

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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THE "EUZCADI" TYPHOON

News of a great storm or other striking weather event is flashed promptly all over the globe by cable and radio, but we must often wait months or even years before the meteorologists have gathered, digested and published authoritative information on the subject. Thus it happens that the official account of an exceptionally severe typhoon that visited the Philippines in November, 1928, has only recently come to hand, in a publication of the Philippine Weather Bureau.

More than 500 lives were lost in the storm, upwards of 25,000 houses were totally or partially destroyed, and the damage to public works alone was estimated at over half a million pesos. The official bulletin contains a chart of the storm track and a quantity of statistical data, and it also contains the following sentence; which is my excuse for writing the present note:

"This typhoon may be called the 'Euzcadi' Typhoon, as it caused the total wreck of the interisland steamer bearing this name." Glancing through the records of typhoons, we find many others bearing the names of vessels that have been wrecked in them. "The "Cantabria," "De Witte" and "Iltis" Typhoons are all famous. Each of these names commemorates the loss of a ship.

Similarly, the names of the "Royal Charter" Storm and the "Eurydice" Squall, both renowned in the annals of meteorology, recall the loss of vessels on the coast of England, as does that of the "Portland" Storm the loss of one off our own shores.

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