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The sun's gifts! The earth has been receiving from the sun for millions of years both light and heat which, as we all know, are necessary to life in all its forms from the one-cell organism to the most complex plant or animal. The earliest attempt to measure the heat from the sun was done by exposing water in a box blackened on the exposed side. A thermometer in the water indicated how many degrees the water rose in a certain time. Owing to the varying influence of the atmosphere a true measure of the sun's radiation should be made outside the atmosphere. As this can not be done, the amount of losses in the atmosphere is estimated by exposing the instruments from dawn to noon. The instruments now used do not differ in principles from those first used.