

**TORNADO DEFINED,**

**Climatologist Gives Relative Differences of Wind Storms.**

"What is a tornado—what sort of a wind storm is it?" That is a question that York county people have been asking since the coming Wednesday morning of the twister that did such damage in the Hopewell section of York county and over the state. One of the best authorities on the subject in the United States is Prof. P. C. Day, chief of the climatological division, United States weather bureau, who in a recent statement relative to the tornado, says in part:

"Most winds of the temperate zones are either cyclonic or anti-cyclonic in their final analysis; that is, they either blow around and at the surface, more or less into a region of low temperature pressure—cyclonic—or they blow around and at the surface, more or less out of a region of high atmospheric pressure—anti-cyclonic; the velocity of the wind in each case, and hence the destructive capacity, depending upon the barometric gradient, or the rapidity of the horizontal pressure change.

"The most destructive winds are usually associated with low pressure areas—cyclones; particularly those with steep gradients and relatively small diameters.

"Two important types of cyclonic storms occurring in the United States are the hurricane and the tornado.

"Storms of the first named type originate as a rule, in the tropical portions of the Atlantic ocean, somewhat north of the Equator, usually in West Indian waters, and enter the states at any point along the coast from the southern portion of the Florida peninsula to the mouth of the Rio Grande. A few leave the Gulf even farther south and pass into

**Mexico.**

"These storms prevail mostly during late summer and early autumn, nearly 90 per cent occurring in August, September and October. During the last twenty years they have caused the loss of nearly 10,000 human lives and damaged or destroyed property to the estimated value of more than \$100,000,000."

Much smaller in dimensions than the hurricane is the tornado, the most intense and dreaded of the cyclonic winds, which yearly takes a more or less extended toll of life and property over some portions of the country.

"This type of storm," says Mr. Day, "differs from the hurricane mainly in the extent of territory involved in a single case and in the severity of the winds, which greatly exceed in destructive power those of the hurricane type.

"Tornadoes are mainly confined to the more level areas of the country and hence attain their greatest frequency in portions of the Great Plains, Mississippi valley and interior portions of the Gulf states. They are less frequent in the far south and to the eastward of the Appalachian mountains, although some of the most severe have been observed in both these districts. From the Rocky mountains westward these storms are exceedingly rare, in fact no account of a severe tornado over this entire region in its recorded history.

The season of occurrence is confined mainly to the warmer months, but they may appear at any period of the year.

"The tornado is strictly a storm of local character, its path frequently covering a path of only a few rods, rarely more than a third of a mile, and usually only a few miles in length, although in some cases they may cover a length of 50 miles or more.

Amateur weather sharks have re-

vived the old theory about storms at or near the equinoxes. Touching this matter the official record, published by the United States department of agriculture, carried under date of January 9 last the following:

Question: What are the equinoxes and how do they cause storms?

Answer: The sun, in its apparent journey among the stars, passes from southern to northern latitudes about March 21, and from northern to southern latitudes about September 22. These dates are known as the equinoxes. In both Europe and America there is an old belief that a severe storm—the so-called "equinoctial storm" or "equinoctial gale"—is due about the date of either equinox; or, more particularly, about the date of the autumnal equinox. The fallacy of this idea consists in identifying any storm that occurs within a week, or even several weeks of the equinox, as the equinoctial storm. Statistics show that there is no maximum of storm frequency, either in this country or in Europe, close to the date of either equinox. Of course, in the long run, storms do occur about these dates, just as they occur at all other times of the year. No reason why storms should be especially frequent at the equinoxes is known to meteorologists.

Mrs. Charles A. Stevenson, known to theatre goers of a generation ago as Kate Klaxton, known best for her roles in "The Two Orphans," and "East Lynne," was found dead in her New York apartments Tuesday morning. She was 74 years of age.

The movement to revise English spelling, initiated in 1907 and interrupted by the World war, is again in full swing. About 460 universities, colleges and normal schools use the simplified spelling method in publications and correspondence.

**ODD CRAZE FOR SOUVENIRS**

**Chrysanthemums Abstracted by Women From Church Following Wedding in New York.**

Beyond any contest, the Pickwick club has left many descendants in the persons of ladies and gentlemen who seek and whenever they are able cull here and there small objects of interest. Savants tell us that we all have a prehensile, acquisitive instinct, so we are not surprised at the gathering of these objects. What is surprising is that some of them should interest anyone who held himself or herself above a jackdaw, but souvenirs have a wonderful fascination for a great many people, and they do not seem always to be over nice as to the means of getting them.

From soldiers' buttons to pictures in galleries, from commemorative plates to chips from a monument, all seem to be grist to these mills, and the latest edifying instance of this was at a wedding in New York. On this occasion the female souvenir hunters appeared in strong force and were active as usual, though it does not appear that they injured the bride or the bridegroom. The wedding, says the dispatch, "naturally attracted a large crowd, but the police kept the curious well in hand. . . . After the ceremony several young women managed to get into the church and took some of the chrysanthemums as souvenirs."

Bless their hearts, of course they did, and no fair-minded man can refrain from respecting them for not taking the pews. You will note, too, that they did not snatch the bride's bouquet out of her hands and that no male souvenir hunter walked off with the bridegroom's top hat. Such moderation must be commended. But what did the young women see in the chrysanthemums that was of interest? There was, of course, a little value in them, although there could not have been much left after being in the close church.

Did they think that one of these flowers put under the pillow would bring a millionaire husband to the young female who had pinched it? It is a riddle, like most of the performances of the souvenir hunter, and to our thinking wonderfully silly. Compared to this the hero worship of the gentleman who had shaken the hand that had shaken the hand of Sullivan was a reasonable and creditable sentiment. Besides, by the time that chrysanthemums have an odor it is a very unpleasant one.—Boston Transcript.

**Hindu Gamblers' Day.**

Gambling is permitted and countenanced for one day in the year in India, and that is the day of Devall—the Day of Light, which is dedicated to the Hindu god Ram, in celebration of his coronation, and of this day the devotees of that religion take great advantage. Huge sums are wagered on games of chance, and on frequent occasions the born gambler has lost one of his wives.

The native bazaars throughout India resemble fairyland, for outside the house or shop of every true Hindu are placed numerous little lamps of primitive construction. They consist merely of small shallow bowls, about the size of a saltcellar, filled with oil in which a wick is floated. The number of lamps varies with the financial standing of the householder, the wealthier natives displaying them by the hundred. According to the tradition, he who displays the greatest number of lights will become exceedingly rich, for on this night Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, is supposed to wander abroad, and enter wherever there are sufficient lights to catch her fancy.

**For War Equipment.**

A new use has been discovered for star shells, those eerie, ghastly parachute shells, which so often lighted up No Man's Land with their spookish glare. Federal prohibition agents are going to use them on the coast. Adrian Chamberlain, dry agent for New Jersey, had this to say of the first experiments with the new methods of detecting rum runners: "The bursting shells not only startled the rum runners but sent fast liquor craft and waiting automobiles on shore scurrying for the safety of the shadows elsewhere. We will continue their use until darkness on the Jersey board is turned to daylight."

**Omen Forecasts Bloodshed.**

The "blood of the Burgundians" has appeared again on the water of Lake Morat, near Neuchatel, portending more trouble for old Europe, if ancient legend is to be believed. The reddening of the water of this lake is caused by the flowering of an aquatic plant, which, however, blooms very rarely. The phenomenon was seen in 1476, when 36,000 Burgundians under Charles the Bold were defeated near the lake by the Swiss. The last time the waters were red was in 1914, just before the outbreak of the World war, a circumstance said to justify the old saying, "When blood is seen on Lake Morat there will be bloodshed in Europe."

**A Sure Sign.**

A commercial traveler visiting a Glasgow warehouse made a bet with the manager that he would pick out all the married men among the employees. Accordingly he stationed himself at the door as they returned from dinner, and mentioned all those whom he believed to be married. In almost every case he was right. "How do you do it?" asked the manager. "Oh, it's quite simple," said the traveler. "The married men wipe their feet on the mat; the single ones don't."

Men everywhere who are being hard run to meet household expenses should feel indebted to the Los Angeles Times for the following: "A St. Louis doctor asserts that silk undies are an enemy of the human race. He says that the silk is a non-conductor of life-giving forces. A girl who wears silk hosiery is taking a frightful risk. The silk forms an armor through which the energizing forces of light and air find their way with difficulty. Ladies in silken negligee are in dire peril, indeed. It seems that the silken habit imperils both body and soul."

This is very clear. It explains many things. The next time you see a woman looking down and out you may be safe in concluding that she is wearing—well—wearing garments made of the wrong material.

The information ought to be passed

along to the women folks, of course. The head of the household might read the statement of the Los Angeles paper to his women folks three times a day for the next month.—Spartanburg Sun.

Six log rafts, each 900 feet long and containing 5,000,000 feet of lumber, besides carrying deck loads of shingles and cedar poles, will be brought to San Diego, California, this year from the Columbia river. The rafts run on schedule, the first starting on June 15 in tow of a tug. They are cut into lumber by the mills at San Diego.

Mrs. Emma Crossman, an English woman, has mothered no less than 68 children. Her flock has included 23 children of her own, 17 of her second husband's children, by his first wife, and 28 nurse children.

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**Jay Walkers**



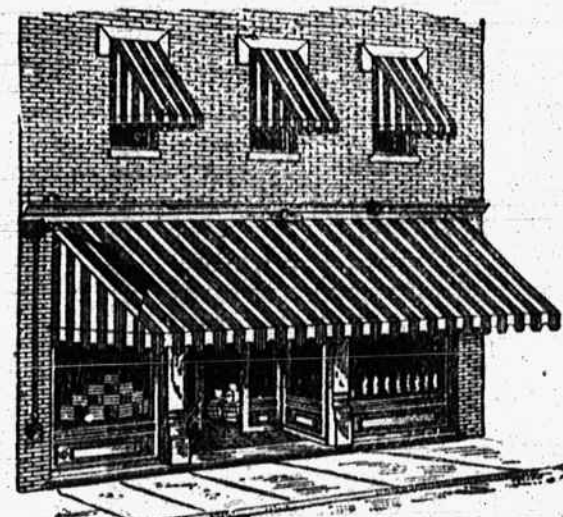
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