929.

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology

NOTABLE CLIMATIC CHARTS

Facts about climate are presented in a variety of ways. The commonest way is by means of tabulated numerical statistics. Data in this form are indispensable for some purposes, but their consultation takes a large amount of time and mental labor, and frequently fails to give the inquirer the kind of information he wants. Text descriptions are often more illuminating; pictures sometimes supplement the text in a helpful way; but the best of short-cuts to information about climate is a series of climatic charts. There are such charts of one sort or another for most parts of the world, but there are only a few countries whose climates have been charted in great detail.

One of these is the United States, since the appearance, a few months ago, of the final installment of the "Climate" section of the Atlas of American Agriculture, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, in Washington. There are three parts in this section. The first one published was entitled "Frost and the Growing Season", and appeared in 1918. One called "Precipitation and Humidity" was issued in 1918. The latest is entitled "Temperature, Sunshine and Wind". These three documents contain a long series of charts, in colors, that answer most of the questions that are commonly asked about the climate of the United States. There is also a liberal amount of text and there are several instructive graphs.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

SCIENCE SERVICE,
21st and B Streets,
Washington, D. C.