

Released upon receipt  
but intended for use  
October 14, 1929

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed October 7, 1929

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,  
Authority on Meteorology

A WEATHER-HUNTER

It is strange that few people think of atmospheric phenomena as constituting objects of interest to the traveler, except in so far as they affect his health and comfort. A tourist will often time his visit to some foreign land so as to enjoy the most agreeable weather conditions and avoid the opposite kind, but how many tourists have undertaken journeys for the purpose of witnessing such striking natural spectacles as the "burst" of the monsoon on the coasts of India, the huge sand clouds or "haboobs" of the Sudan, or the unique "table cloth" cloud that spreads at times over the flat top of Table Mountain in South Africa? Each of these things, and many more that pertain to the atmosphere, are quite as interesting as the picture galleries, ruins, battle-fields and monuments to which Herr Baedeker invites the traveler's attention by stars and double stars -- yet they are almost entirely ignored in all guide-books.

Many years ago there was a meteorologist named Abercromby who traveled about the world hunting for things atmospheric and ultimately described his experiences in a charming book. The greatest living weather-hunter is Prof. R. DeC. Ward, of Harvard. Last winter and spring he went around the globe in search of his favorite game, and brought home a plentiful bag, which he opens to inspection in the last number of the U.S. Weather Bureau's "Monthly Weather Review" for July.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

-----  
SCIENCE SERVICE,  
21st and B Sts.,  
Washington, D. C.