

For release                      By Major A.H. Thiessen  
June 22, 1940      Science Service Meteorologist

Atmospheric electricity! When the might of a thunderstorm is upon us we wonder about the electricity--where does it come from? And all the more so when we consider that the power of a single flash may represent millions of horsepower. The generally accepted theory of the generation of thunderstorm electricity is that of Simpson, an English meteorologist, who found by experiment that when drops of water are broken up the smaller parts are negatively electrified while the remaining larger portion is positively charged. The breaking up occurs in nature when large drops fall through still air, or meet rising currents. Drops must break up if larger than one-quarter-inch in diameter.

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