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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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HAILSTORM FATALITIES

Meteorological literature contains many references to the killing of human beings by hailstones in India, where the event is not uncommon, and where a single hailstorm --- that of April 30, 1888, in the Moradabad district -- cost about 250 lives. Little, however, has been published about deaths from this cause in other parts of the world. Hailstorm fatalities, are, indeed, surprisingly rare, considering the frequency of hail and the large sizes often attained by hailstones, but in the aggregate a good many cases have been reported in regions outside of India. Following is a partial list of those chronicled in press dispatches within the past eight years:

On July 10, 1923, hailstones said to have weighed from one to two pounds killed 23 people and many cattle near Rostov, in the Don district of Russia. Most of the human victims were peasants who ran into the fields to save their cattle.

On August 12, 1925, two peasants were killed and several were injured by hail in the Transbaikal district of Siberia. On August 28, 1925, hailstones killed two and injured 60 in the town of Starisivats (Staravetz?), Serbia.

On May 1, 1928, six children were killed and 10 other persons were injured by hailstones the size of hen's eggs while engaged in May Day festivities at Klausenburg, Rumania. On May 21, 1928, a boy was killed by hail near Laredo, Texas.

On July 4, 1929, three persons were killed by hail at Nuremberg, Germany. On August 11, 1929, five were killed by hail at Kishenev, Rumania.

On May 13 of the present year a farmer was mortally injured by hailstones near Lubbock, Texas; on June 13 hail killed 22 persons and injured 29 in the Siatista district of Greek Macedonia; and on July 16 seven persons were killed by hail in southern Bulgaria.

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