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978-1-107-61949-4 - Weather Inference for Beginners: Made Clear in a Series of Actual Examples
D. J. Holland
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WEATHER INFERENCE
FOR BEGINNERS



STORM CLOUD DEVELOPING OVER LONDON: 10.30 G.M.T. ON 5.9.36
(see page 34)

WEATHER INFERENCE
FOR BEGINNERS

MADE CLEAR IN A SERIES OF
ACTUAL EXAMPLES

BY
D. J. HOLLAND, M.A.

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To
MY MOTHER

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PREFACE

This book is for all who are interested in their own daily weather.

It is a professional meteorologist's running commentary on the weather which he himself had already observed and recorded ten years earlier as a schoolboy when he had no more facilities than have since become available to everybody. Having thus encouraged the reader, its purpose is to illustrate the analysis and forecasting of weather with local observations and charts from the Meteorological Office.

For readers unfamiliar with weather theory the first chapter just outlines its ideas. For those who are also unfamiliar with Meteorological Office procedure the second chapter explains how (for brevity) all the reports are coded. The coded weather reports are then listed with running commentaries explaining the weather analysis. Even with only one season (one autumn) the main ideas of the subject are covered. Difficult ones for beginners are purposely explained with the least possible technical or mathematical language. The air's elementary thermodynamics, tephigrams and radiation, for instance, are summed up in an unusual way, after which the account of its hydrodynamics or wind theory also includes an original working design, while ideas of simplified charts and classification of weather types are put forward. Another original feature is that the illustrations are not specially selected, but are taken day by day as they come.

After the year 1948 the standard international codes were altered. Readers using Meteorological Office *Daily Weather Reports* (abbreviated to *D.W.R.*) will now find the new codes in other Air Ministry Meteorological Office publications sold by H.M. Stationery Office. The weather reports in this book have accordingly all been recoded. But as the writer, like many readers, originally had no better guide than *D.W.R. Introductions*, which were not really a guide but just a short dictionary to the codes, he unwittingly departed slightly from standard practice. As the old codes could not be exactly translated into the new ones either, he cannot attempt in this book to stick to the new codes exactly, but explains the codes he prefers to use to make the weather reports as clear to the reader as possible.

Although not reproduced throughout the book, many charts copied from Air Ministry *D.W.R.* are included to illustrate weather-map types.

PREFACE

To quote the book’s own conclusion, not only may the general reader learn something of what lies behind the Meteorological Office forecasts and inferences and how far he may make his own from *Daily Weather Reports*, but other beginners in the Meteorological Office itself who already know how to make weather charts will have a better idea how to use them.

Acknowledgements are due to the staff of the Cambridge University Press for valuable advice and assistance in the preparation of the book, to the Director, Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, London, and to the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office for permission to include extracts from official publications.

D. J. H.