

METEOROLOGY

More Dry Weather For Central Plains

► HOT, DRY weather will bake the central plains states until the end of August, but thermometers will not register the "abnormally high" temperatures of July, long-range forecasters at the U. S. Weather Bureau have predicted. The western plains states, however, will continue to have higher than usual temperatures.

The Weather Bureau's outlook for August calls for "temperatures averaging above seasonal normals over the western third of the nation," and also in the middle and north Atlantic states. Below normal temperatures are expected in the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes region, as well as along the Gulf Coast.

For the remainder of the country, the Weather Bureau experts predict near normal temperatures, including the central plains area. For the latter area, this means a monthly average of the mean daily temperatures will run around 80 degrees. That average for July was from five to eight degrees hotter than the usual normals.

August temperatures normally reflect a slight cooling off of the earth, usually running about one degree less than July temperature averages.

Precipitation amounts will be subnormal over the western half of the nation, the forecasters predict, but normal or above normal east of the Mississippi, except for subnormal rains along the Atlantic seaboard, north of Virginia.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

INVENTION

Peanut Product Awarded Patent

► A PEANUT product, a wafer or chip that can be made by the housewife at home or manufactured in quantity, has received patent number 2,685,519.

Harold W. Moore of Concord, Calif., says that his product can be made by adding about six ounces of water to one pound of ground raw peanuts to form a dough. A mill of the type ordinarily used to grind cornmeal is satisfactory for grinding the peanuts. The dough is kneaded to uniform consistency, then extruded in strips through a cookie press or rolled into strips, and cut into convenient sizes.

The pieces can be either baked in an oven at 200 degrees Fahrenheit for about an hour, or fried in deep fat for a few seconds. The chips can be salted after cooking.

"A product made in this way," Mr. Moore says, "has an attractive appearance and feel, yet it retains substantially the same taste as roasted salted peanuts."

Other materials, such as wheat flour, soya bean flour or wheat germ can be added to dough, he points out, although such ingredients may detract from the peanut flavor.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

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