

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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CHINESE WEATHER MAPS

In the midst of political turmoil meteorologists carry on--take and report weather observations, draw weather maps, issue forecasts. This was true in the dark days of the Russian upheaval, and now from China, torn with strife and disorder, comes a new series of "Daily Weather Charts of Eastern Asia," published at the Peichiko Observatory, Nanking, by the Institute of Meteorology, a branch of the Chinese National Research Institute.

Unlike the daily weather maps published ^{under} French auspices at Shanghai and those issued in the British colony of Hongkong, the new maps are entirely the work of Chinese meteorologists, though the data charted in them are obtained from a system of international radiotelegraphic weather reports. At present reports from about 40 weather stations in China, Indo-China, Japan and the Philippines are presented in these documents, but the base map indicates the locations of about 80 stations, the names and geographical coordinates are given in the table provided for numerical data on the back of the chart, so that a more comprehensive picture of daily weather conditions in the Far East is evidently contemplated. The text is published in both Chinese and English.

The same enterprising institution that is responsible for these maps issues other valuable meteorological publications in English and Chinese, broadcasts weather predictions by radio, and measures the winds aloft with pilot-balloons. So much for the "unchanging East"!

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