

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE LEATHER ? Mailed October 4, 1933

GREAT STORM DISASTERS

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In 1281 a fleet of 3,500 ships sent by Kublai Khan to invade Japan was destroyed by a typhoon with a loss of 100,000 lives.

In 1588 storms wrecked a large part of the Spanish Armada on the British coasts.

The "Great Storm" of November 26-27, 1703, was the most severe ever known in England. Besides losses on land, hundreds of ships were wrecked and 8,000 seamen perished.

Storm waves drowned 300,000 people along the River Hugli, in India, October 7, 1737. A similar disaster in the same country, at the mouth of the River Megna, drowned 100,000 November 1, 1876.

The "Great Hurricane," or "Barbados Hurricane" of October 10, 1780, was the most destructive storm known to have visited the West Indies. Thousands of lives were lost by land and sea.

The Galveston hurricane of September 8, 1900, drowned or otherwise killed 6,000 people.

The Swatow (China) typhoon of August 2-3, 1922, drowned more than 50,000.

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