

RELATIONS BETWEEN CLIMATE AND CRIME

EFFECTS OF WEATHER ON HUMAN CONDUCT.

Greater in Summer Than in Winter. Conditions Under Which Murders and Suicides Are Most Common. Meteorological Phenomena Responsible for Many Misdemeanors.

From the Washington Star.

Does the weather regulate human conduct, and do atmospheric conditions have marked effect upon the criminality of men?

These are the startling questions which the meteorological experts at Washington have been asked to grapple with and solve.

The direct results of their investigations, so far as they have progressed, disclose some exceedingly interesting facts.

That man's mental functions are to a greater or lesser extent governed by his physical condition is a fact long ago discovered by psychologists.

But to what extent the shortcomings or evil doings of mankind are directly traceable to conditions of the weather it has remained until today for physicians, scientists and laymen interested in such research to find out.

Indeed, the majority of normal persons, whatever their occupation, are swayed intellectually and physically by the prevailing state of the weather.

And the police records disclose a corresponding increase or decrease of crime with the falling and rising barometer.

And these statements are not haphazard, nor are they founded upon supposition; they are matters of record and scientific fact, as evidenced by the best-known and most capable authorities of the land.

A CRIMINAL BAROMETRIST.

When Professor Emil Dauchney of Paris recently made the assertion that the record of murder, burglary and other crimes could be shown by a barometer mathematically constructed for the purpose just as accurately as the weather is now shown by the common barometer.

The statistics of the weather bureau prove, first, that men and women who live in high latitudes have in their mental and physical make-up much more of the animal than have their brethren of the south.

In consequence, while the southerner is easily discouraged and losing heart takes to suicide, the man who was born and lives in the north recharges himself upon his fellow being rather than upon himself.

Thus, crime is generally premeditated in warm, cloudy weather, while the deed itself is executed under clear and bracing meteorological conditions.

The reports of the department of agriculture on this subject are not only exhaustive as one might wish, are at one with English and French facts and figures of the same kind.

Our native investigators say that during excessively hot weather, when there is a great deal of humidity in the atmosphere and persons perspire more freely, when there is little or no relief from sweating humanity, the mind becomes to a certain extent deranged and the commission of crime results.

DARK DAYS AND MURDER.

After a thorough study of the question, Professor Dauchney says: "When very moist the atmosphere is a much better conductor of electricity than at any other time.

Then the natural electricity is drawn from the body, and this has a tendency to destroy vitality and weaken the mental faculties.

Dark days and muggy weather means an increase of murder, robbery, rape, arson and suicide." Dr. S. A. K. Strahan, who, next to Lombroso, ranks as one of the foremost criminologists of the age.

Dr. Strahan further states that it is when skies are lowering and there is much humidity that the commission of crime is greatest.

LONELINESS CONTRIBUTES.

Another interesting fact is this: A man or woman who lives much alone is, in 50 per cent of the cases investigated, much more easily influenced by atmospheric changes than are others.

So a person who has many troubles, and is constantly thinking of them, is much more susceptible to any sudden changing of the weather than one who is care free and light-hearted.

The weather of a storm or a single literal ray of sunshine would, in hundreds of thousands of cases, have prevented suicide and murder.

In regions like New York and Boston, where there are so many and such sudden changes of the weather, the climatic influence upon human character and action is a factor of no little importance.

There is an annual rhythmic rise and fall which affects the animate nature. With the approach of spring and the increase of temperature there is a general awakening from the winter's period of comparative rest.

Rebuilding the Temple.

EZRA 111:10 to 1V:5.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

Sunday-School Lesson for September 3.

CONTEXT.—Last lesson gave an account of the proclamation of Cyrus and the preparation of the Jews for return from captivity.

At the heads of the families who went forth on that expedition are recorded by Ezra in his second chapter.

The congregation made a very brief stay in Jerusalem and then distributed themselves in the old cities from which their fathers came.

Several months after there was a general assemblage at Jerusalem for the purpose of observing the Feast of Tabernacles, a national festival that continued seven days at the close of the harvest.

Like waters that burst forth from fountains the gladness overflowed. With shoutings and other demonstrations of a physical sort the multitude spontaneously told each to the other, and all to their God, the sense of gratitude and of hopefulness as the foundations of the temple were laid.

WEeping.—(Vs. 12 and 13).—All this rejoicing was occasioned by a look into the future. The building of the temple signified the restoration of religious privileges, with all the benefit to be derived therefrom.

Beginning.—(V. 10).—Two years passed away before the returned Jews (v. 8) undertook to do what Cyrus had required of them in his proclamation.

The time was well employed. The great body of the people were engaged in erecting dwellings and in providing the comforts of home, a matter of the utmost importance in a land that had been wasted by war and had been a desolation for nearly a century.

Meanwhile, the officials, both civil and religious, might have been busy with preparations. The debris of the old temple must be gathered, materials for the new house must be gathered, and men must be secured, some of them skilled workmen.

At length, and in a very brief time, considering the obstacles, all was ready for the formal beginning. Zerubbabel, the governor, (Hag. ii. 2) assembled the priests and Levites, who gathered about the trenches to witness the laying of the foundation.

Praising.—(Vs. 10 and 11).—That was a glad hour. Prophecies were fulfilled and hopes revived. A people, long to bondage, brought back to their native land, deprived of all things except their religion, yet cherishing memories of God's favor in the centuries gone by, were now to begin, by grace of the God of Israel, a new career.

It was eminently proper that there should be public expressions of joy. Appointments had been made to that end. Arranged in order were the priests clad in their holy garments, bearing trumpets.

SHOUTING.—(V. 11).—The singing indicates that crime is, to a degree, contagious; that a certain ethical influence or psychic influence is cast abroad, and that this influence is to a large degree magnetic.

Statistics of crime show beyond question the truth of Mr. Dunn's assertions relative to the undoubted influences of climate upon crime.

There is a certain crime more frequently committed at certain seasons of the year, but in certain countries the climate is especially conducive to such crimes.

For instance, in Southern China, where a warm or humid temperature in summer time is the greater portion of the year, there is less regard for life than perhaps in any other portion of the globe.

Murders are every day occurrences, suicides too common to even pay attention to, while theft, rape and other crimes are innumerable.

The history of crime shows that cold doing is subject to epidemics as well as diseases. We find epidemics of suicides, epidemics of murders and epidemics of robberies.

A careful study of the question reveals the fact that the maximum is attained in one or other of the spring or early summer months.

Dr. Strahan further states that it is when skies are lowering and there is much humidity that the commission of crime is greatest.

STORIES TOLD BY TRUTHFUL MEN.

A nervous young lady called a physician for a slight ailment, but one which she magnified, in her own estimation, into a serious one.

"But," said the doctor, "a servant, giving him a prescription, 'to the nearest drug store and bring back the medicine as quickly as you can.'"

"Is there much danger?" replied the young lady, in alarm.

"Yes," said the doctor, "if your servant is not quick it will be useless. 'Oh, doctor, shall I die?' gasped the patient.

"There is no danger of that," said the doctor, "but you may get well before John returns."—Boston Traveller.

Rebuilding the Temple.

EZRA 111:10 to 1V:5.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

Sunday-School Lesson for September 3.

CONTEXT.—Last lesson gave an account of the proclamation of Cyrus and the preparation of the Jews for return from captivity.

At the heads of the families who went forth on that expedition are recorded by Ezra in his second chapter.

The congregation made a very brief stay in Jerusalem and then distributed themselves in the old cities from which their fathers came.

Several months after there was a general assemblage at Jerusalem for the purpose of observing the Feast of Tabernacles, a national festival that continued seven days at the close of the harvest.

Like waters that burst forth from fountains the gladness overflowed. With shoutings and other demonstrations of a physical sort the multitude spontaneously told each to the other, and all to their God, the sense of gratitude and of hopefulness as the foundations of the temple were laid.

WEeping.—(Vs. 12 and 13).—All this rejoicing was occasioned by a look into the future. The building of the temple signified the restoration of religious privileges, with all the benefit to be derived therefrom.

Beginning.—(V. 10).—Two years passed away before the returned Jews (v. 8) undertook to do what Cyrus had required of them in his proclamation.

The time was well employed. The great body of the people were engaged in erecting dwellings and in providing the comforts of home, a matter of the utmost importance in a land that had been wasted by war and had been a desolation for nearly a century.

Meanwhile, the officials, both civil and religious, might have been busy with preparations. The debris of the old temple must be gathered, materials for the new house must be gathered, and men must be secured, some of them skilled workmen.

At length, and in a very brief time, considering the obstacles, all was ready for the formal beginning. Zerubbabel, the governor, (Hag. ii. 2) assembled the priests and Levites, who gathered about the trenches to witness the laying of the foundation.

Praising.—(Vs. 10 and 11).—That was a glad hour. Prophecies were fulfilled and hopes revived. A people, long to bondage, brought back to their native land, deprived of all things except their religion, yet cherishing memories of God's favor in the centuries gone by, were now to begin, by grace of the God of Israel, a new career.

It was eminently proper that there should be public expressions of joy. Appointments had been made to that end. Arranged in order were the priests clad in their holy garments, bearing trumpets.

SHOUTING.—(V. 11).—The singing indicates that crime is, to a degree, contagious; that a certain ethical influence or psychic influence is cast abroad, and that this influence is to a large degree magnetic.

Statistics of crime show beyond question the truth of Mr. Dunn's assertions relative to the undoubted influences of climate upon crime.

There is a certain crime more frequently committed at certain seasons of the year, but in certain countries the climate is especially conducive to such crimes.

For instance, in Southern China, where a warm or humid temperature in summer time is the greater portion of the year, there is less regard for life than perhaps in any other portion of the globe.

Murders are every day occurrences, suicides too common to even pay attention to, while theft, rape and other crimes are innumerable.

The history of crime shows that cold doing is subject to epidemics as well as diseases. We find epidemics of suicides, epidemics of murders and epidemics of robberies.

A careful study of the question reveals the fact that the maximum is attained in one or other of the spring or early summer months.

Dr. Strahan further states that it is when skies are lowering and there is much humidity that the commission of crime is greatest.

STORIES TOLD BY TRUTHFUL MEN.

A nervous young lady called a physician for a slight ailment, but one which she magnified, in her own estimation, into a serious one.

"But," said the doctor, "a servant, giving him a prescription, 'to the nearest drug store and bring back the medicine as quickly as you can.'"

"Is there much danger?" replied the young lady, in alarm.

"Yes," said the doctor, "if your servant is not quick it will be useless. 'Oh, doctor, shall I die?' gasped the patient.

"There is no danger of that," said the doctor, "but you may get well before John returns."—Boston Traveller.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Hutchins. The Kind You Have Always Bought. CASTORIA. THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK, CTY.

NEW YORK HOTELS. The St. Denis Broadway and Eleventh St., New York. Opp. Grace Church—European Plan. Rooms \$2.00 a Day and Upwards.

WESTMINSTER HOTEL, Cor. Sixteenth St. and Irving Place, NEW YORK. AMERICAN PLAN, \$3.50 Per Day and Upwards. EUROPEAN PLAN, \$1.50 Per Day and Upwards.

I. D. CRAWFORD, Proprietor. For Business Men. In the heart of the wholesale district. For Shoppers. 3 minutes' walk to Wanamaker's. For Sightseers. One block from E-way Cars, giving easy transportation to all points of interest.

LIVERITA THE UP-TO-DATE LITTLE LIVER PILL CURES Billiousness, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Sick-Headache and Liver Complaint. SUGAR COATED. Sold by all druggists or sent by mail.

MAKE PERFECT MEN DO NOT DESPAIR! In our new book you will find the very best and most reliable remedy for all ailments of the male sex.

MADE ME A MAN! AJAX TABLETS POSITIVELY CURE: Catarrh, Gonorrhea, Stricture, etc. Sold in Scranton, Pa., by Matthews Bros. and McGarrath & Thomas, druggists.

FREE MEDICINES AND APPLIANCE To any honest man who may try them a reasonable time. If he is pleased with the result, he is to keep and pay for them. Erie Medical Co., 66 NIAGARA ST., BUFFALO, N. Y.

