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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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WEATHER MISCELLANIES

In Australia depth of rainfall is often expressed in "points" -- a point being a hundredth of an inch.

Subterranean shelters from hurricanes analogous to the tornado cellars, or so-called "cyclone cellars," of the interior of North America are fairly common in Porto Rico, where they are called "tormenteras."

Hot weather has been abolished by artificial cooling arrangements in the Senate and House chambers at the U. S. Capitol, in Washington, and in the presidential offices at the White House. The temperatures maintained at these three places differ to suit the tastes of the occupants. The Senate, with a large proportion of elderly men, likes its air warmest. President Hoover is said to insist upon the opposite extreme in the White House offices.

Huge buttress-like roots above ground are a conspicuous feature of the silk cotton tree -- *Ceiba pentandra* -- of the tropics, but it appears that these roots are really anchors rather than buttresses, serving to withstand a pull rather than a push. Recent studies in a region of the West Indies where the northeast trade winds blow most of the time show much the greatest development of the roots on the sides of the trees exposed to these winds.

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