

"Experiments show that chilling causes a constriction of the blood vessels of the palate, tonsils and throat, which is accompanied by a fall in the temperature of the tissues. On rewarming, the palate and throat do not always regain their normal temperature and blood supply. This anaemic condition favors bacterial activity and it is believed to play a part in the inception of the common cold and other respiratory diseases.

"Sickness records in industries seem to strengthen this belief. The industrial Fatigue Research Board of England found that in workers exposed to high temperatures and to changes in temperature, namely, steel melters, puddlers, and tin-plate millmen, there is an excess of all sickness, the excess among the puddlers being due chiefly to respiratory diseases and rheumatism. The causative factor was not the heat itself but the sudden changes in temperature to which the workers were exposed."—*C. F. Talman*, in *Why the Weather?* (SS).

*Camille Matignon: Injurious Fogs.*¹ Referring to the fatal fog in the Meuse valley in December, 1930, attention is directed to a noxious fog, also in the Meuse valley, which occurred on January 4, 1800, and observations of a contemporary observer are quoted.—*Nature* (London), Nov. 26, 1932, p. 822.

ENGINEERS ASSIST WEATHER BUREAU

On March 1, 1932, Mr. Maurice Gilbert, a structural engineer, was one of three men assigned to the Boston Office of the U. S. Weather Bureau by the Emergency Planning and Research Bureau, Inc., to assist in making tabulations and computations required in a series of climatic summaries (3rd ed., Bull. W.) that are shortly to be published, also in the making of valuable tables and charts showing the relationship between forest fires and weather in New England.

The above organization was sponsored jointly by the Boston Society of Architects and the Engineering Societies of Boston, Inc., who taxed themselves for funds to provide financial relief to worthy and needy cases among those who had been employed in engineering and architecture. Consequently, there has been no charge for the services of these men to the government.

While at the Weather Bureau, Mr. Gilbert conceived the idea of having the full daily weather records photographed and printed. These records are reproduced in excellent shape by the planograph process reduced in size showing four days on one sheet, making them available regularly to business houses and persons having such interests as make it desirable for them to follow the weather in much detail. He has found a considerable demand for such reproduced records in detail by regular subscribers and insurance companies for their accident cases.

This service reduces the number of calls to the Weather Bureau office and saves time and work to persons desiring to copy such weather information. These reproductions by Mr. Gilbert have been able to meet the needs in an admirable way.

PERSONAL NOTES

Dr. BERNHARD HAURWITZ, of the Geophysical Institute, University of Leipzig, Germany, has been appointed Research Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Research Associate at the Blue Hill

¹ Paris, Academy of Sciences, Oct. 17 (vol. 195, pp. 633-684).