

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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REGULATING INDOOR WEATHER

Except within very narrow limits, it is impossible for mankind to control the weather out of doors, and there is no prospect at present that this situation will be materially altered in the future. However, the average civilized man spends the majority of his life indoors, where, by methods now known and rather extensively applied, the weather may be almost completely controlled.

It seems likely that, in the near future, every public building, office building, factory, etc., and the majority of private residences will be equipped with air-conditioning apparatus. It will be possible by the turn of a switch to make the atmosphere in each room as warm or cool, and as dry or moist, as the occupants may desire. This implies that windows will be kept closed at all times. It is doubtful, in fact, whether they will be retained on a general scale even as a means of illumination, since artificial light offers the advantage over daylight that it can be perfectly controlled as to both intensity and quality.

A constant gentle circulation, without drafts, will be maintained by rotary blowers and a system of ducts for distributing the air. Sprays and filters will keep out the dust from the street, while the moistening of the air will reduce to a minimum the formation and spread of dust from clothing, rugs, hangings and other sources inside the building. Lastly, the air will be treated chemically to remove odors.

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