

For release By Major A.H. Thiessen
Jan. 26, 1940 Science Service Meteorologist

The earth's surface! We generally speak of the earth's surface as meaning the outward limits of the crust and water, which has a diameter of about 8000 miles. If the atmosphere were considered, which is really a part of the earth, the calculated diameter would be about 50,000 miles. But it is difficult to conceive or define the top of the atmosphere or the surface of a gas. However, notwithstanding the tremendous extent of the atmosphere, 21,000 miles high, the weather phenomena as they affect the earth; that is, the soil, crops, and the people, take place for the most part in a thin layer of air next to the surface, about one mile high.
