

# SUMMER COMFORT PAGE

## PROVERBS PROVE USEFUL TO FORECAST WEATHER

That weather proverbs can now have little practical use, no one is disposed to contend. The national weather service forecasts with marvelous accuracy weather conditions all over the continent. The conditions are followed every hour throughout the day.

In remote parts of the country, however, particularly on farms and in villages, weather reports are not always accessible. Hence, many farmers are inclined to rely upon their own interpretation of the signs before them.

Farmers, woodsmen, fishermen and outdoor craftsmen in general have developed among themselves a set of proverbs which serve as weather guides. Many of the seasonal proverbs deal with results rather than types of weather.

Common among them are:

Year of snow  
Fruit will grow.  
Frost year.  
Fruit year.

Another form goes:

A year of snow, a year of plenty.

Then,

A late spring never deceives.

The truth of these proverbs is found in the fact that a more or less lengthy covering of snow not only delays the blossoming of fruit trees until after the season of killing frosts, but also prevents the freezing and thawing so harmful to wheat and winter grains.

Consider the proverb:

A red sun has water in his eye.

Now, a quantity of dust and smoke particles will give the sun a red appearance, particularly in damp weather when the atmosphere is laden with moisture and dust particles. It is then that we see the sun as a fiery red ball. A red sun then indicates the two essential rain elements, moisture and dust. So it is easy to understand how the proverb came to be accepted.

Another one in this connection says:

If red the sun begin his race,  
Be sure the rain will fall apace.

Weather proverbs have a wide range. Some are good, others bad. Concerning the color of the sky at sunrise and sunset, we have the following lines from Shakespeare:

A red morn that ever yet betokened  
Wreck to the seamen, tempest to the field;  
Sorrow to the shepherds, woe unto the birds.  
Guests and foul flaws to herdsmen and to herds.

This proverb conveys a similar idea:

Sky red in the morning  
Is a sailor's sure warning;  
Sky red at night  
Is the sailor's delight.

If the evening sky contains yellow, or some other short-wave-length color, the indications are that clear weather will prevail on the morrow. This is because these colors of the yellow and greenish hue signify less condensation and dryer air than the red colors.

Again Shakespeare lends expression:

The weary sun hath made a golden set

And by the bright track of his fiery car  
Gives token of a goodly day tomorrow.

Not infrequently one finds persons who suppose that the moon exercises considerable control over the weather. Meteorologists, however, have shown that the moon has little or no influence on the weather. Supporting this, it has been said:

The moon and the weather  
May change together;  
But change of the moon  
Does not change the weather.  
If we'd no moon at all,  
And that may seem strange,  
We still should have weather  
That's subject to change.

Conditions of the atmosphere reflect upon the appearance of the moon. Hence we have the proverb:

Clear moon,  
Frost soon.

Proverbs based on the stars are usually without merit. The following is typical:

When the stars begin to buddle,  
The earth will soon become a puddle.  
The ideas that stars can buddle together before a rain is probably due to the fact that at the beginning of condensation a mist forms over the sky causing the smaller stars to become invisible to the naked eye, while the brighter stars shine dimly with a faint appearance, each appearing as a cluster of stars.

### STUDENT GETS THRILL IN AIR

Miss Betty Etter Finds Varied Sensations in Plane Ride.

The Sigourney Review, of Sigourney, Ia., for July 21, contains an account of an airplane trip taken by Miss Betty Etter, a former student of the School of Journalism.

"At last the time came," Miss Etter said. "My anxiety was forgotten as I tried to figure out how I was going to get in, and went over in my mind all my vocabulary of bad words because I had worn a tight skirt. I got in. I had my little fur lined cap hooked under my chin, and a strap hooked around me as if I were a baby going for a ride in its buggy, and we started. There was a place to brace my feet, but no place to hang on by my hands, was my first discovery. The leather strap was the only thing between me and the next world.

"We were so protected from the air that we did not seem to be going fast at all, but the ground went by so fast that I figured we must be. The roads looked about an inch wide. I wondered why fields were so wide, but finally deduced that I could not see the fences, and it all looked like one big field.

"I was beginning to feel a little disappointed, though, when he suddenly shot down a little way, and then again I didn't feel that sensation that had been described to me, but suddenly the earth seemed to be on the side of me, instead of beneath, and I had a sinking sensation in my stomach. We righted ourselves, and before I had got my breath we went down again, a long way this time. My head went down till it nearly hit my toes, my feet slipped off the brace, and then we began to go up. The air was so heavy it nearly smashed me, I couldn't get my head up to save my life and my breathing apparatus didn't work as it should—

"The aviator shut the engine off and we started down, and I thought of the story I had heard that morning about the engine not starting again, and gave a sigh of relief when I heard it start again, but one of regret when I realized it was all over. It's well these airplanes come down gradually, for it gives one time to get herself arranged, and a nice smile ready for the waiting crowd. I hated to get out, and seriously thought of starting to scream like a baby doe after a ride but thinking of my family's humiliation I refrained."

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### JOURNALISM INVADES U. H. S.

Two English Classes Converted Into Newspaper Corps.

Scoops, feature stories and other such intimate terms known to journalists are becoming household expressions in the University High School. Two of the English classes under the supervision of Miss Amanda Beaumont, a graduate of the Journalism department of Columbia University, have been converted into newspaper offices editing rival papers. Each class is organized into regular staff with an editor-in-chief and an assorted group of sub-editors and reporters.

Students who have done anything unusual in the way of achievement are besieged with timid interviewers who follow their replies with eager attention. A trip to a nearby town means instantly popularity and prophecies of greatness. Editorials are more difficult and are given to the recluse who does not dare carry a note book in public. Poetry slips in when facts become scarce.

### 21 Killed in Explosion Near Prague.

PRAGUE, July 30.—Twenty-one persons were killed in a munitions factory explosion near here today.



## Books for Summer Reading

- WILD FIRE ..... By Zane Grey
- THE LIGHT OF WESTERN STARS ..... By Zane Grey
- THE RAINBOWS END ..... By Rex Beach
- THE TWENTY-FOURTH OF JUNE ..... By Grace S. Richmond
- TARZAN STORIES ..... By Edwin Elie Burroughs

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