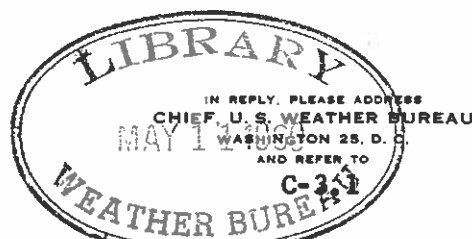


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. WEATHER BUREAU
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1960



FILE: 922 MEMO

MEMORANDUM

TO : Area and State Climatologists, Field Aides (HC), Field Aides, WRPCs, River Forecast Centers, River District Offices, and Area Engineers (with copies to Regional Offices for information)

FROM : Office of Climatology

SUBJECT : Climatological Services Memorandum No. 79

GENERAL

1. MEETING OF AREA CLIMATOLOGISTS WITH DR. LANDSBERG: On April 4 and 5, 1960, the four area climatologists from the continental United States met at the NWRC with Mr. Fox and Dr. Barger of that office and Dr. Landsberg of the Office of Climatology.

The purpose of the meeting was threefold: (a) review of activities of area and state climatologists, (b) utilization of NWRC potential in the field, and (c) future plans.

Considerable general public service load is still carried by the state climatologists located at some former Weather Bureau city offices. This will be discussed with other offices concerned.

State Climatologists requiring work to be done at the NWRC should forward their requests through the Office of Climatology for budgetary scheduling. Exceptions are small jobs requiring only a few hours work or the equivalent in reproduction services.

The need for substation records at state climatologists' offices was discussed at length. Micro-reproductions and -readers will be required. A test with MIMIC cards will be run for one state to get an experience factor on cost and usability.

Plans for career development of present and future state climatologists were discussed. Technical programs, including cooperative projects with the Agricultural Experiment Stations were discussed in detail. The substation summary program will be emphasized in states which have shown little progress to date.

2. COOPERATION WITH BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: Field offices of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of Interior, have been requested by their Director's office to prepare information relative to climatic and fuel conditions by districts.

It is suggested that, where appropriate, state climatologists offer to make available to the Bureau of Land Management any of our publications which may

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help in this project, and that, if desired, state climatologists offer suggestions for doing this job.

Also BLM has an expanding need for weather data from several locations in the western states, in connection with their fire protection program for public lands.

At a recent meeting with BLM representatives here, we offered to furnish them with names and addresses of western state climatologists, with location maps of our substations, and to ask state climatologists and others to cooperate with BLM in their program. BLM will ask their state representatives to consider existing Weather Bureau substations when they are in the vicinity from which data are desired; to consult with Weather Bureau representatives before contacting any existing substation observers, and to see that BLM's pay rates to observers for making special reports are comparable to the Weather Bureau's rates.

3. SC SERVICE COUNTY CLIMATIC SUMMARIES : R. R. Dickson, Tennessee State Climatologist, and D. K. Springer, Soil Scientist for the Soil Conservation Service, recently prepared a summary, "Climate of Hardin County", in connection with the Soil Conservation Service Soil Survey work. This summary of agricultural climate was received with enthusiasm by the S.C.S. Central Office and local field offices. It contains certain departures from the more or less standardized narrative summary. These include a water balance graph, a chart of probability of temperatures below 24°, 28° and 32° after any date in spring and before any date in fall, and other types of derived climatological information.

Since there are no immediate plans for printing this summary, a manuscript copy has been placed in the Weather Bureau Library and is available for loan to any who would care to look at it.

4. CLIMATES OF THE STATES: The following note was received by Dr. Landsberg from the Chief of Bureau:

"Thanks for the loose-leaf binder containing the complete issue of 'Climates of the States' with everything from Alabama and Alaska to Wisconsin and Wyoming. It is indeed an impressive compilation and I shall retain this copy for reference in my office "book trough".

It always seems to me there should be more use than there has been for these publications among business and industry in general. I would be interested in knowing of any evidence of larger usage by the public and the business community from time to time.

Thanks to you and the staff (here and in field) for the great amount of work that has gone into preparation of these, and for the excellent product."

State climatologists are encouraged to forward any indication they may have

of general use of these publications by business and industry.

5. BROCHURE ON WEATHER BUREAU PROGRAMS IN CLIMATOLOGY: Several copies of the above 8 page pamphlet have been distributed to area and state climatologists. We would like to have your reactions to this type of issuance. Specifically is it useful and for what purposes is it used?

6. CLIMATOLOGICAL RESEARCH: A copy of a paper carrying the above title will soon be sent to all state and area climatologists and WRPCs. This paper was used in presenting the Weather Bureau's climatological research program to the Kelly Committee charged with looking into research in the Department of Commerce.

7. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AWARDS: The following awards were made by the Department on February 18, 1960:

Meritorious Service Award (Silver Medal) to Dr. David I. Blumenstock,
Pacific Area Climatologist.

Meritorious Service Award (Silver Medal) to Mr. William McMurray of
the NWRC, Asheville, N. C.

Meritorious Service Award (Gold Medal) to Dr. H. E. Landsberg,
Director, Office of Climatology.

8. TIME SPENT BY SUBSTATION OBSERVERS: A survey of time spent by a total of 200 unpaid and 90 paid substation observers during the first 3 months of this year showed that the unpaid observers averaged 4.3 hours per month on observations and 3.9 hours on other weather related activities. The 90 paid observers spent 2.4 hours per month on observations and 3.3 on other weather duties.

9. STUDENT TRAINEE PROGRAM: The following information on the above program was recently issued by the Central Office:

During the past few months considerable publicity has been given the Student Trainee Program by the Civil Service Commission. Departmental Circular No. 1018 dated September 9, 1959, specifically prohibits the appointment of students to bona-fide student trainee positions except by selection from the trainee examination registers. Only under these conditions will student trainee experience be creditable toward subsequent professional assignments. DC No. 1018 does not prohibit the use of Reg. 6.101(s) of Schedule "A" for appointing students to temporary positions where the duties are of a routine nature and are to assist professional or technical personnel. Students so hired, however, must be assigned to positions allocated as other than student trainee, and may not be included in a formal training program. This means that the Meteorology, and possibly the Engineering, options of the student trainee examination will be utilized for appointment to field stations since, with a very few exceptions, trainee positions in other options cannot be justified in the field service.

In accordance with the above, and in contrast with our hiring policy last summer, the Bureau will restrict its appointment of students to career-conditional appointment from appropriate trainee registers. The Central

Office, including WNA, has been given a quota of twenty (20) positions, in addition to those which will be required for 1959 students returning from leave without pay.

Although student trainee appointments will be restricted to the registers, we realize that there may be a few instances where it would be to the advantage of Bureau to consider appointment of an undergraduate student with apparent outstanding potential, a graduate student, college professor, etc., under Schedule "A" authority. To provide for these cases, a separate Bureau-wide quota of twenty-five (25) positions is being established which will be utilized for such appointments. Requests for allotment from this quota are to be forwarded to the CO Personnel Management Division, accompanied by supporting information to justify equal consideration for appointment with those students participating in the student trainee examination. As you can see from the limited number of positions which will be available for this purpose, only outstanding cases should be presented.

10. PROGRAM OF GRADUATE STUDY IN METEOROLOGY AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY: The Department of Geology of Columbia University offers a program of graduate study in meteorology leading to the M. A. and Ph.D. degrees. Details may be obtained from Dr. Richard L. Pfeffer, Lamont Geological Observatory, Columbia University, Palisades, New York.

11. PUBLICATIONS FOR CENTRAL OFFICE LIBRARY: From time to time state climatologists issue releases, usually mimeographed, on various climatological subjects. Some of these are of a temporary nature, such as a story of the past month's weather, others have permanent value.

State climatologists are asked to send 2 copies of all their releases of a permanent nature to the Central Office Library, 2 copies to the NWRC and 1 copy to the Domestic Area Section of Office of Climatology.

12. PUBLICATION ISSUED BY CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION: The Climate of Shade in which a tobacco tent and a forest stand are compared to open fields has been issued by the Conn. Agricultural Experiment Station. One of the 3 authors is Dr. A. Boyd Pack, who was assistant physiologist on the Experiment Station staff when the observations reported in the pamphlet were made, and who is now state climatologist for South Dakota.

13. PUBLICATIONS DISTRIBUTED TO STATE AND AREA CLIMATOLOGISTS AND WRPGs SINCE CSM #78:

Climate and Peach Production in South Carolina, Climatic Series No. 4. South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Distribution of Annual Tropical Cyclone Frequency by H.C.S. Thom, reprinted from Vol. 65, No. 1, of the Journal of Geophysical Research.

Weather Planning for Direct Seeding of Southeastern Pines, by Gerald L. Barger, reprinted from 'Direct Seeding in the South'.

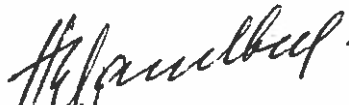
Freeze Probabilities in Illinois, by L. A. Joos, University of Illinois

Bulletin 650.

A Rational Method of Determining Summer Weather Design Data, by H. C. S. Thom.

Facets of Climate by H. E. Landsberg. Reprinted from The Science Teacher, Vol. 27, No. 2, March 1960.

The Climate of Iowa - Soil Temperatures at Ames, by C. R. Elford and R. H. Shaw.



H. E. Landsberg
Director, Office of Climatology

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