

For Release
March 23, 1938

By Major A. H. Thiessen
Science Service Meteorologist

Weather superstitions! How many of us believe in the tradition of Groundhog Day; and that if March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb? A study of the responses of almost 700 junior high school students indicated that 40 per cent. believe in the Groundhog Day superstition. An actual study of the weather records reveals that the groundhog is a very poor weather prophet. As to the lion and lamb story, it also can be tested by cold impartial records. As is natural, it more often happens that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, but the reverse occasionally happens. Sometimes the beginning and end of the month are quite the same. In short, reliable records indicate that we should pay no heed to the story.
