

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed March 21, 1932

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HIGH SCHOOL METEOROLOGY

Probably some future Weather Bureau officials are included among the fifty boys who are studying meteorology at the J. Sterling Morton High School, Cicero, Ill. The course in this subject was introduced last fall and covers one semester. There are two classes, each of which devotes six periods a week to the subject; five 45-minute periods and a period of one hour on Saturdays. The boys study the composition of the atmosphere, how it is heated and cooled, barometric pressure, winds, clouds, precipitation, humidity, cyclones and anti-cyclones, etc. Every day, weather permitting, the young meteorologists send up a pilot balloon, follow its flight with a theodolite and plot its course. Sometimes small "ceiling" balloons are also sent aloft to furnish a general idea of the direction of the winds overhead and determine the height of the cloud base. A weather map is drawn daily from the regular Weather Bureau reports, which are obtained by teletype from the Chicago municipal airport, forecasts are made from the map, and the next day they are compared with actual weather conditions, or, in technical language, they are "verified".

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