

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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TEMPERATURES IN CANADA

Now that summer is near, Canadians, like dwellers in the United States, are beginning to think of thin clothes and electric fans. Summer temperatures in the 90's are usual in the greater part of the Dominion except the far north, and are not unknown even there. Toronto and Winnipeg have both registered 103. Near the Pacific coast Canadians enjoy mild weather through the winter. Yet the popular impression prevails in Europe, and perhaps even in the United States, that Canada is a land of perpetual snow and ice. Sir Frederick Stupart, when he was director of the Canadian Meteorological Service, attempted to explain this fallacy as follows:

"Perhaps Canadians may be to a certain extent guilty of having unwittingly assisted in spreading the erroneous notions regarding their country by, annually at Christmas, disseminating photographs of winter scenery to friends in the old land. It is the Christmas pictorial newspapers with their Santa Claus and reindeer, snowbanks and ice palaces, fur coats and snowshoes, that find their way most frequently to England. It is at Christmas that persons wish to send home some small remembrance; what more interesting than a winter scene, with people walking about dressed in furs with snowshoes slung over the shoulder, or pictures of people sliding down ice-covered hills in the wildly exhilarating sport of tobogganing? This going on year after year has constantly had a tendency to make Britishers associate Canada with the polar regions."

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