

METEOROLOGY

# Weather Bureau's "New Deal" To Change Forecasting Basis

## Weather Maps of Future Will Show "Battle Lines" Where Air Masses From North and South Contend

**W**EATHER maps issued by the U. S. Weather Bureau will take on some of the appearance of battle maps, if one of the outstanding recommendations of a special committee of the Science Advisory Board is put into effect. The preliminary report of this committee strongly advocates the adoption of the method of weather study known as "air-mass analysis," first developed in Norway, for general use in the United States. This method is not intended to supplant the one now in use, but to supplement it, so that weather maps with the familiar roughly elliptical outlines of "highs" and "lows" will be accompanied by others showing the weather as "battle lines."

The "battle-line" weather map is no mere figure of speech, for the air-mass analysis method of weather forecasting uses as its basic data information gained by the study of great moving mountains of air that migrate down from the poles and up from the tropics, meeting, pushing against each other, and over-riding or under-running like players in opposing football lines. The interplay of forces borne in these air masses gives us rain and snow, wind and fair weather. The air-mass analysis method has been in successful use in Europe for several years.

Airplanes, whose movements are benefited by the new method, are essential to the gathering of data used in it; for the air-mass analysis method must have figures on temperature, pressure and humidity from aloft as well as on the ground. For this reason, among others, the committee recommends also the integration of all the present separated weather-studying and reporting services into one central organization, consolidated under the Weather Bureau, except for the activities necessary to the Army and the Navy. The meteorological work of the Army and the Navy, however, should be closely coordinated with the work of the Weather Bureau, the committee recommends. This would have a double advantage, for Army and

Navy planes can be used for the gathering of weather data aloft in connection with their regular training schedules at little or no added expense, while the wire and radio reporting services, which the committee suggests should be concentrated in the hands of the Weather Bureau, will render fuller and more dependable information.

In addition to these two major recommendations, the com- (Turn Page)

ARCHAEOLOGY

## Ancient Statuary Revived In Colored Terra Cotta

**A**N ASSEMBLAGE of Greek gods and heroes, portrayed in life-like colors as they were in the temples of Athens, is a feature of the Pennsylvania Museum of Art. The picture shows the first of the tympanum-panels for the pediments, now in place.

An appreciative study of Philadelphia's revival of an ancient art method in *Art and Archaeology*, says:

"As viewed from afar the statuary

adds a scintillating spot of color to the building, although the brilliant hues are softened somewhat by the distance from the eye-level. The flesh-color becomes cool in tone, giving that godlike quality that was intended to be produced. The deep blue of the background becomes azureous and gives a feeling of transparency and vastness that gives the figures of the gods and goddesses an impression of solidity and dominance."

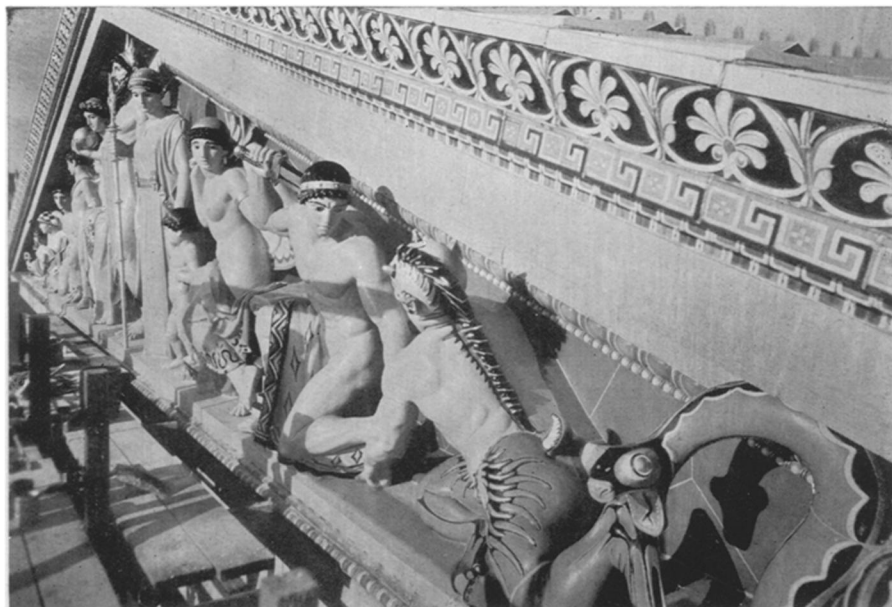
That the Greeks immortalized their gods, not in ghostly white figures but in beautiful color, dawned upon the modern world only a few years ago. Patches of color on faded statues revealed the forgotten fact, and showed that Greek cities must have been brilliantly colorful in their abundance of fine art.

The Pennsylvania Museum represents the first attempt in this country to reproduce the old and colorful art authentically on a large scale, placing it on a building of Greek design, so that the antique manner can be adequately appreciated. The statuary was manufactured by the Atlantic Terra Cotta Co.

The row of Greek notables includes, left to right: Aphrodite standing next to the central figure, Zeus; on his other side Demeter, holding the child Triptolemus by the hand; Ariadne, and Theseus kneeling to slay the Minotaur which crouches, half-man, half-beast, before him.

The figure of Zeus is twelve feet tall. The figures are of glazed polychrome terra cotta, as the ancient Greek artists would have made them.

*Science News Letter, December 9, 1933*



GREEK GODS IN PHILADELPHIA

*Art & Archaeology*