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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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CLIMATIC SURVEYS

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The value of any piece of land depends to a greater or less extent upon the climatic conditions prevailing over it. Hence, in buying land one should know as much as possible about these conditions. Such knowledge, if not already available, can be obtained by means of a "climatic survey." In a recent paper on "The Application of Climatology to Colonization," Dr. Ford A. Carpenter described two climatic surveys that were carried out under his direction in southern California.

The method used was to distribute over the tract a number of observation centers equipped with self-recording apparatus such as thermographs, hygrographs, sunshine recorders, wind recorders, raingages, etc. These surveys required six years for their completion and the results permitted a fairly accurate valuation of a residential estate tract of 16,000 acres near the coast, so that purchasers knew beforehand what the climate was on each five-acre tract and could plan, build and plant accordingly. In the instance of a 40,000-acre agricultural tract, the entire property was outlined as to citrus land, deciduous tree land, alfalfa and grain. The cost of these surveys was less than one-tenth of one per cent. of the increased valuation of the property because of them.

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