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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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WEATHER REPORT GAMBLING

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In St. Louis, Washington and other large cities of the United States the practice of gambling on the daily temperature reports of the Weather Bureau has invited the attention of the law on several occasions. The operators of gambling pools permit betters to put their money on various combinations of the temperature figures, as published in the newspapers, and promise liberal prizes to the lucky guessers.

One result of this kind of gambling is that betters sometimes attempt to bribe Weather Bureau officials to issue false records of temperature. In other cases weather reports en route from Weather Bureau stations to newspaper offices have been tampered with. In St. Louis the Bureau was compelled at one time to ask the newspapers not to accept for publication any weather reports that showed signs of erasure.

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