

1 Standard Shelter.

"In office—

1 Mercurial Barometer—Tycos.

1 Recording Barograph—weekly.

"East and West Straightaway near closed road—

1 Combination Thermograph and Hygograph—weekly.

1 Barograph—weekly.

1 Set of Maximum and Minimum Thermometers.

1 U. S. Weather Bureau Std. Rain Gauge.

1 Standard Shelter.

"The following apparatus is on hand or ordered, but will not be installed until the house is completed—

1 Combination Sunshine and Rainfall Recorder.

1 Sunshine Duration Transmitter.

1 Tipping Bucket Rain Gauge.

1 3-Cup Anemometer, dial registering, mile transmitting with buzzer.

"We issue a daily report, to all persons using the Proving Ground for test work, of the weather for each hour from 8 A. M. to 8 A. M. the following day, getting the report out about 10 to 11 o'clock each morning. We also keep a log of the weather by each hour on separate forms from midnight to midnight to agree with the calendar day. We have also a number of summary forms made up to summarize each item over the month and year, but of course have not much data as yet.

"We have secured the services of an observer with several years' experience at the Detroit office of the Weather Bureau who devotes a good share of his time to the meteorological work. I think you will agree with me that when we get our house built and our wind direction and velocity recorder installed we will be in a position to obtain some very interesting and valuable meteorological data, and also the effect of weather on car performance, in a location whose topography makes it rather interesting from a meteorological standpoint.

COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS' DEPARTMENT

The first order station at San Luis Obispo, Calif., was closed at the termination of September 30, 1927. A cooperative station is continuing, for the locality, such records as a station of that class can handle.

Dr. Frank P. Norbury, head of the Norbury Sanitorium at Jacksonville, Ill., and Cooperative Observer, contributed an article to the *Monthly Weather Review* for June, 1927, on the Destruction of a Tulip Tree by Lightning. Only one of his photographs of the tree was printed, but this was so remarkable that it is to be regretted the *Monthly Weather Review* omitted the others.

Rev. Martin S. Brennan, of St. Louis, charter contributing member of the American Meteorological Society, died October, 3, 1927.

ATMOSPHERIC PRECIPITATION

Moisture that is condensed out of the atmosphere and deposited on the earth is described by meteorologists as "precipitation." It assumes a greater variety of forms than most people suppose.

The commonest liquid form is rain, and the commonest solid form, snow. Each flake of the latter consists of one or more tiny, ice crystals. Hail, properly so called, falls almost exclusively in connection with thunderstorms, and hence is very rare in cold weather. It consists of ice and compact snow, generally in concentric layers. Little pellets of snow, like tiny snowballs, falling chiefly in early spring and late autumn, but also in winter, sometimes mixed with ordinary snowflakes, are called

"graupel" (in which the "au" is pronounced like "ow" in "growl"). This form of precipitation was formerly known as "soft hail." The term "sleet" is applied by the United States Weather Bureau to small particles of clear ice—frozen raindrops. The British apply the word "sleet" to a mixture of snow and rain. Water condensed from the air on cold surfaces at night constitutes "dew," while the little drops, resembling dewdrops, that are exuded from plants by night, are known as "false dew."

Fog drifting against terrestrial objects in cold weather sometimes leaves a deposit of ice, called "rime." The smooth, icy deposit due to rain freezing as it falls—often very destructive to trees, wires, etc.—is called "glaze" by the Weather Bureau, while the American public commonly describes it as "sleet," and in England (where it is rare) it is called "glazed frost." The occurrence of glaze on an extreme scale constitutes an "ice storm."—*C. Fitzhugh Talman, in Why the Weather? a Science Service feature.*

A BOY SCOUT WEATHER MANUAL

It is a well-known practice of the Boy Scout organization to award "merit badges" for proficiency attained by Scouts in various subjects, each badge being awarded on the basis of a relatively simple examination. Strange to say, the important out-of-door subject of meteorology has heretofore been conspicuous by its absence from the list of topics for which badges are awarded, but this defect has now been remedied, and a "Weather Merit Badge" has been announced. The badge will show the figure of a weather vane.

A manual to aid Scouts in preparing for the examination necessary to obtain this badge is in course of publication by the Boy Scouts of America in New York. It will be a pamphlet of about 75 pages, divided into two parts. The first part, entitled "Some Points About Weather," discusses in clear and simple language the specific topics to be included in the examination. The second half of the book is called "An Outline of Meteorology." It is a very concise digest of the subject—a "nutshell" treatise on meteorology.

The book will be fully illustrated.—*C. Fitzhugh Talman, in Why the Weather? a Science Service feature.*

FLOOD INFORMATION WANTED BY CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.

COMMITTEE ON FLOOD CONTROL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SIXTY-NINTH CONGRESS

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Charles E. Kiefner, Mo.	E. E. Cox, Ga.
	William H. Webb, Clerk

October 18, 1927.

American Meteorological Society,
Clark University,
Worcester, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The Committee on Flood Control of the House of Representatives is at present engaged in the assembling, organization and analysis of all