

could not crawl in, but even assuming for argument that they did, how did they get mangled? The same dishes were out many nights before and caught no worms. It takes warm rain to bring them up in abundance and then the storm seems to pick them up and carry them. I might cite other experiments.

Years ago there was a rain of fishes in Iowa.—*A. H. Felger.*

North Side High School,
Denver, Colo.

(See Waldo L. McAtee, Showers of Organic Matter, *Monthly Weather Review*, May, 1917, vol. 45, pp. 217-224.—*E. W. W.*)

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued an almanac as Farmers' Bulletin 1202. There is very little about the weather in it, and no weather forecasts at all. "Uncle Ezra" cannot use it to forecast rainy days; neither can the meteorologist instruct his children on the unreliability of almanac forecasts by having them compare the forecast for yesterday with the weather, whenever they wish to get the forecast for to-morrow.

The "long-distance" weather prophet of humid regions has an easy task. If he fails, it is his own fault. Here are two long-distance forecasts: July 17, 18, and 19, any year—Thunderstorms and heavy rains in the afternoon. February 4, 5, 6, any year: Severe cold wave; minimum temperature at Toledo, Ohio, 18°. Either forecast will be good also for any other three days of the months noted; either one will be good in almost any part of the northeast quarter of the United States. In this part of the United States rain falls, on an average rather more than two days in five during July and August, and an average of ten thunderstorms may be expected during the month. The forecast, therefore, is pretty certain to be verified. There is an average of about five cold spells during February, of which perhaps three are of the type classed as "cold waves" in the Lake Shore forecasting district. In this district the minimum temperature is below 18° F., an average of about twenty-four times in February. These averages are approximate, but they show that the odds are greatly in favor of verification. An examination of the long distance forecasts in various publications will show that they are of the character noted above. One might add that showers are expected in April and hot weather in August.—*J. W. R.*

METEOROLOGICAL LECTURES AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Mr. E. A. Beals has submitted the following program of meteorological lectures to be given under the auspices of the California Academy of Sciences at the Museum Auditorium:

May 1st. Marsden Manson, Ph.D. Subject: The Relation of Pacific Coast Rainfall to the World System of Rain Belts. Illustrated.

May 8th. E. A. Beals. Subject: Weather Forecasts—Ancient and Modern.

May 15th. B. M. Varney. Subject: Some Popular Misconceptions About California Climate. Illustrated.

May 22nd. Thomas R. Reed, late First Lieutenant United States Aviation Service. Subject: Aviation and Meteorology. Illustrated.

May 29th. George E. McEwen, Ph.D. Subject: The Science of the Sea and Applications to Our Pacific Coast Waters.

THE FOG MENACE IN AVIATION.

The fog menace to aviation, and the need of additional aerological data are emphasized in two recent accidents which occurred in California. Few people realize that aerial navigation is already here. Under satisfactory weather conditions aerial transportation proceeds unnoticed, and the general public is unaware of its existence until an accident occurs.

Of the various meteorological elements influencing aviation the diminished visibility caused by fog and low cloud is perhaps the most troublesome of the unsolved problems. This is illustrated by the two accidents, which, briefly described, were as follows: