

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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"BRIGHTENING" THE WEATHER REPORT

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The death is announced in England of W. Pilkington, long famous for his humorous weather reports. He kept a chemist's shop at Buxton, where he served from 1899 to 1923 as borough meteorologist, and where his daughter, Miss E.W. Pilkington, has since held the same post. Many years ago he conceived the idea of brightening dull days by displaying in the window of his shop a local daily weather bulletin and forecast couched with humorous language. These announcements, continued by his daughter, have been widely quoted in England and elsewhere. The following is part of a typical report that appeared on April 29, 1933, the day of the English Cup Final football match at Wembley:

TEMPERATURE:	A fairly big party of therms has left this district, en route to Wembley.
PRESSURE:	Playing steadily without rushing up or down the field.
RAINFALL:	Is likely to score several goals during the day.
WINDS:	Supporters are arriving from all quarters.
CURRENT NOTES:	A depression from the Hebrides and an anti-cyclone from Greenland are the opposing teams.
PROFITIOUS FEATURES:	The steady playing of the pressure.
OMINOUS SYMPTOMS:	Captained by the winds.
INFERENCE:	All the players, sun, rain and wind, give a good account of themselves during the week-end; clouds referee throughout the match; the destination of the Cup will be in doubt until the last.

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