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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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RADIO WEATHER REPORTS

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The daily collection and distribution of weather reports, from land and sea, by means of radio has become a vast undertaking. This is indicated by the size of a publication issued in French by the Secretariat of the International Meteorological Organization at De Bilt, Holland, entitled "Les Messages Synoptiques du Temps" ("Synoptic Weather Messages"). This work has been in course of publication, in parts, since 1932, and Part 6, recently issued, contains detailed information about the radio weather messages collected and broadcast in North America and the West Indies. Earlier parts contain similar information about reports from places in Europe and Africa. The other continents have not yet been dealt with. One large section is devoted entirely to the very elaborate arrangements for reporting weather along the airways in Europe and northern Africa.

The huge system of interchanging weather news described in this publication undergoes so many changes that, in order to keep the work up to date, the Secretariat is obliged to send out correction sheets about once a week or oftener.

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