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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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TRIPLE BALL LIGHTNING

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Authority on Meteorology.

A display of ball lightning in which three balls were seen about the same time is reported in a recent number of Nature. It occurred on the afternoon of January 11, 1934, at the home of Joseph M. Wreath, Ballymoney, County Antrim, Ireland.

A first ball exploded against the corner of a metal-bound tea chest just inside the wide open door of a coachhouse. A second exploded a minute or two later against a ladder leaning against the same coach-house. A third entered a ground floor room of the dwelling-house, having come down the chimney against the up-draught due to a fire burning at the time. It exploded in the fireplace. The balls outside were seen by Mr. Wreath and a friend, who describe them as orange-red and as being of about the size and having the velocity of a cricket ball. That indoors was seen by two ladies. A wireless aerial is attached to the chimney stack by which the third ball entered the dwelling-house.

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