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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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FREQUENT WEATHER REPORTS

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A new era was introduced in "synoptic" meteorology when, in response to the demands of aviators, it became customary to collect and distribute reports of current weather conditions along airways at frequent intervals throughout the day and night. With a rapidly increasing number of airways along which an intensive weather-reporting system is maintained, the areas covered by the reports tend to coalesce until frequent weather reports become available for a country as a whole.

Such reports are useful to many persons besides aviators. In the United States the weather information distributed by the very rapid teletype system maintained on the airways by the Department of Commerce is now extensively utilized by automobile clubs. Thus, the Chicago Motor Club obtains teletype reports concerning the weather prevailing over a large area three times every day and issues charts from which motorists can learn the state of the weather along each highway.

Another use of airway weather reports is illustrated in Chicago, where the Commonwealth Edison Company is guided by the radio broadcasts of these reports in estimating a few hours in advance the amount of power that will be needed at various times through the day, as affected especially by variations in daylight.

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