

Released upon receipt
but intended for use
July 8, 1933

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed July 1, 1933

WIND-BORNE SALT

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology.

That salt from ocean spray is often carried many miles inland during storms is a well-known fact. Some remarkable cases of this kind were reported in England after the "Great Storm" of November, 1703, the most violent tempest in the history of the British Isles. Thus a clergyman at Lewes, Sussex, wrote to the Rev. Wm. Derham, F.R.S., "that a physician traveling soon after the storm to Tisehyrst, about 20 miles from Lewes, and as far from the sea, as he rode plucked some tops of hedges and chewing them he found them salt. Some ladies of Lewes, hearing this, tasted some grapes that were still on the vines, and they also had the same relish. The grass on the downs in his parish was so salt that the sheep in the morning would not feed till hunger compelled them, and afterwards drank copiously, as the shepherds report. This he attributes to saline particles driven from the sea."

The severe storm that swept the British Isles January 6 and 7, 1839, carried salt over a great part of England. At Manchester, more than 30 miles from the nearest coast, according to the Manchester Guardian, "windows, the branches of trees and many other objects were so completely encrusted with salt as in many cases to appear as if covered with hoarfrost."

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

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