

The Weather Man in the Community

The official in charge of a local station of the U. S. Weather Bureau is a man constantly in the public eye. Twice daily he must make public pronouncement on a subject interesting to all: the probable state of the weather in the immediate future. People turn to him for all sorts of advice, which he gives to the best of his ability. The weather man is usually also a source of good cheer. For him even the worst of weather has its interest and its challenge of gloom. At times, Friend Weather Man rises to the heights of personal esteem gained by James H. Spencer, for five and a half years at Baltimore, and now beginning service in Buffalo.

A temporary committee of six of his friends printed a dinner invitation, headed with a picture of the guest of honor, Mr. Spencer:

Behold! The Weather Man!

Sunny, smiling "Jim," as he is known to his friends, which he can well number into the thousands, for "Jim" is a public servant in the true sense of the word, ever ready to greet you whole heartedly with a grasp of the hand, ready to give you service with a smile.

"Jim" has been promoted; he will leave for his new post in Buffalo, N. Y., the latter part of December. The host of friends who have learned to love "Jim," desire to give him a farewell dinner, the real Southern hospitality type with Entertainment de Luxe plus a souvenir for "Jim" to take with him as a memento ever to remind him that his friends in Baltimore appreciated him while he was here.

Dinner, at \$3 a plate, was attended by 150 friends!—*C. F. B.*

Maple-Sugar Makers, Do Your Tapping Early

(Clip Sheets, U. S. Dept. Agric., 1924)

Makers of maple sugar have lost half and even more of their crops many seasons by not being prepared for the first runs, says the United States Department of Agriculture. It is a good policy to tap early in the season, not only in order to obtain the earlier runs of sap, but also because these early runs are generally the sweetest and therefore the best sugar producers.

All sugar makers are familiar with "sugar weather." In general, the season is ready to open during the middle or last part of February in the southern sections and later in the northern ones, when the days are becoming warm, the temperature going above 32° F., and the nights are still frosty. If the days are very bright, warm, and sunny the sap starts with a rush, but soon slackens. A high wind, warm spell, or a heavy freeze checks the flow, but the return of seasonable weather causes it to start again.

Records of opening and closing dates kept in an Ohio sugar camp show the opening season as early as February 13 in 1891 and 1906. The latest opening date recorded was March 27 in 1885. The number of days of flow varied from 9 to 50, the average being about 30 days.

NOTES

Dr. William H. Hobbs of the University of Michigan delivered an illustrated address on "The Glacial Anticyclone—The Poles of the Atmospheric Circulation," at a joint meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences and the Geological Society of Washington. Dr. Hobbs is