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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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KANSAS HAILSTORMS

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Authority on Meteorology

Kansas has an unenviable reputation among the American states for three calamitous varieties of weather; viz, hailstorms, tornadoes and dust storms. Writing of the first, S. D. Flora, of the U. S. Weather Bureau, tells us that this state has experienced a considerable number of hailstorms causing losses to the extent of a million dollars or more each, and at least three in which the losses greatly exceeded that amount.

Hail fell on 30 square miles of Barton County, in the heart of the wheat belt, on June 2, 1927, and the damage done to ripening grain was placed at \$2,000,000. The other two exceptionally destructive hailstorms occurred in 1928 less than two weeks apart, and in each the losses were estimated at \$3,000,000. The first, on June 8, covered a path 100 miles long and 4 to 20 miles wide in the Arkansas Valley west of Dodge City; the second, on the night of June 19-20, struck eight southwestern counties of the state, with a path 140 miles long and 10 to 30 miles wide.

In the two-week period ending with the last storm mentioned, hail losses throughout the state of Kansas amounted to \$10,000,000.

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