

A Science Service Feature

Released upon receipt
but intended for use
July 9, 1934

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed July 2, 1934

HURRICANES AND THE RED CROSS

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,
Authority on Meteorology.

The disastrous effects of tropical storms in the southeastern United States are materially mitigated through the well-organized operations of the American Red Cross, which helps the Weather Bureau to distribute storm warnings and renders aid in a variety of ways to the victims of each storm disaster. During the hurricane season the Red Cross, at its headquarters in Washington, keeps in constant touch with the Weather Bureau, and when a hurricane is announced communicates immediately with its chapter chairman in the threatened region. The problems likely to arise are discussed and measures of preparedness are promptly set on foot.

"In this chapter plan of preparation," says a Red Cross bulletin, "consideration is given to (1) protection of life and property by telling the people, through the press, by telephone and over the radio what to do to improve their position of safety; (2) conferences to develop the best understanding and cooperation with city officials and other duly constituted authorities; (3) all phases of relief -- i.e., food, clothing, shelter and medical aid -- and chapter committees responsible for these and other activities in disaster are made ready for action; (4) trained personnel. If necessary, national headquarters of the Red Cross starts assembling a sufficient staff before the disaster strikes and has personnel moving toward danger points."

(All rights reserved by Science Service, Inc.)

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