

A Science Service Feature

Released upon receipt
but intended for use
March 31, 1934

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed March 24, 1934

RADIO WEATHER REPORTS

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology.

A majority of the reports from weather stations that are charted for the use of forecasters are obtained nowadays by means of a marvelous system of radio broadcasts developed since the World War and thoroughly organized and systematized in accordance with international agreements on the part of the various meteorological services. The results of the observations taken in each country are assembled at a single point by either wire or radio, and are broadcast in one coded message at specified hours. These national broadcasts are so numerous that generally two or more are in progress at one time. Hence, in order to simplify the process of reception at one point of material for mapping the weather over a large area, a few radio stations of wide range broadcast, at certain hours, so-called "international collective messages," each of which includes reports from a large group of countries; these reports being selected from those previously broadcast at the national centers. Reports from ships are also collected and broadcast at a few powerful radio stations, each responsible for rounding up weather news from a certain portion of the ocean.

Thanks to this elaborate and efficient system, it is now customary to draw once or twice a day at important forecasting centers charts that depict the current weather in a broad belt of land and sea extending around the globe.

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

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