

wave, that even brought light frosts in the northern parts of the corn belt, passed without bringing temperatures low enough to do material harm to the corn, which only a couple of weeks previously had been fighting for its life against hundred-degree midday heats, with dwindling soil moisture to draw on. Corn over practically the whole of the major crop areas is now safe from frost, J. B. Kincer, crop weather specialist of the U. S. Weather Bureau, stated.

The Midwest is not the only section that has been favored with saving rains, Mr. Kincer stated. Over the Southwest the rain-clouds moved, materially easing the situation, especially as it affected the cotton crop of northwest Texas and the late pastures everywhere. Failing supplies of drinking water for the stock were replenished, at least in part, and a small beginning was made in reducing the exceedingly serious moisture deficit in the soil.

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Rubbing mild soap, moistened, on mosquito bites is a simple remedy for the itching they cause.

RADIO—METEOROLOGY

## Static From Hurricanes May Aid in Locating Them

**I**NTENSE radio static caused by ocean hurricanes as they sweep across southern waters may be used to locate these storms and chart their progress.

The University of Puerto Rico, working in collaboration with the University of Florida, proposes to undertake a research program on the location of hurricanes by the radio static they produce. The work will be under the direction of Dr. G. W. Kenrick, who is joining the University staff this year as visiting Professor of Physics. Dr. Kenrick is on leave from Tufts College, Medford, Mass.

Ample evidence exists, Dr. Kenrick declares, supporting the theory that hurricanes send out static which may be used to locate their position just as radio signals from an ocean liner may be used to locate its position by means of a radio direction finder.

Static from a hurricane, however, is only intermittent and can be easily confused with static arising elsewhere, Dr.

GEOGRAPHY

## Geographers' Aid Needed In Readjusting World Relations

**G**EOGRAPHERS are still needed in the world, even though maps now show few "blank places." Many of the mountains, river courses and other features now confidently displayed on published maps have to be shifted and rearranged when explorers and survey parties come out with new data; and even of greater importance, men with really scientific knowledge of lands, their resources and their peoples are needed for the just rectification of boundaries and the establishment of commercial arrangements that can be expected to remain stable.

Ideas bearing on these points were laid before the meeting of the International Geographical Congress at Warsaw by its president, the well-known American geographer, Dr. Isaiah Bowman. Dr. Bowman is president of the

American Geographical Society, secretary of the National Research Council, and secretary of President Roosevelt's Science Advisory Board.

"Until expert knowledge of existing realities is available," Dr. Bowman said, "we shall not find those sought-for understandings of the world's peoples that are required to ease existing tensions. A rational change in relationships will not come by capricious action or through ignorance or provincialism. If we really understand how and why humanity is compartmented in its several regions we shall find adjustments less difficult to make even though we are at times oppressed by the complexities.

"The earth is a vast reservoir out of which man dips power. There is unequal access to that reservoir: the earth's benefits are unevenly distributed, and, in addition, as Prof. Penck has phrased it, 'There is no land of unlimited resources.'

"This is due in part to what we call the geographical layout. In part also it is due to the volage of man's own mind, ever changing the significance of a given environment, searching out new advantages, developing new technical skills, seeking balance or proportion in community, regional and national life, extending the boundaries of knowledge and adapting the earth and humanity to satisfy material and aesthetic needs.

### Uneven Distribution

"To take an example from a single field," Dr. Bowman continued: "Not always are desirable mineral deposits accessible—witness the geographical disposition of the coal beds of China; nor are they always required at the moment—witness the vast iron-ore deposits of Brazil.

"We have begun, but in no sense finished, our regional inventories of fact about the resources of the earth, the uses which we may make of them, the mutual adaptations. Nor has anyone yet been able to draw a clear line of distinction between matters under domestic control and those which can never be used rationally and fairly except through international consultation and agreement."

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