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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed November 22, 1935

AN ICE-MAKING PROCESS

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Authority on Meteorology

A Farmers' Bulletin (No. 1078), issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, dealing with methods of harvesting and storing ice on farms, describes, among other things, a method of ice-making suitable for use where the supply of pure water is limited and where cold weather prevails for several weeks at a time. This consists of freezing the ice in metal cans. The cans may be made in any convenient size by a local tinsmith and should be of galvanized iron reinforced at top and bottom with iron strips. The bottom is made smaller than the top, to make the removal of the ice easier. The cans are placed near the water supply, filled/ with water, and left exposed to the weather. A shell of ice soon freezes around the inner surface, and when the shell is from 1 1/2 to 2 inches thick hot water is poured over the outside of the can and the shell removed. A hole is broken through the top of the shell and most of the water inside is poured out. As the freezing progresses water is poured into the shell a little at a time until a solid brick of ice is produced. Under this method only a few cans are required, and this fact keeps the cost low.

Nearly the same method is employed in freezing water in special paper bags, although the bags do not last so long as the cans. The advantage of the bags over the metal cans is mainly their cheapness, for they are not so convenient to handle.

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