

A Science Service Feature

Released upon receipt  
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March 13, 1935

? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed March 6, 1935

LION AND LAMB

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman  
Authority on Meteorology

The English have a proverb that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, and another stating just the reverse. In America we have made a sort of combination of these proverbs; hence our saying that IF March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb, and vice versa.

Many years ago B. C. Webber, of the Canadian Meteorological Office, wrote of this saying as applied to Canadian weather: "As to the idea that if March comes in rough it will go out quietly, or vice versa, there is nothing in the records to justify this assumption; for during the past 30 years these conditions were maintained in 12 years only in Ontario and Quebec, and in eleven years in the Maritime Provinces."

An examination of records for the eastern half of the United States, made by W. B. Stockman, of the U. S. Weather Bureau, showed the idea to be equally fallacious in reference to that part of the continent.

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