

BULLETIN
OF THE
AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

Published Monthly by the American Meteorological Society
Publication office: 207 Church Street, Easton, Pa.

Vol. 2

APRIL, 1921

No. 4

PROGRAM OF THE APRIL MEETING.

The fifth meeting of the American Meteorological Society will be held at the Weather Bureau, 24th and M Sts., N. W., Washington, D. C., on Wednesday and Thursday, April 20 and 21, 1921. Should later indications of probable attendance show that the accommodations at the Weather Bureau would be inadequate, those who have indicated their intention of being present will be notified. Others may inquire by telephone of the Weather Bureau, "West-1640."

Preceding the meeting of the Society there will be the annual meeting of Section (c) Meteorology of the American Geophysical Union, on Tuesday, April 19. This is to be held in the Lecture Room of the Carnegie Institution, 16th and P Sts., N. W., Washington, D. C. The Executive Committee announces that the meeting will be open to fellows and members of the American Meteorological Society. The program is as follows:

2.00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19.—Reports and Discussions.

Relation between solar activity and its various aspects and the phenomena of terrestrial weather. C. G. Abbot and C. F. Marvin. (10 minutes each.)

World weather maps, or maps of the Northern Hemisphere. E. H. Bowie. (10 min.)

Aerological observations for the World, or the Northern Hemisphere. W. R. Gregg (by invitation) and W. R. Blair (with reference to military application. 10 minutes each.

Strengthening university education in meteorology. R. DeC. Ward and C. F. Marvin. 5 minutes each.

World digest of meteorology. W. J. Humphreys. 5 min.

General adoption of the centesimal system of angular measurements with application to anemometers and nephoscopes. Alexander McAdie. 15 min.

At the close of this program the business of the Section will be transacted.

The program of the American Meteorological Society sessions is as follows:

8.10-10.30 p.m., Wednesday, April 20.

Bioclimatic zones determined by meteorological data. A. D. Hopkins. 20 min.

The freezing of peach buds. E. S. Johnston. 10 min.

The critical period of wheat at College Park, Md. W. J. Sando. 10 min.

Meteorological and other periodicities. C. F. Marvin. 20 min.

Progress in making upper-air pressure maps. C. L. Meisinger. 5 min.

The free balloon and its use in meteorological research. C. L. Meisinger. 20 min.

The influence of mountains on meteorological phenomena. S. P. Fergusson. 20 min.

Equipment for attaining the greatest possible heights by means of kites. S. P. Fergusson. 15 min.

A short business meeting will close the session.

9.30-11.50 a.m., Thursday, April 21.

An improved recording rain and snow gauge. S. P. Fergusson. 5 min.

A new correction-scale for mercurial barometers. S. P. Fergusson. 10 min.

Meteorological Service in Greece. John Paraskevopoulos. 10 min.

Andean or Brown Mountain lights. Herbert Lyman. 5 min.

The brightness of the sky. H. H. Kimball. 10 min.

Comparison of diurnal variations of wind velocity at Key West and Sand Key, Florida. Joseph Leshan. 10 min.

The level of constant density. W. J. Humphreys. 5 min.

Constants and coefficients in aerography. Alexander McAdie. 10 min.

The cool shadow of the cumulus. W. J. Humphreys. 5 min.

Clouds as reliable indicators of winds aloft. C. F. Brooks. 10 min.

Weather in literature. Herbert Lyman. 10 min.

Distribution of weather information by radio. E. B. Calvert. 10 min.

The central office staff of the U. S. Weather Bureau would be pleased to demonstrate their work to callers before or after the meeting.

The American Physical Society will meet at the Bureau of Standards on Friday and Saturday, April 22 and 23.

The Association of American Geographers will be guests of the American Geographical Society at a joint meeting to be held in New York City on Friday and Saturday, April 22 and 23. The sessions will be held at the Society's building, on Broadway at 156th St.

THE WEATHER IN LITERATURE.

American literature abounds in weather descriptions which are of more than ordinary interest to the meteorologist. Some of these descriptions are good, some are bad, but most of them are indifferent. Whittier's "Snowbound" is a superb description of a typical New England snow-storm, from the first appearance of a halo observed in advancing cirro-stratus cloud to the cold, northwest winds accompanied by bright sunshine on the morning of the day when the last remnant of the storm had passed eastward. J. Fenimore Cooper's works are filled with excellent descriptions of Indian Summer in the north. The weather allusions in Parkman's "Pioneers of France in the New World" are as captivating as are his narrations of the historical events of the stirring times about which he wrote.

Writers of modern realistic fiction are inclined to overdo the weather feature. Whole paragraphs are devoted to weather descriptions, apparently for no other reason than to pad or to extend a meager plot to book-length. Magazine writers who are paid by the number of words apparently earn many a dollar in this manner. The following suggestions to such writers are respectfully submitted:

The "best sellers" among books of fiction in the United States are those which have the most general appeal, and therefore are appreciated by residents of all