

Released upon receipt  
but intended for use  
June 6, 1933

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed May 29, 1933

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,  
Authority on Meteorology.

ZIGZAG LIGHTNING

Perhaps ninety-nine people out of a hundred, if asked to draw a picture of lightning, would represent it as a zigzag line with many sharp angles. Such lightning appears in the paintings of great artists and in practically all conventionalized pictures of lightning used for symbolical or decorative purposes. The first photographs of lightning were taken after the middle of the last century. Thousands have been taken since, and not one of them shows angular lightning. The flashes may twist and meander and branch in every direction, but they are devoid of sharp angles.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

-----

SCIENCE SERVICE  
21st and Constitution Ave.  
Washington, D.C.