

We in Canada have not a separate weather bureau, the Meteorological Service being under the Marine and Fisheries Department. However, it is very efficient and compares favorably with the best anywhere. The proof of this statement rests on the fact of the very high percentage of weather forecasts that are subsequently verified.

In passing, let me say that the head office of the Meteorological Service should be in Ottawa, where the head offices of all other branches of the public service are. There is no doubt that its efficiency could thereby be increased, and we would simply be following what other countries have done and found advantageous. In England London, (Kew) ; in the United States, Washington ; in France, Paris ; in Russia, St. Petersburg, are the central stations. The idea entertained in some quarters that it should be at some port on account of the shipping interests, to give warning to vessels, is not sound. What above all things the central station requires is a good telegraph service, in the first place to receive the bi-daily weather reports from all over the continent, and in the second place to send out in all directions the weather forecasts. A good telegraph service being granted our weather office might be in Muskoka, however, as before stated, for administrative purposes, it should be in close touch with the Department to which it belongs, and hence in Ottawa.

All skilled meteorologists realize how comparatively local are weather conditions and how impossible it is at times to make prediction for a definite period with any feeling of certainty. The forecaster, then, has to bear in mind that weather conditions are largely local, due to topographical features already spoken of, and so must study with such fact prominently in view the configuration and physical outlines of a country which have such important bearings on the development, progress and movement of storms as to render it essential that the predictor shall have