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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed Feb. 7, 1935

WEATHER TERMS

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It is probable that, on an average, considerably over a hundred new terms are added every year to the scientific vocabulary of weather. A single new hypothesis sometimes brings them by the dozen. The Polar Front hypothesis and its applications to weather forecasting have lately made meteorologists familiar with "frontogenesis," "frontolysis," "frontology," "warm sector," "subsidence," "occlusion" and a score of other novel expressions; not forgetting "air-mass," which now turns up every day in the newspapers.

Each new weather instrument gets, as a rule, a distinctive name, even though it may belong to the same general class with many others. An instrument for measuring "atmospheric comfort" has just been devised at the John B. Pierce Laboratory of Hygiene in New Haven. It is called the "thermo-integrator," and is one of more than twenty devices that have been introduced at various times for a similar purpose and have been individually named. The latest previous addition to the list was the "eupatheoscope."

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