

manner:—There are distributed over the United States and Canada about one hundred and forty first-class stations, i.e., such that report twice daily, at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., eastern standard time, to Washington and Toronto. Let this be clearly understood that over the continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Manitoba to Texas, twice daily at the same absolute instant, the meteorological phenomena are noted and are immediately wired to Washington and Toronto, which mutually send data received. Each central office has then a meteorological photograph, so to speak, of the continent. The skill of a weather predictor arises largely from his alert comprehensiveness of mind, accurate and retentive memory, phlegmatic but confident temperament, and long experience in connection with the discussion of storms for the section of the globe and the period of the year for which he predicts. The first of these qualities enables him instantly to grasp the situation and promptly draw correct general inferences from slight indications; the second renders it possible for him to recall, with their sequences, similar weather conditions—a very important matter—when they are typical; the third enables him to maintain unimpaired his confidence in his own ability and judgment when he has made a series of unsuccessful predictions. Experience, the last but not least, is most necessary, since the attendant circumstances of storms change so materially, even from one season of a year to another, that a forecaster skilled in summer storms may fail at first in discussing those of the winter.

Let us consider briefly the value of forecasts. We will be within bounds if we make the sweeping statement that every individual is either directly or indirectly benefited by the forecasts. The value of the forecast in agriculture is self evident, and at times of harvest, when the labors of a year may be wasted in a day, the importance of the forecast is strikingly noticeable. The value of the weather bulletin is in direct proportion to its distribution and receipt by those interested. From