

## Some Weather Fundamentals

By

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The study of METEOROLOGY had its origin among the Egyptian astronomers, who, being also astrologers, were familiar with the relation between astronomy and atmospheric phenomena. Their views concerning "particular constitutions of the atmosphere," as handed down to us by Ptolemy, have withstood the test of observations covering centuries.

In more recent generations such noted characters as Kepler, Flamstead, Tycho Brahe, and other eminent scientists too numerous to mention here, recognized, as their records prove, the relation of astronomy to atmospheric changes. In Dr. Goad's famous "Astro-Meteorologica," published in 1686, a copy of Kepler's Diary of astro-scientific observations from June 28, 1617, to August 9, 1629, is included on page 170, and the author frequently quotes from Kepler. This work, of which some few copies are still preserved, also contains records of personal astro-meteorological observations of Dr. Goad extending over a period of thirty years. This production has served as a basis for numerous modern compilations. Com. R. A. Morrison of the Royal Navy (Zadkiel I) and his worthy successor, Dr. A. J. Pearce (Zadkiel II), have together covered seventy years or more investigating the astro-scientific doctrines formulated by philosophers of the olden time, and have adduced remarkable scientific proofs in support of astro-meteorology which cannot very well be ignored. To get nearer home we might mention Rev. Irl Hicks of St. Louis, who, although employing the heliocentric system of forecasts, has for the last three decades prognosticated a year in advance atmospheric phenomena that are unforeseen by the professional physicist even a few hours prior to its effect. Our Government meteorologists have occasionally taken a fling at long distance forecasts. Incidentally [sic] Rev. Hicks, in 1900, predicted the Galveston Flood as follows: "One of the decided storm periods for September (1901) will fall about the 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.... It will be wise to heed the signals of West Indian hurricanes at this time." He then sent at his own, and not Government expense, copies of his forecast to all postmasters along the Gulf coast, calling their attention to the warning which the after event - determined a year in advance - fully justified. The Weather Bureau map of the Galveston hurricane shows same to have struck the Florida coast on September 6<sup>th</sup>, thence through the Gulf of Mexico, central Texas, and veering eastward, to have left our territory in the Newfoundland district on the 12<sup>th</sup>, which must impress one as being more than a coincidence, and a pretty close verification of the exact period stated in the dates given. The Weather Bureau sensed nothing of the disturbance until it was already under way, yet with such testimonies as these ever repeating

themselves in support of our theory the Government supported meteorologist ridicule the idea of long distance forecasts.

Considering the vast area of this country, and consequently the interval of time required in transit for shipments of food-stuffs across the continent, the necessity for long range forecasts is quite apparent. However, there should be no animosity between the advocate of material doctrines and the devotee of astral correspondences, for there is a meeting point where they might be of mutual advantage in the diffusion of knowledge relating to causes and effects.

The great Kepler appears to have been fully aware of the universally existing prejudice against encroachments upon old established theories when he said, after the completion of his three famous laws governing and regulating the planets, that "the book containing them might well wait a century for the reader, as God had waited six thousand years for an observer."

From remotest antiquity it has been observed that when planets are in conjunction, or at certain angles in longitude with the Sun, they produce atmospheric conditions peculiar to their nature and quality. The ancients attributed these atmospheric changes to the action of light, and contended that each color of the solar spectrum had certain qualities of its own. It was observed that the positive red ray corresponded with configurations of Mars, and that the negative blue ray predominated when Saturn was exerting his influence. The intelligence of this hypothesis once fully verified, it became a matter of induction for those mystic worthies to continue their analogy to the seven functional planes of vibration as interpreted through the other planets, and formulate those doctrines which have been handed down to posterity. Indeed the Egyptians were so apt in their knowledge regarding the vibratory force of light that they applied it with great facility in the cure of diseases.

Every material particle gives a vibratory response according to the color value of the rays impressed upon it. The vibration thus induced manifests itself in the atmosphere, hence the energetic and stimulating red rays engender heat and drought in the earth which react on the atmosphere, and elevate the temperature. The blue ray, cool and moist, on the contrary decreases temperature, increases moisture and produces decomposition. The luminous principle is everywhere - that of life itself and being unified in the Sun - source of life and heat. The solar orb then is the center of attraction through which the magnetic vibrations of the planets manifest themselves. And so, as the tiny ray of light is reflected to us, do we find blended and fully capable of analyzation the astral principles of the universe.

While general rules regarding the effects of the various configurations and positions of the planets are given in the astro-philosophical text-books, but few writers have dealt with fundamental principles beyond the subject of aspects - when planets are in

conjunction, parallel of declination, quadrature, opposition, etc., transiting the equator or tropics, or being stationary in apparent motion. Assuming that most students are more or less familiar with these we shall content ourselves with considering the nature and quality of each planet.

The Sun, containing the seven prismatic colors, is considered the prime mover of the atmosphere, as in every solar ray reflected is comprised the seven creative principles. Hence when the Sun is in major aspect with any planet the individual nature and quality of such planet are conjoined with the terrestrial magnetism. In all solar configurations the Sun sign must be considered. The predominating color of the Sun is orange.

The Moon being very swift in motion forms during each day many aspects with other solar planets, and while solar and mutual configurations give a specific character to the atmosphere, the Moon marks the changes which occur throughout the day. She governs moisture generally, and frequently hastens atmospheric changes by translating light to two planets completing an aspect between themselves. Her transits over the various planets, and aspects to those in the equator or tropics should be carefully noted. The theory of lunar forecasts is manifestly wrong, as predictions should not be rendered from the Sun or Moon solely, nor can any one rule be taken as determinative, for the testimonies surrounding any one period are more or less complex although some predominant aspect will afford a clear key.

Mercury, who in ancient mythology was called "Messenger of the Gods," is in nature cold and dry, and governs the winds. Being convertible, he receives the impression of any planet which he is conjoined or configured. His conjunction with the Sun produces great winds, more particularly when retrograde. Continued observations verify the fact that many of our hurricanes in the Mississippi Valley coincide with such conjunctions. In cold seasons Mercury often produces sleet; in warm weather his disturbances are more manifest inland, the wind disturbances originating mostly from the desert lands or where average rainfall is below normal. Thus, in the Arizona desert sand storms increase near a conjunction of Sun and Mercury. When Mercury is configured with Mars or Uranus high winds and stormy conditions are also observed to occur from west to east, but attaining their maxima in the interior and diminishing in velocity toward the coast or lowlands. The predominating color of Mercury is violet, and he imparts negative electricity to the atmosphere, which accounts for the excess of moisture following high temperatures when conjoined with the Sun.

Venus attracts the south winds, produces humidity, barometric depression, and downfall, followed by drop in temperature, hence in winter her configurations with the Sun develop moisture, drop in temperature, and eventually turning to snow. The same conditions prevail when Venus transits the equator. When Venus adds her rays to

other storm testimonies, floods frequently follow. Her predominating color is yellow, and she generates positive electricity.

Mars attracts the west winds, quickly elevates the temperature and promotes drought, often so destructive to crops. When with the Sun the rays of the solar orb are driven into the earth with greater energy. The greatest drought occurs when Jupiter is connected with Mars. Knowing the burning nature of Mars one may readily assume why Mars, when posited in the fourth angle in the summer charts causes fires destructive of property and forests, the latter more so when in Leo. In summer such spells of heat from the Mars influence are frequently followed by marked reactions, thus to restore the equilibrium. The ray of Mars is red and generates an excess of positive electricity. Observations show maximum quantities of nitrogen in the atmosphere under this influence.

Jupiter moves the north winds and resists moisture, except he be situated in signs of that nature. An increase of ozone is noted, with elevation of temperature. Barometric pressure is usually above the average; the air becomes serene, invigorating, healthful and clear, allowing objects to be observed at greater distances than usual. The ray of Jupiter is indigo, its nature between that of Mars and Saturn, each of which affect it strongly, the former by heat, the latter by cold and aqueous vapors.

Saturn attracts the east winds, promotes aqueous vapors and heavy clouds, decrease of temperature according to geographical location and season, with heaviness of air. Atmospheric disturbances under Saturn are slow but general in their effects, and more manifest in the lowlands from west to east. The ray of Saturn is blue, imparts negative electricity and an excess of hydrogen in the atmosphere.

Uranus is powerfully magnetic and imparts negative electricity, having very much the same influence as Saturn, though more sudden. A general drop in temperature is observed, the air becomes bleak and raw, with barometric depression and subsequent precipitation. Cold waves invariably follow. The color ray of Uranus is the extreme of the actinic violet.

Neptune's influence, owing to its watery character, leads one to presuppose an excess of moisture or downfall, but observations from 1862 to 1881 show the contrary in England. During our limited observations it appears to produce rapid changes and frequently heavy gales of wind, also inclining to humidity and atmospheric pressure beyond normal. Its ray is the extreme of the calorific red. Each of these latter planets when connected with Mars has been observed to set up Hertzian waves (known to wireless operators as "statics"), more especially if Mercury be at the same time configurated with them.

In all weather forecasts geodetic considerations enter into the problem, also time allowance for storm formations that require from two to four days to make their continental transit. Before

prognostications by astro-meteorology can be *localized* with any great facility, the geography, topography, and geological formation of various localities must be determined. For instance, New York City, being surrounded by a large body of water and subject to a moist atmosphere, is manifestly sensible to the configurations of the Moon. The reason for ascribing the rulership of the sign Cancer to New York is obvious. While the south portion of New York is much nearer to sea level than the northern part, the former is more subject to humidity than the latter, hence we frequently observe two existing conditions of atmosphere at the same time. Those who have witnessed the vast variety of atmospheric conditions in that city can better appreciate the sense of the above.

As moisture attracts moisture general storms in transit across the continent are frequently diverted from their course by bodies of water, hence it frequently happens that disturbances moving northward along the Atlantic Coast from the Gulf or Cape Hatteras will unexpectedly shift their course to the Great Lakes. Because of the Mississippi being the largest river inland, the surrounding atmosphere charged with moisture and the mountain ranges on the west furnishing further advantages for condensation thereof, one may readily infer the reason why aspects operate there so close to time.

In Maine, where the forests so quickly attract moisture, the rainfall averages 45 inches per year. At Neal Bay, Wash., in one year 140 inches have been recorded, but in certain parts of Arizona the yearly rainfall seldom exceeds two inches. Thus in forecasting the general character of the weather for any time due consideration must be given to the locality. In the northeastern states an aspect of Saturn might indicate precipitation, and the east wind would continue to blow for some hours until it met another current of air near Cape Hatteras. The storm would then commence to operate, sweeping northward and not reaching the northeast states until a day or two after the aspect is exact.

Even under the conjunction of Mercury with Sun, which is more potent in the Mississippi Valley in causing violent wind disturbances and storm centers, the gales may not reach the eastern coast until two or three days after the aspect. The wind might attain a velocity of 125 miles per hour inland where this combination is more effective, but as it neared the moist atmosphere of the coast might be reduced to a velocity of 60 to 70 miles per hour.

In considering Jupiter, which signifies the N. and N.W. Winds, his aspects in winter tend to lower temperature in the east, as these winds reach us from the snow-clad sections and the cold grounds inland. In summer these same winds, for our eastern sections, should be the reverse, as the soil is then baked and dry. The Saturn east winds in winter months for the Atlantic States incline to high temperatures along the east coast, because coming off the water - which is warmer than the land at this period of the year - and from the Gulf Stream. But on reaching the interior the Saturn winds, in

passing over the frosty earth, would incline to low temperatures.

By the same reasoning things should be just the reverse along the western coast, as the east winds there come from the cold heights of the Rockies. There is a characteristic responsiveness of atmospheric phenomena not only to features of topography, but to geological formations. The same aspect will thus act differently in different sections of the country according to these considerations, and astro-meteorology can be studied with profit only with knowledge of these facts. An aspect along a given parallel would produce one quality of weather in upper New York state, another over the coal fields of Pennsylvania, and yet another in the lowlands of the South - all in the same range of longitude and under the same sidereal impact.

The rules of astro-meteorology cannot be safely followed without these various considerations and a conversancy with weather physics generally: just as the astrologian who knows the theory and practice of medicine will be able to apply the science to diagnosis and treatment of disease with more facility than the one who knows naught of therapeutics; similarly, a knowledge of market potentials is necessary to make an intelligent application to speculative ranges.

Astro-meteorology as applied to limited areas, such as the British Isles, is comparatively a "soft" proposition, and should be easily mastered and utilized. But over these United States the temperature variations more often than not run to extremes. For example, on January 27, 1916, the thermometer readings between Florida and North Dakota revealed merely a little differential variation of  $134^{\circ}$ ! At New York the glass registered  $66.5^{\circ}$ ; meanwhile the Western States were gripped in a blizzard that sent the mercury below zero in some localities; at Havre, Montana, it reached  $54^{\circ}$  below, and with a cold wave extending all the way from Texas to the State of Washington. At the preceding New Moon, calculated for New York, Cancer culminated with Libra on the ascendant, and the luminaries conjoined in the lower meridian in opposition to an elevated Saturn. The mean temperature for the month was 5.2 above normal, while the amount of precipitation recorded was 1.8 inches, or 3.79 inches below normal. This lunar period contained seven clear days, ten partly cloudy, and fourteen heavily overcast - a very definite verification of the Saturn influence.

The figures for the four solar ingresses should, however, be adverted to before resolving judgment on lunations. Thus, in determining the variety of temperature prevalent throughout the country during the winter quarter forementioned, it is to be noted that at the ruling solar ingress at Washington no planets occupied the lower angle, Jupiter culminated, Venus was vespertine, with Moon rising in conjunction with Saturn, but applying to a trine aspect of Jupiter. But the chart for the same ingress erected for  $110^{\circ}$  west longitude shows Uranus culminating and Mars in fourth angle, although the latter turned retrograde very shortly thereafter, and Mercury, the blizzard breeder, became stationary in the zenith (in Aquarius)

on January 27<sup>th</sup>, within orb of an opposition to Mars at the ingress, and so gave testimony of the storm conditions over that area.

The position of Mercury in the fourth angle sextile Uranus at the Winter Solstice of 1887 enabled astro-meteorologists even in Europe to forecast, months in advance, our remarkable blizzard of March 12, 1888. The M. C. of this figure was the first degree of Gemini, with 5° Virgo ascending. The moon was setting in close square to Neptune from fixed signs, and accentuated on the day of the blizzard with a lunation in the western angle of the Ingress figure.

Until quite recently our students, both here and abroad, have attempted to determine the character of our weather from charts erected for Washington. This is manifestly a limited viewpoint, as figures should be calculated for each fifteen degrees of the country's meridians, using the various latitudes required. Obviously the angles of a New York figure would differ greatly from one belonging to the western coast.

Charts for the quarterly phases of the Moon will supply additional facts in prognosis, though the integrity of the neomenia itself is to be maintained as a vantage point, the planets then in angles being criteria of the first week's outlook in particular, more so at such times as the Moon shall be in aspect thereto.

From a speculative - and why not logical? - standpoint the sublunar system is not without many physiological parallels. Thus, the rivers may be compared to the arterial system, and allotted to the rulership of Jupiter. New Orleans as the "Crescent City" and because of its geographical characteristics, may be assigned to Cancer and the Moon; the Rockies and the plains of Arizona might share the rulership of Leo; the coal fields of Pennsylvania be placed under Saturn, although Pittsburgh itself, on account of its steel industry, is strongly affected by the rays of Mars. Similarly, any planet in the fourth angle as representing conditions of the ground, must operate more decisively upon the terrine batteries than if in other positions, and more forcibly in some sections of the country than in others, according to a combination of planet and topography, as for instance, Mars in the fourth angle in a chart bearing rule over Pennsylvania would probable excite atmospheric phenomena of a character signified by Mars conjunction Saturn. And so of other territories according to local planetary rulership. The sum and substance of the matter is, the earth attracts or repels rays in accordance with the nature of its formations in specific localities, and as consistently as man himself, upon whom the stars impress their influence in measure and kind according to his constitutional susceptibility. The importance of this point is not to be ignored if weather probabilities are to be properly weighed and analyzed.

If our Government meteorologists would devote more time and give more attention to cosmic causes, their tabulation of physical effects would take on more significance and work to a better purpose.

Instead, the most we are able to learn from them is that some former record has been broken, or 'nearly so". A recent worthy, for a moment enticed from his kindergarten notations, very sapiently observed that "cyclones are caused by trade winds deflected or turned out of their course," and that "in the Mexican Gulf they are caused by the north-east trade winds deflected by the overheating of the Mississippi Valley." Now may we inquire, what causes the overheating of the Mississippi Valley?

In the application of the tenets of the astro-meteorology general rules, though closely followed, will give only comparative results. As in all fields of investigation, practice, observation, and the profound faculty of induction, are essentials to reliable judgment. Astrology, as with other avenues of science, calls for the specialist, as indicated in the fact that one student temperamentally qualified for weather determinations will reach averages which another lacking in the faculty might strive in vain to emulate. And in this one department of the stellar science the specialist is as necessary as he is in medicine, in art, in mechanics, etc., for he needs and should have careful training and experience in the domain of general physics, the better to comprehend and to unravel the complexities that so eternally obtain between the regions of the air and those of the earth.

I have made reference to geological characteristics in connection with planetary phenomena as being of vital importance in weather prognosis. Indeed, a significance attaches to this one fact that might well be regarded as the supreme *sine qua non* in any serious study to be made of the subject. It involves certain fundamentals that consistently lead one into metaphysical realms, wherein the earth itself must be viewed as a cosmos, with its terrestrial sun, moon, and planets, acting in orderly response to macrocosmic impingements. From which viewpoint it becomes easily apparent that all celestial phenomena are inter-related with cognate forces in the telluric system, and must be considered in combination therewith. For example, any aspect in the heavens that might in any wise be made applicable to a particular section, as Pennsylvania for instance, must be taken as in association with the Saturn principle that inheres in the coal deposits of that region. Truly a *condition* and not a *theory*, but one that would require for its proper analysis and exploitation a more extended treatment than can be entered into here. The question involved is a very logical one, and should open out a new field for the earnest student who would fain scrutinize and ponder all the elements in Nature's laboratory, whether in the canopy above, or the regions beneath.