

## VISITING MASONS ARRIVE AT 2 P. M.

LaFayette Chapter, R. A. M. to Be Entertained First With "Rubberneck" Tour.

Rock Island chapter No. 18, R. A. M., will be host to LaFayette chapter No. 2 of Chicago, tomorrow afternoon and evening in this city. The visiting Masonic body will arrive at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. A reception committee in autos will meet them at the train and they will be taken for a "rubberneck" tour of the tri-cities.

At 6 o'clock at the Rock Island club a luncheon to the Chicago brethren and the local reception committee will be tendered. At 7 o'clock at the Masonic temple the degree team of LaFayette lodge will confer the past master degrees on 10 candidates. It is planned to have Rock Island commandery No. 18 escort the Chicago Masons from the Rock Island club to the Masonic temple. A band will head the line of march.

The Chicago lodge has an excellent record for giving work, being one of the best known in the jurisdiction. The Masons carry a male quartette, which will render music during a banquet to be served at 10 o'clock following the degree work at the temple.

## HOW THE WEATHER IS FORECASTED

Replying to an inquiry by a correspondent the weekly news letter to crop correspondents printed by authority of the secretary of agriculture tells how weather forecasting is done, as follows:

To this the shortest and simplest answer is: By telegraph. The weather forecaster does not look out of the window and guess. He is not weather-wise like the old salt who scents the approach of a storm without knowing why. To the signs by which the ordinary citizen decides whether to take his umbrella with him or leave it at home, he pays no attention. Give him his telegraph wires and he can make his predictions as accurately in a windowless cellar as on the top of New York's highest skyscraper.

The private individual sees the clouds settle on a near-by mountain or the rain sweep over a field a mile from his house and knows that the storm will be on him in a few minutes. With the aid of the telegraph the weather man sees the same storm when it is a thousand miles away, and not only this storm but every other one in the country. He knows in what direction and at what speed each is moving, and can thus calculate with reasonable accuracy the approximate time when it will reach any place in its route.

Twice a day, at 8 in the morning and 8 in the evening, reports are telegraphed to Washington from about 200 observers stationed in as many different

localities in the United States and Canada. In these reports the observers do not volunteer their personal opinions about what is going to happen. They confine themselves to a plain statement of the actual conditions at that particular moment, the pressure, or weight, of the atmosphere, the temperature, the direction and velocity of the wind, the amount of rain since the last report, and so forth. From this information the weather map of the United States is made up, showing the conditions that prevail in every part of the country. Since there are two maps for each day, it is obvious that by comparing them the forecaster can keep track of the course and progress of both storms and periods of clear weather. From that, the next step is to predict what sort of weather will prevail for a day or two in any given locality.

This map is the basis for all scientific weather forecasting. A glance at it will show that it is divided into "high pressure areas" and "low pressure areas." These are technical terms used to describe the regions in which the weight or pressure of the atmosphere is great (high) or small (low). At sea level the barometer, which is used to measure this weight, will register 30 inches under normal conditions of the atmosphere. When it registers more than this, say 30.5 or 31, the pressure is "high," when 29.5 or less, "low." In this way the height

of a column of mercury in a barometer indicates the weight of the air just as, in a thermometer, it indicates the temperature.

Low pressures usually mean strong winds, rain, and rising temperature; high pressures, cool, clear weather. For a reason to be explained later, these "high" and "low" as they are called, travel in a general direction from west to east. The forecaster notes their progress on the map, perceives their speed and their route, and then predicts the time of their arrival at any specified point. If they traveled, like a ship steered by compass, an exact course to the east, and if they moved invariably at the same speed, then weather forecasting would be a simple sum in arithmetic, like calculating the time when a railroad train running 5 miles an hour will arrive at a station 50 miles away. But storms are not railroad trains. They travel in an easterly direction, but they do not travel due east. Their speed is liable to change, and they are affected by the presence of other storms, by mountain ranges, large bodies of water and many other things which make weather prophesying the complicated science that it is. The skeleton of the science, however, is the progress of those "high" and "low" eastward across the country.

This progress is caused by the shape of the earth and the well known fact that hot air rises. The tropical sun in the regions along the equator heats great masses of air, which rise and drift toward the north and south poles. As the earth revolves from west to east these masses are carried along with it at the same speed. But, as is also well known, the equator revolves much faster than the poles, which are practically stationary, in much the same way as the rim of a wheel revolves faster than the hub. Therefore, these masses of air, revolving at the same rate as the equator, begin, as they approach the poles, to move much faster than the earth beneath them. There is thus a constant movement of the atmosphere from west to east, a movement which becomes more marked the nearer one gets to the poles.

This, of course, does not mean that the wind always blows from the west. The great current flows in that direction, but surface conditions cause innumerable eddies which are the winds we feel. Into a low pressure area, for instance, the air rushes from every direction. Thus, if the center of the disturbance is to the west of us, we will have an easterly wind as the air rushes toward this center; when the storm has reached and passed us on its westerly way we will have westerly winds. For this reason it is common to say that west winds mean clear weather.

The air that flows into the low pressure area obviously must go somewhere. Since it is coming in from every point of the compass, the only available place is up. As it rises it cools and contracts. In the process the moisture is condensed and we have rain. That is, we are likely to. It can not be stated too emphatically that there are many things to be considered which may make exceptions to the most fundamental rules.

In regard to temperature, everyone has noticed that rain in winter means warm weather, in summer cool weather. This arises from the fact that heat travels more easily through clear skies than through clouds and moisture. In the daytime heat reaches the earth from the sun; at night it leaves the earth to be absorbed in the atmosphere. In summer, therefore, when the days are longer than the nights, the earth is being heated for a greater part of the 24 hours than it is being cooled. In consequence the clearer the weather and the easier it is for heat to travel, the hotter it grows. In winter the reverse is true. The cooling time is longer than the heating, and the clearer it is the colder it grows.

Thus the pressure of the atmosphere is the key to the weather, affecting the three vital questions of rain, temperature and wind. Many things may create an area of low pressure and many things may influence its career when once it has been created. But there are certain general rules based on the principles already outlined. The weather maps tell the forecaster the conditions of the last few days, the telegraph tells him of the conditions at the moment, and with this information he is able to predict the conditions for the immediate future from a standpoint very different to that of the amateur observer, however, experienced, who can form an opinion only from the signs visible to his unaided eye. It may, in fact, be said that no accurate forecasts for more than a few hours in advance are possible unless the prophet is able to study a series of observations covering a wide range of countries a few hours after they have been taken. For his weekly forecasts, indeed, the United States weather bureau has reports not only from this country but from abroad and at sea as well.

### MATCHMAKING IN INDIA.

One Scheme That Gave a Missionary the Surprise of His Life. Almost every one who has friends in mission work in India knows that one very important function of the missionary is to play the part of matchmaker to his flock. But few if any have heard of the conditions being reversed and the flock turning matchmaker for their missionary. That does occur, however, as the letter written by a missionary who lives at Tuticorin, south India, tells:

On New Year's day, 1911, as I was seated in my little mud cottage at Tuticorin a number of people entered the veranda and ceremoniously came into my room, bearing trays of flowers, fruits, raisins and sugar, which they placed at my feet like suppliants who desire to gain the hearing of a petitioner. After all due ceremonial etiquette had been observed and I had indicated my willingness to hear their

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For summer wear. All imported straws of such a good grade that you can scarcely detect a fiber that is not perfect. Shapes that are suitable for young and old. Your summer hat awaits you here.

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PARASOL AND HAT SET for the coming hot days. Brocaded materials, chiffon, etc., in light and dark colors. Prices \$40.00 to \$65.00.

HATS FOR THE LITTLE TOTS of Hemp, Java Braid, etc., daintily trimmed with ribbon, flowers and lace. Prices \$3.00, as low as \$1.25.

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Furniture, Fourth Floor.

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A fine lot of beautiful new Spring Suits, selected from our regular stock. Only one or two of a kind. Each Suit has an individuality found only in the higher priced garments. All excellent models, some copies of imported styles, in all the season's popular materials, such as gabardine, crepes, novelty weaves, silk moire, taffeta and others. All the wanted Spring shades, such as Copenhagen, wisteria, tango, tan, navy.

- \$15.00 Suits now selling at.....\$10.00
- \$22.50 Suits now selling at.....\$15.00
- \$25.00 Suits now selling at.....\$16.67
- \$30.00 Suits now selling at.....\$20.00
- \$40.00 Suits now selling at.....\$26.67
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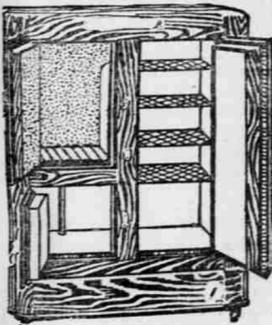
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WE are making a wonderful sale in our Rug and Carpet department. You'll find the most extraordinary rug values ever offered in the history of the tri-cities. The best rug and carpet bargains of the year, a complete range of prices and beautiful designs to select from. You can find without a doubt just the kind of rug at the price you want to pay in this big Sale now going on.

### High Grade Velvet Rugs—Extra Heavy Seamless Velvet Rugs

In full room size, 9x12 feet. Made with heavy worsted face with tightly tufted high pile; come in floral and medallion patterns. The soft, rich colorings, the perfect finish and luster show the high grade quality as well as value, at our price **\$16.85**

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