

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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MUDDY RAIN

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology

When the air up to great heights contains extensive clouds of dust, falls of muddy rain are not uncommon. Such showers, colored with reddish dust, were, in former times, accountable for most of the supposed "showers of blood" that aroused superstitious terror in the Old World.

During the dust-storm epidemic that has recently prevailed over a large area of North America there have been a number of muddy rains; apropos of which A.A. Justice, of the U.S. Weather Bureau, tells the story of one said to have occurred some years ago in Kansas.

A family awoke one morning after a rainy night. Daylight failed to appear and they lingered in bed, believing they had waked too early. Finally the husband opened the front door, to find the sun shining brightly. The darkness indoors was due to the fact that the windowpanes had been completely caked with mud!

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