

WEATHER

SEASONS

Spring

6042 A thunderstorm in March indicates an early spring.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General*: Dunwoody, 80 (early thunder, early spring); Garriott, 45 (early thunder, early spring) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2394 (the first thunder in the spring means that winter is broken) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 453 (when it thunders in February winter has broken); O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 6 (when thunder comes in the spring, it is a sign that winter is over) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 24 (a thunderstorm early in March is considered by some to presage an early spring) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 232, No. 1 (if the groundhog can't see his shadow on February 2, he stays out, for he knows that the severe weather is past) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 713 (the first thunder of spring, etc.); No. 701 (the date of the thunderstorm in January reveals the number of spring days during May) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 80, 126 (if it first thunders in the east: Aha! the bear has stretched his right arm, and comes forth, and then winter is over [Zufi Indian; both items]); Inwards, 169 (if the first thunder is from the east, the winter is over [Zufi Indian]) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 11 (early thunder, early spring).

6043

When frogs croak,
Winter's broke.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (when frogs croak three times, it indicates winter has broken) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2520 (frogs freeze up three times before spring comes to stay); Stewart, 16 (the music of frogs holloing says spring is on its way) — *New Hampshire*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 607 (when frogs come, spring has certainly come) — *New York*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 469 (after the frogs first sing there will be three freezes before spring fairly sets in) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 579 (when you hear frogs three times, spring is here [German]).

6044 If a ground hog comes out on the second of February and doesn't see his shadow, spring begins.

Minnie Bryan Farrior, Duplin county. *General*: Dunwoody, 31 (if it rains or snows on Candlemas Day [February 2], the groundhog will creep out of his den, as the winter has ended [German]) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 f. (the ground hog, or badger, takes a peep out of his hole on February 2, and gives the weather a "once over"; if he sees cloudy weather, he ventures abroad and begins his year of activity [Blum's *Almanac*, 1925, p. 41]) — *Tennessee*: Wells, 298 (if the groundhog does not see his shadow on February 2, at the hour of noon, the

back of winter is broken) — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 162, No. 1 (if the groundhog cannot see his shadow on the second of February he stays out, for he knows that the severe weather is passed) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 286 (spring is near) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 103 (the appearance of the groundhog and his shadow [?] indicates the nearness of spring) — *Colorado*: WF XII (1953), 138 (the groundhog predicts spring) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 14 (if February 2 is cloudy, and the groundhog does not see his shadow, it means the winter is over). There are several "groundhog" weather observatories in the United States that broadcast the annual results of the groundhog's emergence from his den, the foremost, perhaps, being the one at Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, where members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club meet annually on February 2 to observe the proceedings. Cf. WF VI (1947), 188 (rich detail); XIII (1954), 209.

6045 At noon on February 2 (Candlemas Day) the ground hog comes out of his winter hiding. If it is cloudy, he stays, and fair weather has come. But if the sun shines at noon, the animal sees his shadow and is frightened. He bolts into his hole, and winter will continue for six weeks.

Green Collection, and five other informants from widely separated counties. "If the groundhog comes out in March and sees his shadow, he will go back, and we will have a late spring" — Marjorie Rea, Craven county. In the Brown manuscript files there is a copy of a newspaper feature article from the *Durham Herald*, under date of February 2 (but no year), in which is treated the favor of Candlemas Day as a day anciently associated with weather prognostications. Pertinent here is the discussion of how the groundhog became a weather prophet in America: "Too, thank the Germans for groundhog day. On this day [Candlemas], the hibernating badger awoke. He peered without his winter home. If the weather was foul, he romped about, for spring was soon to come. If the sun shone, he scurried back into his burrow, for the winter was not over. German emigrants settling in the East found no badgers. As the years sped by, they substituted the plentiful woodchuck, or groundhog." The frequent reference to the badger in German folklore literature, and a lack of references to the groundhog in the folklore literature of the British Isles, would seem to bear out the contention made in the newspaper account, and this is in fact borne out in Rhys Carpenter's connecting the American groundhog tradition with the German tradition of the badgers, and the still earlier pan-European bear cult, in which the bear figures as a weather prophet, among other things (*Folk Tale, Fiction and Saga in the Homeric Epics* [Sather Classical Lectures, Vol. 20, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1946], 115 ff., 136-156, esp. 152 ff.). "Beyond the Slavic radius, in regions where the bear was not so sacrosanct or perhaps had grown so scarce that his dens were no longer to be found (but as far as my information goes, only on German soil), this same superstition was transferred from the bear to the much smaller badger, which is also a hibernant. German immigrants to Pennsylvania brought this tradition with them and, in default of badgers, fixed it on the much more plentiful and very bearlike little marmot, the ground hog, whose modern official name of *Arctomys monax* confirms his bearish properties" (p. 155). Association of the bear with these weather prognostications at Candlemas is more limited than one might infer from Bergen, *Animal*, No. 563, and for this reason additional references are given: *General*: Dunwoody, 29 (bear sees shadow; returns for six weeks); Garriott, 39 (same as preceding item); 42 (same; and the cold

weather continues for six weeks longer) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 380 (if a bear sees his shadow on the last day of February [*sic*] — Ca'lmas Day — he will go back in his den and stay six weeks longer, six weeks more of winter); No. 381 (if a bear comes out March 31, first day of spring, and sees his shadow, stays four weeks [Negro]). References given here are limited to the second part of the item, namely to the groundhog's seeing his shadow and returning to his den while the winter is prolonged for various stated periods, usually six weeks (or merely a mention of the sun's shining). In only the Missouri reference is mention made of the groundhog's appearance specifically at noon, but a midday range is indicated in the Kentucky item. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 91; Bergen, *Animal*, No. 563 (if on Candlemas Day the ground-hog [or bear] comes out of his burrow [or den] and sees his shadow on the ground, he will go back and stay six weeks); Dunwoody, 94 (if the ground-hog is sunning himself on the second [of February], he will return for four weeks to his winter quarters again; Garriott, 42 (same as the preceding item) — *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 13 (groun' hawg sees his shadder [on February second], be bad [weather] fu fawty days) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (the ground hog, or badger, takes a peep out of his hole on February 2 and gives the weather a "once over"; if he sees sun, he beats it back and takes another snooze for six weeks [*Blum's Almanac*, 1925, p. 41]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2243 (winter for seven more weeks) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 282, No. 67 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2415 (it is between eleven and one o'clock on February second that the ground hog's shadow is significant) — *Tennessee*: Wells, 298 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3729 (no mention of prolonged winter) — *New York*: Boyer, 75; Cutting, *Farm*, 42 — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 162, No. 1; Owens, 121 (if the ground-hog [coon] sees his shadow, he will return to his hole and six weeks of severe weather will follow); Shoemaker, 9 (six weeks of severe weather); WF VI (1947), 188; WF XIII (1954), 209 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 23; McAtee, *Grant County*, 267 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 283 (if a ground hog [woodchuck] sees his shadow on February 2nd [Ground Hog Day], there will be another month of winter) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 27; Randolph, *Folk-Beliefs*, 87 f. (nearly all of the Ozark people say that the fourteenth of February, and not the second, is the real Groundhog Day, and are firmly convinced that if it is cloudy and cold on the fourteenth there will be six more weeks of winter weather) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1108 (if the ground-hog sees his shadow, there will be six months [*sic*] of winter) — *California*: Dresslar, 77 (if the ground-hog sees his shadow on the fourteenth day of February, there will be six months [*sic*] of winter) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 14.—HDA v, 1270 s.,v. "Lichtmess" (Candlemas [badger, fox, bear]); 1271, s.v. "Lichtmess" (badger). Cf. Nos. 6068 f., 6176 f., below.

6046 When you see a bird slicked down, it is a sign of the sure coming of spring and warm weather.

Edith Walker, Watauga county.

6047 Blackbirds coming early indicates an early spring.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. HDA II, 468, s.v. "Drossel" (thrush).

6048 If a dove mourns in February, there will be no more cold weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6052, below.

6049 When fish hawks appear in the spring, cold weather is over.

Anonymous.

6050 The first robin that comes is a sign that winter has broken.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6051, below.

6051 Spring is near
 When the robins appear.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). None of the following beliefs are couched in verse form. *General*: Dunwoody, 39 (the first robins indicate the approach of spring); Garriott, 40 — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16 (the coming of the robin is a sign spring is at hand); Thomas, No. 2364 (the surest sign of spring); Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 38 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 11 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 621 (robins coming while the snow is on the ground foretell an early spring) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 248, No. 42 (German) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 529. — Inwards, 30, 194.

6052 When turtledoves hollo, spring is near.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 6053 (the first call of the turtledove is a herald of spring). Cf. No. 6048, above.

6053 When a whippoorwill calls, there's no more cold weather.

Green Collection. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 411 (when the first whippoorwill hollers, spring has surely come) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3744 (when whippoorwills sing: "Chips fell off the white-oak tree," spring has come); No. 3745 (when the whippoorwill says, "Jack married a widow just a little dark," that is a sign spring is right at his heels) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 248, No. 42 (German).

6054 When the beech shows green, spring is already here.

J. Schaffner.

Summer

6055 Thunder in the spring foretells a wet summer.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 82 (if the first thunder in the spring is in the south, it indicates a wet season) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 41. Cf. Nos. 6411, 7043, below.

6056 Love vine spreading on plants in June is a sign of a wet summer.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county.

6057 There is a general notion that a wet summer is succeeded by a dry, and vice versa.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 92 (wet and dry years come in triads); Garriott, 46 (same as preceding item).

6058 "It will be a dry summer," we used to say, "because the wasps have built low."

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *General*: Dunwoody, 58 (wasps building nests in exposed places indicates a dry season).—HDA ix, 506, s.v. "Wespe"; Inwards, 205. Cf. Nos. 6066, 6340, below.

6059 A cool spring is the sign of a warm summer.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county.

6060 A cold winter, a hot summer—one extreme follows another.

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 957 (it is a general notion that a cold winter is followed by a hot summer, and vice versa) — *North Carolina*: Whiting, 483, s.v. "Summer"-2 (no summer without a winter) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 499 (and vice versa) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2397 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1201 (and vice versa [German]) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 9 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 794 (a cold winter foretells a hot summer).—HDA viii, 29, s.v. "Sommer." Cf. No. 6103, below.

6061 If you have cold winters, you'll have extremely hot summers.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. No. 6060, above.

Autumn

6062 A late spring, a late fall.

Green Collection. Cf. *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 11 (an early spring is a sign of a late fall).

6063 Fall is three months off when the first chatter fly chatters.
Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

Winter

6064 Winter is near
 When blackbirds appear.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). HDA i, 373, s.v. "Amsel."

6065 When migratory birds go south early, it is a sign of an early winter.

Green Collection. *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 242, No. 3 (the early departure of birds indicates an early winter, that is, it means winter will arrive ahead of schedule [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 202 (if wild ducks fly south early in the autumn, there will be an early winter).—Inwards, 187 (when the fieldfare, redwing, starling, swan, snowfleck, and other birds of passage arrive soon from the north, it indicates the probability of an early and severe winter [Scotland]); HDA ii, 850, s.v. "Ente" (ducks); viii, 504, s.v. "Storch" (storks); Simon, *Beliefs*, 91 f. (ducks [Japan]).

6066 Wasps coming out thick in the fall is a sign that winter is about to set in.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. Cf. No. 6058, above.

6067 If February first is fair and clear,
 The winter is half done for the year.

Alex Tugman, Todd, Ashe county. All of the following verses refer to Candlemas (February 2) instead of to February first. *General*: Dunwoody, 102 (Candlemas day if it be fair / The half of the winter's to come and mair); Garriott, 42 (If Candlemas Day be fair and bright, / Winter will have another flight. / But if Candlemas Day brings clouds and rain, / Winter is gone and won't come again) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 29 (If Candlemas day be fair and bright, / Winter will take another flight) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *et al.*, 205 (If Candlemas day is fair and bright, / Winter will take another flight: / If Candlemas day bring storm and rain, / Winter is gone and will not come again) — *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 41 (Candlemas Day, if it be fair, / Half the winter to come and mere) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 231, No. 2 (if Candlemas day is clear, winter is but half done); Phillips, 161, No. 2 (if it is clear on Candlemas-day, winter is but half done).—Addy, 117; Inwards, 42 f.; Udal, 263; HDA v, 1269 f., s.v. "Lichtmess."

6068 If it is fair, and the sun shines on ground-hog day, we will have six more weeks of winter, and if it is rainy and the sun doesn't shine, the winter is about gone.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county. In conjunction with material presented in Nos. 6044 f., above, it is fitting here to present varying views concerning the days on which the groundhog's prognostications are supposed to be made. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 27 (February 2 is recognized as Groundhog Day in most sections of the United States, and is so marked on our calendars and almanacs. Otto Ernest Rayburn says that the Missouri Legislature has established February 2 as the legal and official Groundhog Day of Missouri. But there are thousands of people in Missouri and Arkansas who regard February 14 as Groundhog Day, and it is February 14, not February 2, that they consider in deciding the proper dates for plowing and planting) — *Missouri*: Randolph, 28 ("In 1933 I was in Greene County, Missouri, where February 2 was clear, while February 14 was dark and cloudy. The 'furriners' prepared for six weeks of cold weather, but the oldtimers shucked their sheepskin coats and began to spade up their garden patches. The following is clipped from the Springfield [Missouri] Press, Feb. 16, 1933. "'What's all this talk about February 2 being groundhog day?' asked a man at the courthouse Wednesday who is old enough to know what he is talking about. 'It was always February 14 until late years. Suppose the darned hog has caught the spirit of the times and is stepping on the gas—working under high pressure and starting his year 12 days earlier than in the good old days when men and groundhogs both took time to live in a rational manner. My father and my grandmother, and all the generations from Adam down to 20 years ago pinned their faith to February 14—St. Valentine's day. That is the correct date, and it matters not what the younger generation may say about it. There was no shadows Tuesday and Winter is about over'") — *Illinois*: Randolph, 27 (The publisher of the Crane [Missouri] Chronicle comments editorially: "In Pike county, Ill., where I was born, groundhogs saw or failed to see their shadows on February 2nd. That

date prevails to this day as far west as the Mississippi. Down here, the official date is February 14th." Cf. Nos. 6044 f., above.

6069 If the ground hog sees his shadow on the second day of February, he goes back and stays for forty days, and thus makes a longer winter.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16 (there will be six more weeks of winter) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3730 (six more weeks of winter) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 232, No. 1 (he goes back to his hole in the ground for another six weeks' doze, as he knows that the winter will endure so much longer); Fogel, No. 1218 (returns to its lair and winter will continue for six weeks [German]); Garriott, 39 (if on Candlemas day [February 2] it is bright and clear, the ground-hog will stay in his den, thus indicating that more snow and cold are to come [German]).—HDA v, 1270, s.v. "Lichtness"; Inwards, 43. Cf. Nos. 6044 f., 6068, above.

Cold (Severe) Winters

6070 There will be a bad winter every seven years.

Green Collection.

6071 If the summer is extremely hot, the following winter will be extremely cold. Extremes in weather follow each other.

Vella Jane Burch, Durham; the Green Collection; and an anonymous informant. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3734 (hot summer, cold winter, and vice versa) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 5 (very warm summer, etc.) — *New York*: Boughton, 189, No. 5 (an exceptionally hot summer, a very cold winter); Cutting, *Farm*, 41 — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114 — *Great Plains*: Smith, *Weather*, 178 (Cheyenne Indians are said to believe that on exceptionally hot summer, etc.).—Inwards, 31; HDA VIII, 29, s.v. "Sommer."

6072 A dry summer is a sign of a bad winter.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 26 (most old-timers feel that a very hot summer is likely to be followed by a winter of extraordinary severity).—Inwards, 31. Cf. No. 6071, above.

6073 A warm November is the sign of a cold winter.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county; Lucille Massey, Durham county. *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26 (a warm November is a sign of a cold winter. "Winter never rots in the sky").

6074 An old man in Durham confided unprompted some years ago that there would be a very cold winter because there were four bad fogs in August.

George E. Hoffman (Arkansas). Cf. HDA III, 1753, s.v. "Herbst." Cf. Nos. 7038 ff., below, for August fogs as indicators of snow the following winter.

6075 Thunder in the fall foretells a cold winter.

Anonymous. HDA III, 1753, s.v. "Herbst." Cf. No. 6270, below.

6076 Hunters say that if wild animals have an unusually heavy coat of fur it will be a hard winter.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county, and Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. In none of the following references are hunters credited with this common observation about the protective coat of wild animals against cold. Since all references are to "heavy fur," "thick fur," etc., these shades of meaning will not be distinguished, but the kind of winter, whether "bad," "bitter," "cold," "long," "severe," etc., will be noted. *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 62 (bitter winter) — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16 (severe winter); Thomas, No. 2327 — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 204 (severe winter); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 205 (severe winter); Frazier, 38, No. 7; Miller, 67, No. 34 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1054 (thick fur as noted by animals trapped; severe winter) — *New York*: Boyer, 74; Cutting, *Farm*, 39 (indicates the relative severity of winter) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 243, No. 6 (German) — *Indiana*: Butler, 316 (long, cold winter); Busse, 17, No. 22 (cold winter); McAttee, *Grant County*, 267 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 25 (severe winter); Hyatt, No. 5 (cold winter); Smith II, 63 (heavy pelts; hard winter) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 25 (relative severity of approaching winter) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 307 (unusually thick furs, extremely severe winter); Dobie, 94 (the amount of fur found on pelts indicates the severity of the coming winter) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 591 (bitter winter) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 75 (cold winter); *Nebraska Proverbs I*, 1 (severe winter) — *Colorado*: WF XII (1953), 138 (long, heavy, shaggy hair on an animal means a long, cold winter) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200, No. 5 (hard winter if beasts grow heavier coat of fur) — *California*: Dresslar, 50 (especially cold winter).—HDA III, 1753, s.v. "Herbst." Cf. Nos. 6077, 6081 f., below.

6077 A sign of a cold winter is the thickening of the fur on the 'possum's back.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *South*: Puckett, 508 (when opossums have unusually thick fur, there will be an extra cold winter [Negro]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 26 (if hair on possums is unusually thick, the hillman expects a hard winter).

6078 Squirrels carrying acorns is a sign of a hard winter.

Green Collection, and Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. *Texas*: Dobie, 94 (squirrels industrious in gathering acorns or pecans is said to be the presage of a cold winter).

6079 When the squirrels bury their nuts early, there will be a hard winter.

Mary Scarborough, Wanchese, Dare county. In only the second Illinois reference (Hyatt, No. 611), is mention made of "burying" the nuts; otherwise such designations as "storing," "laying in," "hoarding," etc., are used. Various degrees of winter weather, however, are indicated here as they occur in the sources. *General*: Dunwoody, 33 (cold winter) — *South*: Puckett, 507 f. (extra cold winter) — *Maryland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 450 (unusually severe winter) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3733 (bad winter) — *New Brunswick*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 450 (unusually severe winter) — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 60; Wintemberg, *German II*, 90 (long and cold winter [German]); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 5 (long and cold winter) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 20 — *New York*: Boyer, 76; Cutting, *Farm*, 39 — *Indiana*: Brew-

ster, *Beliefs*, No. 44 (extremely cold winter) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 64 (severe winter); Hyatt, No. 611 (if squirrels bury their nuts deep in the ground; hard winter); No. 610 (cold winter); No. 613 (squirrels always store nuts in the autumn, but when you see them hoarding grain, a severe winter is coming) — *Colorado*: WF XII (1953), 138 (long, cold winter). — Inwards, 185.

6080 You may expect a severe winter when squirrels make great provisions.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General*: Dunwoody, 33 (when squirrels lay away a larger supply of food than usual); Garriott, 40 (same as preceding item) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 63 (if squirrels store a great deal of food in the summer and fall, it is going to be a hard winter) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2650 (cold winter) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 45 (unusually hard winter) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, Grey, No. 83 — *New York*: Boughton, 251, No. 11 (long, hard winter) — *Indiana*: Butler, 316 (a well lined and well filled squirrel's nest indicates a severe winter) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200, No. 2 (hard winter). — HDA II, 657, s.v. "Eichhörnchen."

6081 A heavy coat of feathers on fowls indicates a hard winter.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *General*: Dunwoody, 36 (heavy plumage of geese; cold winter) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3725 (if chickens have more feathers than usual, it will be a bad winter) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 21 (if the chickens' feathers are very thick at Thanksgiving time, the winter will be a hard one) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1194 (heavy down on geese foretells a hard winter [German]); Rupp, 243, No. 6 (same as preceding [German]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 25 (the severity of the approaching winter is indicated by the thickness of feathers) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200, No. 5 (a hard winter is in prospect when wild birds grow a heavier coat of feathers). — HDA III, 293, s.v. "Gans" (goose); Inwards, 197 (waterfowl).

6082 A sign of a cold winter is the thickening of the feathers on the rooster's legs.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1117 (if the lower legs of chickens are covered with feathers, the winter will be severe [German]); Rupp, 242, No. 5 (same as the preceding [German]).

6083 The early coming of ducks and geese indicates a cold winter.

Anonymous. Ducks only are treated under this entry; geese are dealt with under No. 6085, below. *North Carolina*: Barker, 15 (if wild ducks come early, they come away from a hard winter [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 3]) — *Great Lakes States*: Dunwoody, 40 f. (wild ducks scattered around the lakes near Lake Superior form in large flocks and go south one month earlier in cold or early winters than in mild or pleasant winters); Garriott, 40 (same as the preceding item) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (if the ducks fly early in the fall, there will be a long, cold winter ahead); Strecker, *Birds*, 33 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 71 (when ducks go south early, there will be a hard winter). — HDA II, 850, s.v. "Ente."

6084 If birds go south early, it is a sign of a cold winter.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 34 (blackbirds flying south in autumn indicate an approaching cold winter). Cf. No. 6065, above.

6085 If the wild geese fly south early, it is a sign of a cold winter.

The Misses Holeman, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 41 (geese flying south and flying very high); Garriott, 40 (flying south and very high) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (unusually early, there will be a hard winter [Indian], from *Blum's Almanac*, 1938, p. 57) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 512 (if wild geese fly early, it is a sign of a hard winter) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2536 (if wild geese fly high when they go south, the winter will be severe) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3728 (when wild geese fly southward, winter is approaching) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 39 (the migration of geese indicates the severity of winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 275 (wild geese flying high on their way south foretell a hard winter) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 178 (early migrations of geese foretell a severe winter).—Inwards, 160 (1898 ed.).

6086 If the breastbone of a game bird has a cloudy appearance, there will be a cold winter.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 36 (if the breast bone of a goose is red, or has many red spots, expect a cold and stormy winter); Garriott, 40 (same as the preceding item) — *Maryland*: Whitney, 195 (if the breast bone of a goose is bent and clouded, there will be a cold winter) — *Pennsylvania*: Brinton, 181 (the color of the breast-bone of a fall goose indicated the severity of the winter; the darker the bone, the harder would be the cold); JAFI, III (1890), 18 (if the surface of the breast-bone of a goose killed in November has dark stains, the winter will be bitter); Rupp, 250 (in Hampshire people believed that if the breastbone of a duck killed in October was dark, a severe winter would follow) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 271 (if the breastbone of a goose is dark, the winter will be cold) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 25 (if the bone of a wild goose has many red spots, the coming winter may be very cold).—Inwards, 187; Kamp, 57, No. 40.

6087 If the woolly worm's head is more black than colored, the coldest part of the winter will come in the first months of winter.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 69 (dark-colored caterpillars in the autumn indicate a harsh winter); No. 72 (if an autumnal caterpillar has a little yellow on the nose, is a sign of cold weather in the early part of the winter); No. 73 (when caterpillars during the autumn are dark brown in the center of the body and yellow at each end, the middle of the winter will be very cold).

6088 If cornhusks are real heavy, the following winter will be cold.

Harry G. Hall, Marion, McDowell county, and Merle Smith, Stanly county. In the North Carolina entry the husks are depicted as "heavy"; in all other cases, except where designated, the husks are represented as being "thick." *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1228 (severe winter); Bergen-Newell, 151; Dunwoody, 65 (ears of corn covered with thicker and stronger husks); also (a double husk on corn indicates a severe winter); also (if corn is hard to husk, expect a hard winter [Apache Indians]) —

North Carolina: Barker, 12 (if the peel and husks of corn are unusually heavy, there will be a hard winter [*Blum's Almanac*, 1938, p. 57]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 519 (severe winter) — *Kentucky*: Rainey, 13 (the winter is going to be colder than the summer); also (if the corn husks are neither thick nor thin, then the summer will be warm and the winter cold) — *Tennessee*: Page, 53 (bad winter) — *New England*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1228 (severe winter [Indian]); Johnson, *What They Say*, 20 — *New York*: Boughton, 189, No. 1 (if there are lots of corn husks on the corn, it will be a hard winter); Cutting, *Farm*, 39 (the thickness of cornhusks indicates the severity of winter) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1187 (hard winter [German]) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 43 (hard winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 138; Wheeler, 57 (if the ears of corn are lightly enclosed in the thick husks, a severe winter will follow) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 177 (severe winter) — *Texas*: Dobie, 94 (the supposed thickness or thinness of corn shucks indicates the severity of the coming winter) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 68 (many husks); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 (severe winter). — Inwards, 213.

6089 If the corn has thick shucks, it will be a hard winter.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; and five other informants, two from eastern counties, one from a central county, and two unknown. *South*: Duncan, 235 No. 7 (shucks thick, hard winter uh comin'); Puckett, 513 (heavy shucks, cold winter on its way [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 64 (severe winter) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 208 (severe winter); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 209 (severe winter); Frazier, 38, No. 7; Guerin, 53 (the severity of the approaching winter is indicated by the thickness of the corn shucks); Miller, 66, No. 8 (cold winter) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3727 (cold winter); No. 3726 (if corn has lots of shucks, a bad winter is coming); No. 3478 (cold winter) — *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 — *New York*: Barnes, No. 12 (cold winter) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 14 (cold winter) — *Illinois*: Smith II, 63, No. 25 (if corn shucks are heavy,) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 25 (the severity of the approaching winter is indicated by the thickness of corn shucks). Cf. No. 6109, below.

6090 If the shucks stick very tight to the corn when you try to shuck it, there will be a cold winter.

Green Collection. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 524 (severe winter) — *Pennsylvania*: Owens, 121 (if ears [of corn?] are plump and tightly encased in the husk, a severe winter may be expected) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 26 (severe winter); Hyatt, No. 140 (look for a severe winter if the corn husk tightly encloses and entirely conceals the ear) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 601 (severe winter) — *Nebraska*: Ericson, 153, No. 5 (hard winter).

6091 A quantity of silks on corn ears foretells a cold winter.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 142 (there will be a cold winter, if corn silk is thick and abundant).

6092 Thick bark on trees indicates a hard winter.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. *South*: Puckett, 512 (if the bark of the trees is very tight in the fall, there will be a long and cold winter) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2667 (if bark grows on the north side of a tree, there will be a cold winter) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3723 (if bark is thick on the north side of the tree, look for a severe

winter) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 39 (bark tight on the trees in the fall) — *Texas*: Dobie, 94 (the thickness or thinness of bark on trees indicates the severity of the coming winter).

6093 Thick-leaved trees denote a cold winter.

Green Collection; J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 36 (heavy foliage on trees indicates a cold winter) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 26 (a summer in which the foliage on trees is unusually dense, or exceptionally bright in color, is followed by a very cold winter).

6094 If the fruit trees bloom in the fall, the weather will be severe the following winter.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county.

6095 Expect a hard winter if there is a large crop of persimmons.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county, and six other informants from widely separated localities.

6096 If the berries are plentiful in the summer, the following winter will be severe.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county, and Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. No. 6097, below.

6097 Great quantities of berries in the fall indicate a cold and severe winter.

Anonymous. In only the first Illinois reference (Hyatt) is mention made of the fall of the year. *General*: Dunwoody, 64 (when the bushes are full of berries, a hard winter is on the way); also (when berries are plentiful in the hedge, on the May-bush, and blackthorn, a hard winter may be expected) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (hard winter [Blum's *Almanac*, 1938, p. 57]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 523 (plenty of hard berries foretell a hard winter; they are to feed the birds) — *Canada*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 934 (plenty of hawberries foretell a "hard winter," i.e., they are to serve as a store of food for birds) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 146 (a lot of service berries is a sign of a winter with heavy snow [French]) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 117 (when dogwood berries fall off, sign of hard winter [Negro]); No. 119 (if lots of berries on bay berry and white alder, hard winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 24 (bushes filled with berries in the autumn presage a hard winter); Wheeler, 57 (severe winter) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 65 (many berries on kinnikinnick portend a hard winter) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 19 (the winter is going to be very severe when hawthorn berries and holly berries are prolific).—Inwards, 209; Lean 1, 366; HDA 1, 1583, s.v. "Brombeere" (blackberry). Cf. No. 6102, below.

6098 An unusually large crop of gum berries, wild grapes, etc., means that we will have a very severe winter.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2537 (heavy wild grape crop; hard winter); No. 2572 (abundance of wild fruits; cold winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 280 (wild grapes); No. 263 (wild fruits plentiful in autumn; cold winter).

6099 Plenty of nuts denotes a cold winter.

Anonymous. *Maryland*: Lee, 111 (Negro); Whitney-Bullock, No. 521 (severe winter) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2599 (if the nut crop is heavy, the winter will be severe) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 7 (hard winter); Guerin, 53 (a large crop of wild nuts [such as hazel, walnut, or hickory] means a cold, wet winter); McGlasson, 27, No. 33 (when there is a large crop of nuts, there will be a bad winter); Page, 53 (a heavy crop of nuts) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1235 (an abundant crop of hazelnuts foretells a severe winter [German]) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 42 (hard winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 294 (a large crop of hazelnuts); Norlin, 215, No. 121 (a large hazelnut crop); Wheeler, 57 (severe winter) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 5 (a heavy crop of pine nuts foretells a hard winter).—HDA III, 1536, s.v. "Hasel" (hazelnut); HDA IX, 78, s.v. "Wallnuss" (walnut); Inwards, 211 (beech mast).

6100 If the oaks have a specially heavy crop of acorns, it will be a hard winter.

J. Schaffner. *General*: Dunwoody, 92 (when beech acorns thrive well and oak trees hang full, a hard winter will follow with much snow) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 521 (acorns plentiful; severe winter); Whitney, 195 (full crop of acorns; cold winter) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 148, No. 24 (the early ripening of acorns means a hard winter) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 26 (a great abundance of mast (i.e., acorns) is a sure sign of a severe winter) — *California*: Dresslar, 15; also (if acorns are numerous during the summer, the following winter will be severe) — *Oregon*: Hand, No. 84 (heavy acorn crop; severe winter).—HDA II, 563, s.v. "Eiche"; Inwards, 210.

6101 If hickory nuts have thick shells on them, it will be a cold winter.

Eva Furr, Stanly county. Cf. *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 (when the shell of the beechnut is thick, the winter will be severe).

6102 If there is a heavy crop of holly, black gum, and other wild berries, it will be a hard winter. This is Mother Nature's preparation for the birds.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county, and Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. Lean I, 366. Cf. No. 6097, above.

Mild Winters

6103 There is a general notion that a cold winter is succeeded by a warm one, and vice versa.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6060, above.

6104 If the first snow falls on unfrozen ground, expect a mild winter.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 22e.

6105 "If ice is thick enough in November to bear up a duck, the winter will be mud and sluck."

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *Lean* 1, 367; 382; *HDA* vi, 1156, s.v. "November." Cf. No. 7074, below.

6106 When the birds migrate toward the north, expect a mild winter.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county.

6107 If snakes and toads are late disappearing, look for a mild winter.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 22b (snakes being about late in the season, etc.).

6108 Hornets' nests built in the tops of trees point to a mild winter.

Green Collection.

6109 At harvesting time, if the shucks on corn are thin, it is a sign of a warm winter.

Lucille Massey, Durham county, and an anonymous informant. Harvesting time is not specified in any of the following references. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 524 (if the husks of corn are loose, etc.) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 64 — *New York*: Barnes, No. 12 — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 22c — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 27 (loose husks); Hyatt, No. 143 (we shall have a mild winter when corn silk is thin and scanty) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 601 (loose shucks). Cf. 6089, above.

6110 A light nut crop is a sign of a mild winter.

Anonymous. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2598 (if the nut crop fails, the winter will be mild) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 22a (a scarcity of nuts for the squirrels) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 437 (when the nut crop fails, etc.).

Weather Indicators

6111 To tell whether the next year will be wet or dry, and whether to rent bottom lands or uplands, take twelve shells or dry hulls from onions, place them sitting up as saucers in a row, out of doors Christmas Eve night, with a pinch of salt in each, naming each for a month. The months in which the salt will be melted and turned to water next morning will be wet months. Those in which the salt is still salt will be dry. If April, May, and June are melted, don't rent bottom lands.

Thurston T. Hicks, Henderson, Vance county. *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 11 (on Christmas Eve shell twelve onions, and put the shells on the window sill where the air can draw in; put salt on them, and number them from left to right; in the morning the ones with water in them will be the wet months for the year to raft out logs).—Sébillot, vol. 3, pp. 511 f.

6112 The weather on each of the twelve days from New Christmas to Old is held to govern the corresponding month in the following year.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county, and five other informants from widely separated localities. *General*: Dunwoody, 100 (the twelve days commencing December 25 and ending January 5 are said to be the keys of the weather of the year); Bergen, *et al.*, 206 (it is quite a general idea that twelve days, beginning at Christmastide, or on the first of January, indicate the weather for the year) — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 9 (the twelve days from New to Old Christmas are ruling days for the weather for the following year—each day represents a month) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2409 (the weather during the twelve days between Christmas and Epiphany will prevail in the corresponding months of the year) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2391; Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 13 (the days from Christmas to Old Christmas are the ruling days for the next year) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 18 (the twelve days after Christmas indicate the weather for the following year; each day in order shows the weather for one month) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 955 (the twelve days at Christmas govern the weather of the months of the coming year); No. 956 (the twelve days at Christmas time make the almanac for the year) — *New York*: Cutting, *Lore*, 30 (the weather for the whole year may be foretold by observing the twelve days of Christmas—from Christmas to Epiphany) — *New Jersey*: Bergen, *et al.*, 206 (the twelve days at Christmas time make the almanac for the year) — *Illinois*: Norlin, 208, No. 4 (call Christmas January, and the next eleven days will foretell the weather of each month of the new year) — *Missouri*: Randolph, 21 (the twelve "old days"—the last twelve days in December—rule the coming year).—HDA IX, 990, s.v. "Zwölften"; Inwards, 69.

6113 The first twelve days of the year are thought to foretell the kind of weather there will be through the year. If the first day is fair and warm, January will be fair and warm. If the second day is cold and snowy, February will be cold and snowy, etc.

L. C. Allen, Jr., Burlington, Alamance county, and nine other informants. *General*: Dunwoody, 100 (the last twelve days of January [*sic*] rule the weather of the whole year) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 282, No. 66 (the first twelve days of January represent the months of the year; that is, the first day of the new year shows the sort of weather to be expected in January, the second day the sort to come in February, and so on) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2390 (the first twelve days of January foretell the weather of the twelve months respectively) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 9 (the first twelve days of the year forecast the weather for the twelve months of the year); Miller, 66 (according to old people, the first twelve days of a new year rule the twelve months; that is, type of weather on each of days indicates weather to be experienced during the month that the day rules; example: the third day bright, sunny, clear—March will be good month); Wells, 300 (the first twelve days of January furnish the types of prevailing weather for the coming months of the year) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3437 (the first twelve days in January determine the kind of weather that will be had during the year) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 11 (the kinds of weather characterizing the first twelve days of January represent the kinds of weather for the succeeding months; that of the first day representing all

the weather for January, that of the second, February, and so on) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 2 (the first twelve days of January rule the weather for the rest of the year); Busse, 16, No. 7 (the weather the first twelve days of January determine the weather for the twelve months of the year, respectively) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 61 (the first twelve days of new year tell weather conditions for the year); Hyatt, No. 326 (the weather during the first twelve days of the year indicates what the weather will be all year) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 106 (the first twelve days of the year are watched with interest, for they foretell the weather of the next twelve months); Randolph, 21 (Many hillfolk believe that the first twelve days of January rule the weather of the entire year. That is, if January 1 is cloudy, the whole month of January will be cloudy; if January 2 is clear, the whole month of February will be clear; if January 3 is stormy, the whole month of March will be stormy, and so on. One finds Alice Curtice Moyer-Wing rejoicing with her neighbors that January 6 was dry, therefore June would be dry enough to permit work in the corn-fields; it was fortunate also that January 7 and 8 were wet, since that assured rain enough in July and August to make a crop. Clink O'Neill, of Day, Missouri, remarked to me that there may be something in this theory "if it ain't carried too far," adding that he doubted whether snow on January 8 means that there will also be snow-storms in August [St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, Jan. 28, 1917]) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 177 (the first twelve days of January show relatively the nature of the twelve months of the new year) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 321 (the weather of the first twelve days of the year shows what to expect of each of the months) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1119 (the first twelve days of January govern the year) — *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (the first twelve days of January, the "ruling days," *cabanuelas*, determine the weather for the twelve months of the year in their natural order [Spanish]).—Inwards, 39; Gallop, 102.

6114 If it snows on Christmas Day, the grass will be green on Easter.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Tennessee*: O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 4 (a white Christmas; a green Easter) — *Indiana*: Butler, 317 (a white Christmas makes a green Easter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 374 (same as preceding item) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 79 (if Christmas is white, Easter will be green).—HDA ix (Suppl.), 935, s.v. "Weihnacht."

6115 If the fourteenth of February is a pretty day, the remainder of the year will be pretty.

Anonymous.

6116 Ash Wednesday rules the weather for forty days.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. HDA i, 621, s.v. "Aschermittwoch."

6117 If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb. If March comes in like a lamb, it will go out like a lion.

Green Collection; Edith Walker, Watauga county. This entry is treated in two parts. If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb: *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 948; Garriott, 44 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2119 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99; Bryant I, 282, No. 70 — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16; Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 37; Thomas, No. 2419 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 33 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3742 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 972 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*,

33 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 27 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 42; Gardner, No. 358 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 18; Busse, 16, No. 15; McAtee, Grant County, 267 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 177; Hyatt, No. 365 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1071 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 77; *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25.—FFC 113, p. 47; ODEP, 407, s.v. "March"; HDA v, 1738, s.v. "März"; Inwards, 47; Lean I, 357; Udal, 265. If March comes in like a lamb, it will go out like a lion: *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 948; Dunwoody, 95; Garriott, 42; 44; Knortz, 155 — *North Carolina*: Whiting, 442, s.v. "March"-2 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99; Bryant I, 282, No. 70 — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16; Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 37; Thomas, No. 2420 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 33 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3742 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 972 — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 168, No. 203 (if the month of March enters as a sheep, it goes out as a lion [French]) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 27 — *New York*: Gardner, No. 358 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1222 (German) — *Indiana*: McAtee, Grant County, 266 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 176; Hyatt, No. 364 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 77; *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 71 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 16, 25.—Inwards, 47; Udal, 265; FFC 113, p. 47.

6118 A windy March and a rainy April make a beautiful May.
Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 95; also (make a fine May) — *New York*: Boughton, 125, No. 24.—Lean I, 357; HDA v, 1737, s.v. "März."

6119 March winds and April showers
Bring forth May flowers.

Green Collection. *General*: Garriott, 42, 44 — *North Carolina*: Whiting, 362, s.v. "April"-1.—Inwards, 48; Lean I, 357, 360; Radford, 19; Udal, 265.

6120 April showers
Bring May flowers.

Green Collection. *North Carolina*: Whiting, 362, s.v. "April"-1.—Lean I, 360.

6121 The last quarter of the moon is commonly held to govern the weather.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. Inwards, 95 (Days after moon change [not quarters]: The first and second never mind, / The third regard not much; / But as the fourth and fifth you find, / The rest will be as such); also (another statement in prose to the same effect).

6122 Evening red, morning gray,
You need not fear the day.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county.

6123 Evening red, morning gray,
Sets the traveller on his way;
Evening gray, morning red,
Puts the traveller in his bed.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county; and the following unidentified newspaper account: Evening red

and morning gray, / Sends the traveller on his way; / Evening gray and morning red, / Sends the travellers home to bed. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3447 (Evening red and morning gray, / It is a sign of a bonny day) — *New York*: Cutting, *Lore*, 31 (final couplet: Evening gray and morning red / Brings wild animals around his head) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 232, No. 11 (Evening gray and morning red / Traveller wise will keep in his bed [complete]) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 502 (. . . / Puts the traveller to bed) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 79 (Evening red, morning gray / Sets the traveler on his way [complete]). — FFC 113, p. 30; ODEP, 176, s.v. "Evening"; Lean 1, 353 (Make the shepherd hang his head). Cf. Nos. 6449 ff., below.

- 6124 Rainbow in the morning, is a sailor's warning;
 Rainbow in the evening, is a sailor's delight.

Dixie V. Lamm, Lucama, Wilson county. Cf. No. 6125, below. *General*: Dunwoody, 71 — *Maryland*: Whitney, 195 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 2; Wintemberg, *Roebuck*, No. 1 — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 162, No. 13 — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 — *Illinois*: Norlin, 208, No. 10 — *Texas*: Bogusch, 115; Hendricks, No. 333. — Lean 1, 406; FFC 113, p. 55.

- 6125 Rainbow in the morning, sailors take warning;
 Rainbow at night, sailors' delight.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 975; Knortz, 154; WF xvi (1957), 211 (scientific appraisal by members of the American Meteorological Society) — *North Carolina*: Whiting, 465, s.v. "Rainbow"-4 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 373 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 20 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 985 — *Canada*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 975 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 97 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 18 — *New York*: Cutting, *Lore*, 31; Gardner, No. 136 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1165 (German) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 4 — *Illinois*: Wine, No. 143 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 79 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15. FFC 113, p. 55. Cf. No. 6124, above.

- 6126 Rainbow in morning, sailors give warning.

Anonymous.

- 6127 Rainbow in morning, sailors take warning.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3695 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 1 (A rainbow in the morning is a sailor's warning); Hyatt, No. 504; No. 505 (Rainbow in morn, / Sailors warned).

- 6128 A rainbow in the morning,
 Gives the shepherd warning.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 506 (A rainbow in the morning / Is a shepherd's warning). — HDA vi, 579 s.v. "Morgen"; Lean 1, 406. Cf. No. 6129, below.

- 6129 Rainbow at night, shepherd's delight;
 Rainbow in the morning, shepherd's warning.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county, and three other informants from central and western counties. In all references except the one

from Kentucky and the first Tennessee item (Frazier) the order of the couplets is reversed. *General*: Garriott, 22 (shepherds take warning) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 374; Whitney, 195 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2610 — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 16; Lassiter, 30 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3697 — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 24 — *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 3 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 79 (shepherds take warning).—Inwards, 160; Lean I, 406; Radford, 196; HDA I, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln." Cf. No. 6128, above.

- 6130 Red at night, sailor's delight; (fair weather)
Red in the morning, sailor's warning. (foul weather)

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county, and three other informants from Person, Wayne, and McDowell counties. All references exhibit reverse order except the ones from Maine and Massachusetts, the second New York item (Gardner), the first Illinois item (Hyatt, No. 545), the one from Texas, and the one from Iowa. *North Carolina*: Walker 9, No. 8 (Red in the morning, / Sailors take warning, / Red at night, shepherd's delight [note the shift from sailor to shepherd]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 380 (Red in the morning / Is a sailor's warning, / But red in the evening / Is a seaman's delight) — *West Virginia*: Lopez, No. 44 (If it is red at night, / The sailors can delight; / If it is red in the morning, the sailors had better take warning; / If it is red at noon, the sailors will soon meet their doom) — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2480a (shepherd's warning; shepherd's delight); Thomas, No. 2480 (sailors take warning, etc.) — *Tennessee*: Hatcher, 152 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 18 (Sailors take warning) — *Maine and Eastern Massachusetts*: Bergen, No. 981 (Sailors take warning) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 34 (Sailors take warning, etc.); Gardner, No. 135 (Sailors take warning) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 545 (sailors take warning); 546 (sailors take warning); Smith II, 62, No. 1 (Sun red at morning, / Sailor's warning; / Sun red at night, / Sailor's delight) — *Texas*: Dobie, 96 (Sailors take warning) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 501 (Red at night, sailors delight; / Yellow at night, sailors take warning) — *Oregon*: CFQ v (1946), 239, No. 158 (glossed as follows: If the sky is red at dawn, it will rain; if red at sunset, it will be clear).—Udal, 269 (shepherd). Cf. No. 6140, below.

- 6131 Red clouds at night,
Sailors' delight.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6132, below.

- 6132 Red clouds in the morning, sailors' warning;
Red clouds in the evening, sailors' delight.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. In all references "night" stands in place of "evening" to give a better rhyme. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 2 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3691; No. 3553 (Red clouds in east in the morning, / Sailors take warning; / Red clouds in west at night, / Sailor's delight). Cf. No. 6135, below.

- 6133 Red clouds of the morning, sailors' fair warning;
Red clouds of the night, sailors' delight.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6132, above.

- 6134 Red clouds of a mornin',
 Sailors' warnin';
 Red clouds of an evenin',
 Sailors' leavin'.

Thomas Smith, Zionville, Watauga county.

- 6135 Red clouds at night, is the sailor's delight;
 Red clouds at morning, is the sailor's warning.

Eula G. Fletcher, Mabel, Ashe county; Eleanor Baker, Creston, Ashe county. *North Carolina*: Whiting, 385, s.v. "Cloud"-2 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 25. Cf. No. 6132, above.

- 6136 Red clouds at morning,
 Shepherds take warning.

Eleanor Baker, Creston, Ashe county, and an anonymous informant.

- 6137 Red clouds at night are the shepherd's delight;
 Red clouds at morning are the shepherd's warning.

Alex Tugman, Todd, Ashe county.

- 6138 Red sails in the morning, sailors take warning;
 Red sails at night, sailors may delight.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county.

- 6139 A red sky in the morning, is the sailor's warning;
 A red sky at night, is the sailor's delight.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *New York*: NYFQ ix (1953), 34, No. 1 (sailors take warning, etc.) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 232, No. 5 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 3 (Sailors take warning).— Inwards, 84; Lean 1, 353.

- 6140 Red sky at night, sailor's delight;
 Red sky at morning, sailors take warning.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 87a — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 162, No. 5 (reverse order) — *Indiana*: HF vi (1947), 74 (Sailor's warning) — *Illinois*: Norlin, 208, No. 11 (reverse order) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 472 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 79; also (the same verse for shepherds) — *Washington*: Person, No. 346.—Addy, 118 (shepherd). Cf. No. 6130, above.

- 6141 On a stormy day, the weather between one and two
 o'clock is the weather for the remainder of the day.

Anonymous. Cf. *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 5 (Between one and two, we'll know, / What it's going to do). There is no reference to a storm.

- 6142 From eleven till two
 Tell what the day will do.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Also contained in an unidentified newspaper clipping: "Between eleven and two / You can tell

what the weather is going to do." Cf. *New England: Bergen, Current*, No. 963 (From Twelve till two / Tells what the day will do); Johnson, *Superstitions*, 164 (Between twelve and two [at night] / You can tell what the day will do); Johnson, *What They Say*, 20 (Between twelve and two, etc.) — *New York: Cutting, Farm*, 35 (Between eleven and two, / You can tell what the weather / Is going to do).—Inwards, 75 (Between twelve and two, etc.).

Bad (Foul) Weather

6143 There is usually bad weather at Easter time.

Green Collection.

6144 Sunrise red, foul weather; sunset red, fair weather.

Green Collection. *Tennessee: McGlasson*, 26, No. 14 (red sunrise, bad weather) — *New Mexico: Hurt*, 197 (a red sunrise with mackerel clouds is a sign of bad weather [Spanish]).—HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne." Cf. No. 6343, below. The second part of the entry is treated under 6346, below.

6145 A low dawn indicates foul weather; a high bright dawn, fair weather.

Green Collection. *General: Dunwoody*, 78 (first part only).—Inwards, 78 (a low dawn indicates fair weather); Lean I, 352 (same as preceding item).

6146 If there is a large circle around the sun, it is a sign of bad weather.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. *General: Dunwoody*, 77 (a solar halo indicates bad weather); Garriott 26 (solar halo) — *Tennessee: McGlasson*, 26, No. 3 (if you see a ring around the sun or moon, it is a sign of bad weather before three days) — *New Mexico: Hurt*, 197 (Spanish).—HDA IX, 536, s.v. "Wetterkunde" (rain promised); Inwards, 86 (if the sun or moon outshines the "brugh" [or halo], bad weather will not come).

6147 When the sun has a circle around it, with a star in the circle, it will be bad weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6146, above.

6148 If the sun goes down behind clouds, there will be bad weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General: Dunwoody*, 13 (the approach or continuance of bad weather) — *Quebec: Marie-Ursule*, 166, No. 155 (French).—HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne" (rain or a thunderstorm).

6149 When the sun sets and leaves a red bank, bad weather is at hand.

Anonymous.

6150 White, lumpy clouds indicate bad weather.

Anonymous. Inwards, 129 f.; HDA IX, 811 f., s.v. "Wolke."

6151 A ring around the moon means bad weather. The number of stars in the ring tells how many days off.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county; Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county; an anonymous informant; and G. W. Allen, New York University. Stars within the ring, or halo, are indicated only in the Puckett item from the South, the one from Kentucky, the first two items from Tennessee, and the one from Mississippi. *South*: Puckett, 516 (Negro) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 31 (bad weather within forty-eight hours) — *Kentucky*: Price, 34; Thomas, No. 2579 — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 196; Farr, *Riddles*, No. 195; Rogers, *Moon*, 55, No. 4 (when there is a ring around the moon [no stars], bad weather is imminent) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 9 — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 995 (a disk or ring around the moon indicates bad weather [rain or snow]); No. 997 (the bigger the ring around the moon, the nearer the bad weather) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 151 (when there is a large circle around the moon, sign of slightly bad weather; when the circle is small, sign of very bad weather [French]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 6 (bad weather soon); Hyatt, No. 421 — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (usually rain or snow) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 479 (bad weather within forty-eight hours [Scotch]) — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 41 (wind or rain [Canadian Dakota Indians]) — *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (Spanish).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond" (rain). Cf. Nos. 6204, 6549 f., 6552, below.

6152 The number of stars within the halo around the moon represent the number of bad days following.

Ralph Chesson, Washington county; Julian P. Boyd; and an anonymous informant. *Kentucky*: Price, 34 (the bad weather will last as many days as there are stars enclosed in the circle). — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 424 (bad weather for two days may be expected, if the ring around the moon contains two stars).

6153 An old moon in the arms of a new moon is a sign of bad weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county; Roy Brogden, near Calypso, Duplin county. Inwards, 96.

6154 If the moon turns so that the crescent will not hold water, it is going to be a bad month.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (when the corners or "horns" of the moon are down, there will be bad weather [Spanish]).

6155 If the moon passes a star, there will be bad weather.

Anonymous. Cf. Inwards, 98 (a star dogging the moon [which is a rustic expression for a planet being many nights persistently near the moon] foretells bad weather); HDA VI, 518, s.v. "Mond."

6156 A rainbow in the morning indicates bad weather.

Anonymous. *Ozarks*: Randolph, *Ozark*, 11 (bad weather within twenty-four hours) — *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (a sure sign of bad weather is the occurrence of a small rainbow in the west at sunset [Spanish]).—HDA VI, 579, s.v. "Morgen": Inwards, 159; Sébillot I, 348; Mélusine II (1884-85), 39.

6157 A sundog foretells bad weather.

Anonymous. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 676 (two sundogs mean bad weather).—HDA VIII, 48, s.v. "Sonne."

6158 When the water gall is north of the sun there will be bad weather.

Anonymous. HDA VII, 590, s.v. "Regenbogen."

6159 A sparkling sea at night is a sign of bad weather.

Anonymous.

6160 No weather is ill,
 If the wind be still.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Lean I, 400.

6161 Thunder in the morning indicates that the rest of the day will be bad.

Anonymous. Unless otherwise specified, the following verse is cited: Thunder in the morning, / All the day storming. *South*: Evans, 16 (to hear thunder in the morning, stormy weather); Puckett, 515 (thunder in the morning ushers in stormy weather [Negro]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 375 — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 980 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1154 (German) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15.—HDA III, 821, s.v. "Gewitter."

6162 If it lightens under the North Star, look for bad weather.

Julian P. Boyd.

6163 If any object gives off light on a dark night, there will be bad weather.

Anonymous.

6164 An unusual numerosity of fogs portends no good to "folks and things" in weeks to come. There will be bad weather.

Newspaper clipping, unidentified. *General*: Dunwoody, 53 (if the fog settles down, expect stormy weather).

6165 If smoke stays close to the ground, there will be bad weather.

Anonymous. Cf. *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 197 (smoke settling to the ground); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 198 (same as preceding item) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 29 (smoke descending to the ground) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 561 (bad weather may be expected if smoke remains near the ground) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 473 (a sign of coming bad weather for smoke to descend to the ground).—HDA VII, 524, s.v. "Rauch."

6166 When smoke beats to the ground, it is a sign of bad weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county.

6167 If the wind blows smoke down the chimney, there will be bad weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and Madge Colclough, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 18 (when chimneys smoke and soot falls, bad weather is at hand) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 487 (smoke falling from the chimney) — *Kentucky*: Stewart, 15 (watch smoke when it comes from a chimney; if it settles downward, prepare for bad weather).—HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6168 A great many women stirring around indicates bad weather.

Ralph Chesson, Washington county. HDA VII, 606, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. No. 6832, below.

6169 To dream of the dead is a sign of bad weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. HDA VIII, 1031, s.v. "Tote, der." Cf. Nos. 6415, 6651, below.

6170 To dream of a deceased person is a sign of bad weather.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6169, above.

6171 If a cat lies with its back to the fire, it is a sign of bad weather.

Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia). *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (cat sitting with her tail to the fire) — *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro).—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze." Cf. Nos. 6278, 7062, below.

6172 If a cat washes herself in the usual fashion, the weather will be fair, but if she licks her hair the wrong way, or washes above her ears, or sits with her tail to the fire, the weather will be bad.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (cat washing her face over her ears); also (cat licking her coat against the grain); Garriott, 22 (same as the preceding items).—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze."

6173 When a cat jumps up suddenly and runs about, bad weather is coming.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (it will bring bad weather to provoke a cat) — *South*: Puckett, 505 (when cats play and make an unnecessary racket, they are posting a forecast of bad weather [Negro]) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 189 (cats playing is a sign of bad weather).

6174 It is a sign of bad weather to see a cat wallow.

Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county.

6175 If cattle keep their heads to leeward, it indicates bad weather.

Green Collection.

6176 If the ground hog sees its shadow on the second of February, there will be six weeks of bad weather.

Ethel Brown, Catawba county, and Edith Walker, Watauga county. *Maryland*: Whitney, 195 (if the ground hog sees his shadow on Candlemas Day, there will be six more weeks of cold weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2414 (cold weather) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 22 (on Groundhog Day, February 2) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 14 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 54; Hyatt, No. 284 (cold weather); No. 285 (eight more weeks of cold weather); Norlin, 208, No. 6 — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 309 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1110 (more cold weather) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 76 (if February 2 is a bright day, so that the groundhog can see his shadow, there will be six weeks more of cold weather); *Nebraska Proverbs* 1, 2 (cold weather).—HDA 1, 900 f., s.v. "Bär"; v, 1270, s.v. "Lichtmess"; Simon, *Beliefs*, 92 (Japan). Cf. Nos. 6044 f., 6068 f., above, Nos. 6177, 6282, below.

6177 If the ground hog sees his shadow, there will be forty more days of bad weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 13 (groun' hawg sees his shadder [on February second], be bad [weather] fu fawty day) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 1; Page, 53 (watch at 12 o'clock on Feb. 2; if the groundhog sees his shadow and the sun is shining, there will be forty more days of cold weather); Redfield, No. 410 (if a groundhog comes out on the fourteenth of February and sees his shadow, it is a sign of forty more days of bad weather). Cf. Nos. 6044 f., 6068 f., 6176, above.

6178 If you see a hog with a stick in his mouth, it is a sign of bad weather.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *General*: Dunwoody, 31 (before cold weather) — *South*: Evans, 16 (to see a hog running around with a straw in its mouth: cold weather) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 21 (a hog carrying straw or shucks in his mouth: cold weather) — *Indiana*: Butler, 316 (cold weather) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12 (any backwoods farmer will tell you that when a hog carries a piece of wood in its mouth, there is bad weather acomin') — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (before a cold snap).—Inwards, 183; HDA VII, 1483, s.v. "Schwein." Cf. Nos. 6286, 6988, below.

6179 If hogs carry sticks or straws for bedding, stormy, bad weather will come.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6285, below.

6180 Pigs squeal before bad weather.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6287, below.

6181 Whenever a horse stretches his neck and whiffs the air, bad weather is near.

Anonymous. Cf. *South*: Puckett, 505 (when horses run and make an unnecessary racket, etc. [Negro]) — *Illinois*: Smith III, 162 (if a horse begins to kick and act unnatural, etc. [Negro]) — *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (horses running fast in herds is a sign of bad weather [Spanish]).

6182 When birds come close about the house, it is a sign of bad weather.

Green Collection. *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 15 (birds going in couples is a sign of cold weather) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (if birds hover in one place, a cold snap is coming).—HDA VII, 251, s.v. "Sperling." Cf. No. 6288, below.

6183 When you see the birds' ruffled-up feathers, you may know that winter and the bad weather are not over.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. HDA VII, 251, s.v. "Sperling." Cf. No. 6081, above.

6184 Chickens dusting in the sand foretells bad weather.

Anonymous. HDA IV, 448, s.v. "Huhn."

6185 The crowing of the rooster at night indicates bad weather.

Helen Harrell, and an anonymous informant. *Kentucky*: Stewart, 15 (a rooster crowing before midnight) — *New York*: Travis, 199 (if a cock crowed at noon on a fair day, bad weather was on the way) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 103 (a cock crowing after going to roost); No. 111 (a rooster crowing at midnight); Smith II, 62, No. 11 (if a cock crows before three o'clock in the morning, it will rain or be bad weather for three days).—HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen." Cf. 6691, below.

6186 A rooster crowing on one foot foretells bad weather.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 37 (when geese or ducks stand on one leg, expect cold weather).

6187 Crows flying in flocks presage bad weather.

Green Collection. Cf. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 5 (crows a gatherin' up, goin' uh be cold) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 18 (to see crows gather in flocks indicates a cold turn in the weather) — *Missouri*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 546 (when crows fly low there will be bad weather; their fighting and tumbling over each other indicates stormy weather).—HDA V, 365, s.v. Krähe. Cf. No. 6710, below.

6188 A flock of geese seen in the spring is a sign of rough weather.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county.

6189 Guineas holler in the winter when there is going to be bad weather.

Marie Harper, Durham county. Cf. No. 6697, below.

6190 If an owl hoots on the east side of the mountain it denotes bad weather.

Roby Arrowhead. Reference is to the hooting of owls in general. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3432 (when you hear owls hollering, it means bad weather soon) — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 486 (a horned owl "bawling") — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1139 (owls hooting at nightfall or after daybreak [German]); Rupp, 244, No. 12 (an owl calling from

the swamps and lowlands [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 446 (an owl's hoot after daybreak means bad weather); Wheeler, 58 (owls cry for bad weather). Cf. Nos. 6719 ff., below.

6191 If a pigeon coos in the morning, bad weather is on its way.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6194, below.

6192 A redbird is a sign of bad weather.

Lois Johnson, Thomasville, Davidson county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2620 (when redbirds fly low, you may look for bad weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 523 (there will be bad weather if the redbird is seen in the winter). Cf. No. 6727, below.

6193 The appearance of sea gulls indicates bad weather.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county. Cf. No. 6730, below.

6194 The hallooing of turtledoves indicates bad weather.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6191, above.

6195 To see a white hawk flying near the ground in winter is the sign of foul weather.

Green Collection.

6196 If you kill a snake and leave it lying on the ground, it will be a sign of bad weather.

W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county. Cf. Nos. 6743 ff., below.

6197 The chirp of crickets heralds a period of bad weather.

Anonymous. Cf. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 23 (if some night you hear a cricket chirping in the house, look for cold weather soon) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 39 (Cricket squeaks / Cold weather in six weeks). Cf. 6780, below.

Changing Weather

6198 Mock [reflected or refracted] suns mean a certain change of weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 12 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31 (sundogs indicate a change in temperature) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 674 (an evening sundog indicates a change in the weather) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (when a "sundog" circle is seen about the sun, there will be some radical change in the weather) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 463 ("Sundogs" in the sky foretell a change in weather). — Inwards, 85; HDA VIII, 65, s.v. "Sonne."

6199 Every moon change brings a change of weather.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county; Green Collection. *West Virginia*: Mockler, 310, No. 7 (when the moon changes from old to new or from new to old, there will be a change in the weather) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 6 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3441

(the moon changing in the morning) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 938 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 144 — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 163, No. 13 (the weather changes with the phases of the moon) — *Illinois*: Briggs, 210; Wheeler, 56 f. (a marked belief in the influence of the moon upon the weather exists in the neighborhood; changes, it is thought, occur within two or three days of the moon's changes, and by estimating these both ways, the chances are that the theory is confirmed) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 182 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 577 — *New Mexico*: Moya, 17 (Spanish) — *California*: Dresslar, 22 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 17.—HDA VI, 518, s.v. "Mond"; Kamp, 33, 18; Inwards, 74, 88 (The moon and the weather / May change together; / But change of the moon / Does not change the weather. / If we'd no moon at all, / And that may seem strange, / We still should have weather / That's subject to change [*Notes and Queries*, Sept. 23, 1882]).

6200 Weather won't change between the quarters of the moon.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 63 (if the weather does not change from wet to dry or changes for only a short time at the time of the full moon, it will not change until the following full moon; and if it does not change then, it will probably remain the same for four or five weeks.

6201 If a long drought, a wet spell, a hot spell, or a cold spell is to break, the change may be confidently expected in the last quarter of the moon.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. No. 6402, below.

6202 Many people believe that it is the new moon, or the first quarter, or full moon that breaks a drought, a wet spell, a hot spell, or a cold spell.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. Nos. 6313 ff., below.

6203 Rings around the moon mean a change in the weather.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 417 (a large ring around the moon); No. 412 (halo) — *Washington*: Person, No. 348. —Kamp, 32, No. 13.

6204 A moon in a circle denotes a storm, and the number of stars in the circle denotes the number of days till it breaks.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 63 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 85 (ring around the moon, number of stars in the ring, sign of how many days before the storm; one star, storm next day; no stars, storm quite soon) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 143 (there is some sense in this, in that there would be no circle were the air not hazed with moisture, and the thicker the moisture, of course the fewer the stars that can be seen within the circle—or anywhere else for that matter—and the nearer the storm) — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1070 — *New York*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1070; Cutting, *Lore*, 31; Gardner, No. 147 (a circle or halo around the moon indicates an approaching storm) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 7; Hyatt, No. 420 (for every star inside the ring around a moon there will be a day until the weather changes) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 183 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 449 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 54; *Nebraska*:

Proverbs I, 2.—Inwards, 98. Cf. Nos. 6151 f., above, Nos. 6549 f., 6552, below.

6205 Changing weather is indicated when there is "a smokey quair look in the stars."

Green Collection.

6206 Whirlwinds are a sign of a change in the weather in twenty-four hours.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 88 (unsteadiness of the wind is an indication of changeable weather) — *Michigan*: WF XIII (1954), 283 (the faster the wind blows, the sooner we'll have a change in the weather).—HDA IX, 653, s.v. "Wind."

6207 If the corns on your feet ache, there will be a change in the weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. Cf. Nos. 6414, 6641, 6916, below.

6208 If a rooster crows in the fore part of the night, there will be a change in the weather.

Anonymous. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 21 (when the rooster crows at nine o'clock in the evening, expect a change of weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 105 (about nine o'clock at night) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 24 (nine o'clock in the evening). Cf. 6691, below.

6209 If a rooster crows late in the evening, look for a change in the weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 191 (a rooster crowing in the night); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 192 (in the night) — *California*: Dresslar, 32 (during the night).—HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen."

6210 If a rooster crows before 11 P.M. it is a sign of a change in the weather.

Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia). *South*: Puckett, 509 (a cock crowing before midnight) — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 163, No. 15 (if a cock crows at an unaccustomed hour of the night, the weather is about to change).—HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen." Cf. No. 6692, below.

6211 Roosters crowing underneath the house during a rain foretell a speedy change of the weather.

Anonymous.

6212 If a cock crows on the fence, it is a sign of a change in the weather.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. Cf. *Pennsylvania*: Lick-Brendle, 284 (Wenn der Hahn kreet uff em Misch, / Verennert sich's Wedder oder bleibt wie's ischt [Pennsylvania German dialect], 'When the cock crows on the dungheap, the weather will change or remain the way it is').

6213 If you hear partridges in the afternoon, it is the sign of a change in the weather.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county.

6214 If you want the weather to change, drag a dishcloth across the floor.

Julian P. Boyd.

Clear Weather

6215 If the fourteenth of February is a pretty day, the remainder of the year will be pretty.

Anonymous. February 14 as a day upon which weather predictions fell is no doubt connected with the old association of Groundhog Day with February 14 rather than with the second of the month. On this point, see the notes to No. 6068, above.

6216 If it's clear and fair on the first Tuesday of next month, that's what next month's weather'll be.

J. Schaffner. HDA II, 252, s.v. "Dienstag."

6217 Wednesday is clearing-off day, provided it has been raining several days.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *General*: Dunwoody, 100 (Wednesday clearing; clear till Sunday); Garriott, 43 (same as preceding).—Inwards, 73. Cf. No. 6851, below.

6218 If the sun goes down cloudy on Friday, it is a sure sign of a clear Sunday.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *General*: Dunwoody, 100 (If Friday be clear, / Have Sunday no fear); also (when the sun sets clear on Wednesday, expect clear weather the rest of the week); Garriott, 43 (If Friday be clear, / Have for Sunday no fear) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1242 (a clear sunset on Wednesday means clear weather till Sunday [German]).—Inwards, 73.

6219 If it clears off during the night, it will not remain clear long.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1125 (if it clears up at night, clear weather will not last long [German]); Shoemaker, 11 (a clear up at night is as good as no clear up at all [Indian saying]) — *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 966 (pleasant weather will last but a few hours) — *Illinois*: Smith II, 63, No. 22 (the weather won't stay clear very long) — *Western Plains*: Smith, *Weather*, 183 (a Cheyenne Indian belief is that it cannot be expected to remain clear if it clears up between dark and daylight; the notion is that it can't see to do a good job).

6220 If it clears off after night, it will not stay clear three days.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. Cf. No. 6219, above.

6221 If it rains before seven,
It will clear before eleven.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *General*: Dunwoody, 69 — *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (clear off) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 964 (It will drip before eleven) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1230 (if it rains before 7 A.M. and the crows are cawing, it will soon clear off) — *Ozarks*: Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160.—ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; HDA vi, 580, s.v. "Morgen"; FFC 113, p. 55. Cf. No. 6862, below, where the more laconic form is given.

6222 A gray east at sunrise means a clear day.

Anonymous. *South*: Puckett, 517 (a gray sky heralds fair weather [Negro]); Evans, 16 (if the sky is gray in the east, it is a sign of fair weather) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 16 (a gray sky indicates fine weather.—Inwards, 78.

6223 A clear sunset means the following day will be clear.

Anonymous. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 427 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 999 (clear weather the next day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 645 (fair weather the following day) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 583.—HDA viii, 68, s.v. "Sonne." Cf. No. 6344, below.

6224 If the sun sets clear after a shower, the next day will be clear.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Cf. No. 6223, above.

6225 The moon at or just after it is full can eat up clouds.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 60 (the full moon eats the clouds [nautical]); 59 (in the old of the moon, a cloudy morning bodes a fair afternoon); 61 (same as preceding, except "means" instead of "bodes") — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36 (In the waning of the moon, / A cloudy morn, fair afternoon).—Inwards, 97; also (the moon grows fat on clouds); 91 (like second Dunwoody item); Lean 1, 351 (like second Dunwoody item).

6226 When the clouds go with the sun, it will clear off.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (if the sun rises in clouds, and the clouds soon decrease, fair weather is certain to follow [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 3]) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, 184, No. 9 (if clouds are above the sun, fair weather).—Inwards, 78 (if at sunrise the clouds are driven away, as it were, to the west, this denotes fair weather [Pliny]).

6227 When red clouds appear late in the afternoon, it will be clear the following day.

Wilbur Comer. *General*: Dunwoody, 45 (red clouds in the west at sunset: fair weather) — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 8 (red clouds in the evening indicate good weather) — *Tennessee*: Rickard, 8 (if the clouds at sunset are red, there will be fair weather).—HDA i, 55 f., s.v. "Abendröte." Cf. No. 6351, below.

6228 Patches of sky in the northeast will be good signs of clearing weather.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 42 (a bright blue sky indicates fine weather); 85 (after it has been raining some time, a blue sky in the southeast indicates that there will be fair weather soon) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 16 (a deep blue sky, even when seen through clouds, indicates fair weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90]).

6229 After a rain, if one sees blue sky enough to cut out a pair of pants, the clouds will all go away, and it will clear off.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county, and an anonymous informant. The well-known reference to a patch of "blue sky big enough to make a Dutchman a pair of pants," etc., is treated under No. 6855, below. Other comparisons involving this colorful bit of folk speech, are treated here. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (when as much blue sky is seen as will make a sailor breeches, the weather may be expected to clear up); 43 (enough blue sky in the northwest to make a Scotchman a jacket is a sign of approaching clear weather); Garriott, 12 (same as preceding item); Knortz, 155 — *South*: Puckett, 518 (if there is enough blue sky in the west to make an old woman's apron it will "fair off" [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2627 (if it has not been raining for a day and is cloudy, and if a patch of sky large enough to make a sailor a pair of trousers is seen before ten o'clock, it will not rain that day) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3451 (a patch of blue sky large enough to make a Scotch plaid means fair weather); No. 3451 (large enough to make a sailor's jacket) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 968 (if you can see enough blue sky in the west to make an old woman's apron, it will clear off) — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 967 (in uncertain or threatening weather it is said that if you can see a piece of blue sky big enough to make a pair of breeches, it will clear off) — *Massachusetts*: Knortz, 155 (it will clear up if there is a spot of blue in the sky as large as an apron of an old lady) — *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26 — *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 967 (a pair of breeches); Knortz, 155 (a spot of blue sky as large as an old lady's apron) — *Indiana*: Richmond, No. 5 (enough blue sky to make a man's shirt) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 554 (if the sky brightens after a rain and there is sufficient blue in the north to make a shirt for a sailor, the weather will become clear); No. 555 ("I was washing one day and I said to my neighbor, 'I don't know if to hang out my clothes.' She said, 'Wait until you see a blue spot in the sky large as a handkerchief and it will not rain.'") — Inwards, 148; HDA I, 1375, s.v. "Blau." For related ideas see the two Illinois references in No. 6247, below.

6230 If Mary goes over the mountain, walking in a cloud, there will be clear weather for six weeks.

Maude Minish Sutton, Lenoir, Caldwell county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2326 ("Mary's gone over the mountain" [July 2?]; if clear, forty days of clear weather will follow). Cf. Nos. 6307, 6496 ff., below.

6231 If a fog rises, it will be a clear day.

Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh. Cf. *Kentucky*: Fowler, 2514a (if the fog lifts early it will be a clear day); Thomas, No. 2515 (fog lifting late) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 235 (a fog going upwards in the morning means clear weather); No. 239 (a fog lifting late). — HDA VI, 579, s.v. "Morgen." Cf. Nos. 6232 ff., 6254, 6359, below.

6232 If the fog comes down in the morning, the day will be clear.

R. S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 3 (fawg cummin' down, goin 'tuh clear up) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 22 (if instead of rising, the fog descends, it is going to clear off) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36 (fog in the morning, clear afternoon) — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 44 (if the fog goes down, the day will be clear) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 231 (a fog in the morning indicates a clear sky later in the day) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (if a fog falls, the weather will be clear).—HDA vi, 986, s.v. "Nebel." Cf. No. 6231, above, Nos. 6233 f., 6254, 6359, below.

6233 A foggy morning (except in foul weather) is a good time to start a long journey. It will clear before noon.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6232, above.

6234 If the fog follows along the southeastern side of the mountain, it will clear off.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county.

6235 A west wind brings clear, bright, cool weather.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *General*: Garriott, 8 (when, during a storm, the wind shifts from the east to the west quadrants, clearing weather will soon follow) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 14 (a northwester begins by blowing hard, and it usually brings clear weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 31]); 19 (wind changing from north to west signifies clear and dry weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1938, p. 45]); also (wind changing from south to northwest signifies that it will be clear and colder [*Blum's Almanac*, 1938, p. 45]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 775 (a wind from the west will bring cold weather) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 547 (the weather will be clear when the wind is in the southwest).—Inwards, 109, 117.

6236 Rising smoke is a sign of clear weather.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 117; also (when smoke in clear weather rises vertically from the chimney, the weather will remain clear) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 24 (smoke going straight [up]); Thomas, No. 2632 (smoke going straight up) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 997 (smoke going straight up) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1161 (German) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 562 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 49 (smoke going straight up).—HDA vii, 524. Cf. Nos. 6366 f., 6390, below.

6237 If all food is eaten off the table one day, the next will be a clear day.

Pearl Forbes (Tennessee); an anonymous informant; and students of Lees-McRae College, Avery county. *General*: Dunwoody, 106 (when everything is eaten at the table, it indicates continued clear weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2567 (everything being eaten at a meal) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1205 (if you eat all the food on the table, the saying is: "There will be fine weather [German]"); Knortz, 156 (there will be good weather if all plates are eaten up clean) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 247; Wheeler, 60 (the dishes being all emptied at a meal); 67 (if all the dishes were emptied at a meal, clear weather would follow) —

Iowa: Stout, No. 358 — *Oregon*: Hand, No. 20.—Inwards, 218; HDA II, 1037, s.v. "essen"; HDA V, 1506, s.v. "Mahl," "Mahlzeit." Cf. Nos. 6368, 6383, below.

6238 If a cat washes her face o'er, 'tis a sign that the weather'll be fine and clear.

Green Collection; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (good weather); Garriott, 22 (good weather) — *New York*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 509 — *Pennsylvania*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 509; Hoffmann II, 24 (German) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 45 (good weather) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200 (when a cat bathes herself the weather will be fine).—Inwards, 179. Cf. No. 6369, below.

6239 It always clears at milking time.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Kentucky*: Price, 31; Thomas, No. 2476 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 34 (no matter how hard it rained, some farmers said, it would always clear up in time for milking). Cf. No. 6881, below (hog-feeding time).

6240 It always clears off in time to put up the fowls before night.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6239, above, No. 6881, below.

6241 If the chickens come out of shelter just after a rain, the weather is going to clear away.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. Cf. *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 965 (when chickens come out after a shower, it is a sign that it will soon clear up).—HDA IV, 448, s.v. "Huhn."

6242 When chickens get on the fence during a rain and pick themselves, it is a sign of clear weather.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *General*: Dunwoody, 35 (when chickens light on fences during a rain to plume themselves, it will soon clear) — *South*: Puckett, 509 (if a cock flies upon a fence and picks his feathers during a rainstorm, it will soon "fair off") — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 452 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 44 (chickens flying up on a fence or other object) — *Kentucky*: Price, 30. Cf. Nos. 6372, 6883, below.

6243 If a rooster crows while standing on a fence or high place, the weather will clear.

An anonymous informant, and an unidentified newspaper clipping. References to a cock's crowing on a fence are given under No. 6244, below. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 456 (if a cock crows on a fence, it is a sign of fair weather); Dunwoody, 39 (fair weather) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 455 (if a rooster crows on a rainy day, it will clear up) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 43 (if a rooster flies up on anything after a heavy rain and crows, etc.) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2366 (if when it is raining the cock crows before noon, the afternoon will be clear) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 964 (a rooster flying up on anything after a rain, and crowing) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 115 (the crowing of a rooster while it is still raining means the skies will soon clear). Cf. Nos. 6884 f., below.

6244 If, while it is raining, a rooster flies on a fence and crows, it is a sure sign that it will clear off.

Anonymous. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 457 (cock crowing on a fence: fine weather); 456 (if after a thunderstorm a rooster gets up on the fence, flaps his wings and crows three times, it is a sign that it will soon clear) — *Maine*: Decrow, 320 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 458 (a cock crowing on a fence during a storm shows that it will soon clear off) — *California*: Dresslar, 32.—HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen." Cf. No. 6884 f., below.

6245 Swallows flying high is a sign of clearing weather.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 40 (when swallows in evenings fly high and chirp, fair weather follows); Garriott, 19 (when swallows in evenings fly high and chirp, fair weather follows); also (When swallows fleet soar high and sport in air, / He told us that the welkin would be clear) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 25 (when in the evening you see the swallows flying high, the morrow will be fair) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 594 — *New York*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 593 (good weather being indicated); Cutting, *Farm*, 35 (being a sign of fair weather); Travis, 199 (swallows fly higher in clear weather than they do in foggy weather).—Inwards, 195; HDA VII, 1392, s.v. "Schwalbe"; Sébillot I, 146.

6246 An open ant hole shows clear weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 55; 58 (if ants build new hills, the weather will be clear) — *South*: Evans, 16 (if ants are found with their doors opened, it is a sign of fair weather) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 11 (if the ants' hole is not surrounded by a cone, there will be fair weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1949, p. 13]) — *Maryland*: Whitney, 195 (when ants open their hills in the morning, it will be a clear day) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 460 (ant holes unprotected in the ground are signs of fair weather) — *California*: Dresslar, 51 (if there are little piles of dirt around ants' nests, the day will be fine, for the ants have dared to open their houses).—Inwards, 205.

Sunny Weather, Sun, Eclipse, etc.

6247 There is only one Saturday during the year that the sun does not shine sometime during the day.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Only the two New England items and the HDA reference correspond to the present entry. Unless otherwise elaborated, other references are to the effect that the sun shines on every Saturday throughout the year, if but for a few minutes. *General*: Dunwoody, 101 — *South*: Puckett, 48 (in this same class of mistaken nature-beliefs is the idea, of European origin, that no matter how hard it may rain the sun is bound to shine for a moment at least, every Saturday [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2777; No. 2466 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 980 — *New England*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 943; Johnson, *What They Say*, 24 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 941; Brooks, 309, No. 1 (There's ne'er a Saturday of the year / In which the sun doth not appear) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 665; No. 666 (though the sun does not shine all week, there will be sufficient sunshine on Saturday for the virgin to get a dry shirt); No. 667 (regardless of the weather on Saturday, there will always be enough sunshine to dry a workingman's shirt) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1075 — *California*: Dresslar, 75.—HDA VII, 923, s.v.

"Samstag"; Inwards, 50 (1898 ed.); Radford, 211; Lean 1, 350 (Spain); Moya, *Refranero*, 119.

6248 There are only two Saturdays in the year on which the sun cannot be seen.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2473 (the sun shines on every Saturday but three during the year) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 668 (in each year there are three Saturdays upon which the sun will not shine).—HDA VII, 925, n. 51, s.v. "Samstag"; VII, 922 f. (rain on only three Saturdays).

6249 In an eclipse the sun and moon jump over each other.

Anonymous. Cf. *South*: Puckett, 47 (when the sun is eclipsed have a basin of water arranged so that sun is reflected from the water to a mirror to your eyes. You will see the moon chasing itself around and around the sun [Negro]) — *British Columbia*: Boas, 232, No. 572 (when an eclipse of the sun or moon occurs, the heavenly bodies are being swallowed [Kwakiutl Indian]).—Salisbury, 77 (it used to be thought that an eclipse of the sun was ocular evidence of a battle being then in progress between the sun and the moon; and that the result of the lunar victory would be the immediate ending of the world).

6250 When the sun sets clear on any day but Friday, the following day will be sunny.

Anonymous. HDA 1, 55, s.v. "Abendröte." Cf. No. 6223, above.

6251 Rain before seven,
 Sunshine before eleven.

Anonymous. ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven." Cf. Nos. 6252, 6862 ff., below.

6252 If it rains before seven,
 It shines before eleven.

Alex Tugman, Todd, Ashe county. *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 202 (Rain before seven, / Shine before eleven) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 (Rain before seven / Shine before eleven) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 2 (same verse as in the preceding item).—HDA VI, 580, s.v. "Morgen." Cf. No. 6251, above, Nos. 6862 ff., below.

6253 Dew before midnight,
 The next day will be bright.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 48.—Inwards, 146.

6254 A fog in the morning betokens a bright, sunny day.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *New York*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1011 (Fog on the moor / Brings the sun to the door).—HDA VI, 579, s.v. "Morgen"; VI, 986, s.v. "Nebel"; Lean 1, 390. Cf. Nos. 6231 f., above.

6255 A big, white frost in the morning indicates a sunny day.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 54 (heavy frosts are generally followed by fine, clear weather) — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 973 (if hoar frost remains until after sunrise, the day will be fine).—Inwards, 163 f.

6256 Leaving a dead snake turned stomach downward brings sunshine.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. Cf. No. 6743, below.

Cold Weather

6257 If Easter Sunday is warm, seven cool days will follow.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. HDA VI, 1352, s.v. "Ostern." Cf. No. 6258, below.

6258 A warm Christmas, a cold Easter.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 99 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1948, p. 56) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 123.—Inwards, 68; Lean 1, 367.

6259 A red sunset means colder weather.

Anonymous.

6260 If the sun goes down behind clouds, there will be cold weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Cf. No. 6148, above.

6261 A green sky at sunset means cold weather.

Green Collection.

6262 When the moon is in the Steer, cold weather will follow.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *North Carolina*: Gillis, 86 (refers to the present entry).

6263 If the moon in her course swings far back northward, look out for very cold weather.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *South*: Evans, 16 (after the change of the moon, if it lies to the north it is a sign of cold weather [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2588 (any month when the moon is north of due west is a cold month) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 148 (when the moon is far north, expect cold weather) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 178 (a moon far to the north is a cold moon, and is a sure sign of cold weather) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 66 (when the moon runs high up north, colder weather may be expected during the season than is usual) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200 (moon far north: cold weather) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 19 (when the moon is far north, expect cold weather).

6264 Many stars indicate cold weather.

Anonymous. Cf. Nos. 6265, 7072, below.

6265 Many stars in winter are a sign of cold weather.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 7072, below.

6266 Shooting stars or meteors mean cold weather.

Green Collection. HDA VIII, 474, s.v. "Sternschnuppe."

6267 Northern lights denote cold weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 76 (Aurora borealis denotes cold) — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 61 (after a brilliant display of the Northern Lights [Aurora borealis] it will turn cold); Doering-Doering II, 197 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 22 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 37 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25.—Inwards, 101.

6268 If there is lightning in the winter, it is a sign that it will turn cold.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county.

6269 Thunder early in the spring indicates cold weather.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 80 (the first thunder in the spring indicates very cold weather); 91 (Thunder in spring / Cold will bring) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 82 (thunder early in the spring will be followed by cold weather) — *New York*: Boughton, 124, No. 21; NYFQ VII (1951), 137 (thunder in early spring warns everyone to expect a spell of colder weather) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1173 (German); Owens, 121 — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 57.—Inwards, 30, 167 (same verse as in Dunwoody); Lean 1, 369; HDA II, 322, s.v. "Donner" (thunder in March or April when the woods are still barren betokens a second winter).

6270 Thunder in the fall means cold weather is coming.

Green Collection. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2449 (if it thunders in December, there will be cold weather — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 699 (December thunder) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (if it thunders in December before Christmas, there will be a bad cold spell of weather at the end of January or the first of February).—HDA II, 322, s.v. "Donner" (thunder in late fall: early snowfall). Cf. No. 6075, above.

6271 Thunder in the winter is a sure sign of cold weather.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *General*: Dunwoody, 82; 80 (the first thunder in winter indicates very cold weather) — *South*: Puckett, 515 (thunder in mid-winter [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2404 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 971 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Toronto*, No. 10 (winter thunder is a sign of more cold weather) — *New York*: NYFQ I (1945), 61, No. 9 (colder weather coming) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 12 (very cold weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 697 (a sign of colder weather) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 444 (extreme cold).—HDA II, 322, s.v. "Donner."

6272 Continuous thunder in the winter is a sign of a cold spell.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6271, above, Nos. 7043, 7080 f., below.

6273 Black frost is a forerunner of a spell of dry, cold weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 54; also (bearded frost indicates colder weather and snow).—Inwards, 117 (hoar frost, accompanied by east wind: the cold weather will continue a long time).

6274 A fire burning with a blue flame indicates cold weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 932 (the fire burning well); Knortz, 155 (the kitchen fire burning bright) — *South*: Puckett, 513 (if the fire snaps and sparkles slowly and continuously ["Treads snow"] it is a sign of cold weather [Negro]); Evans, 16 (hearing fire popping slowly and continuously [treading snow, as it is called]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 488 (the fire burning very brightly) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2510 (if a fire sighs, there will be very cold weather) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 15 (fire popping) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 23 (the fire snapping and sparkling); 25 f. (when the coals in the old fireplace were ruddy, and the fire burned up brightly, it was said cold weather was approaching) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 931 (fire spitting sparks means cold weather) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 37; NYFQ, 1 (1945), 61, No. 10 (fire spitting sparks means colder weather) — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 34 (if the fire sighs, there will be very cold weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 217 (a fire in the stove fluttering); No. 216 (if a fire sighs, very cold weather is coming) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25 (the fire snapping and sparkling).—HDA II, 1395, s.v. "Feuer."

6275 A fox fire seen at night denotes cold.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 66.

6276 If ashes in a stove get hard, cold weather is at hand.

Anonymous.

6277 When animals are playful, it will turn cold.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. Nos. 6281, 7061, below.

6278 Cold weather comes after a cat sits with her back to the fire.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 409 (a cat lying with its back to the fire) — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 13 (a cat turning her back to the fire); Thomas, No. 2348 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 398 (a cat turning its back toward the fire) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 24 f. (if the cat comes in and sits on the hearth with its back to the north, it is a sign of cold weather) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 527 (the cat turning her back to the stove) — *New York*: Barnes, No. 11 (a cat lying with its back to the fire) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 343 (a cat lying with its back to the fire); Hyatt, No. 63 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 69 — *California*: Dresslar, 37 (a cat lying with its back to the fire) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25 (if the cat comes in and sits on the hearth with its back to the north, it is a sign of cold weather). Cf. No. 6171, above, No. 7062, below.

6279 When cats turn their tails to the fire, it is a sign of cold weather.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 26 (when a cat sits down with its tail to the fire, the hillman looks for a cold spell).—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze" (heavy frost).

6280 Rub the hair on the back of a cat the wrong way, and if you can see the sparks, it is a sign of cold weather.

Burns. *New England: Johnson, What They Say*, 19 — *Washington: Tacoma*, 24.—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze."

6281 When kittens become unusually playful out of doors, cool weather is on hand.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Cf. No. 6277, above, Nos. 6977 f., 7061, below.

6282 If it is fair on ground-hog day, so that the ground hog can see his shadow, he is frightened back into his den, and there will be six weeks more of cold weather. If it is cloudy, he does not see his shadow, so he stays out, and the cold weather is gone.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county. References to cold weather are given under the general entries in Nos. 6176 f., above.—HDA V, 1271, s.v. "Lichtmess." Cf. Nos. 6044 f., 6068 f., 6176 f., above.

6283 A pig with straw in its mouth indicates colder weather.

Anonymous. *Illinois: Hyatt*, No. 300 (if in winter pigs carry straw in their mouths, a cold spell is approaching).—HDA VII, 1483, s.v. "Schwein."

6284 If you see a hog running with leaves in its mouth and squealing, it is a sure sign that a cold snap is coming.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6283, above, Nos. 6286 f., below.

6285 If one sees a pig making a bed, there will be cold weather to follow.

Anonymous. *Illinois: Allison*, No. 67 (pigs gather straw for a bed before cold weather); Hyatt, No. 302 (when you see pigs pulling hay out of a haystack and making nests, expect cold weather). Cf. No. 6179, above.

6286 Hogs taking old socks, sticks, and the like in their mouths, is a sure sign of cold weather.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county. *Alabama: Browne*, No. 3480 (hogs carrying sticks in their mouths). Cf. No. 6178, above.

6287 When it's cold and windy, pigs will squeal.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *General: Bergen, Current*, No. 447 (pigs carrying hay or straw in their mouths signifies wind); Dunwoody, 86 (when pigs carry straws to their sty, a windstorm may be expected) — *Kentucky: Thomas*, No. 2547 (the squealing of pigs foretells cold weather) — *Tennessee: Frazier*, 38, No. 15 (pigs squealing at night indicates cold weather); McGlasson, 26, No. 15 (pigs squealing: cold weather); Rogers, *Animal*, No. 11 (hogs squealing at night: cold weather) — *Georgia: Steiner*, No. 49 (hogs squeal before cold weather) — *Newfoundland: Bergen, Animal*, No. 447 (pigs carrying straw in their mouths signifies wind); No. 487 (pigs "bawl" or "act crazy" be-

fore wind) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 27 (when you see pigs carrying straws in their mouths, look for high winds) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 303 (the squealing of hogs is a sign of cold weather); No. 443 (if hogs carry sticks and straws in their mouths, it is a sign of a windstorm) — *Missouri*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 488 (hogs [pigs] squeal more than usual the night before a coldspell). Cf. No. 6180, above.

6288 When the birds come up near the house in the winter, it is the sign of cold weather.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county, and Green Collection. *Texas*: Turner, 171 (if birds hover in one place, a cold snap is coming).—HDA VII, 836, s.v. "Rotkehlchen"; VII, 251, s.v. "Sperling." Cf. No. 6182, above.

6289 When you see a bevy of blackbirds in the summertime, it is the sign of cold weather.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 34 (blackbirds flocking in the fall indicate a spell of cold weather).—Sébillot I, 189.

6290 A drove of blackbirds going south indicates the coming of hard, cold weather.

W. H. Smith, and Julian P. Boyd. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3474 (when blackbirds fly west, look for cold weather and maybe snow); No. 3473 (when blackbirds fly northwest, look out for cold weather).

6291 When the crows caw, it is going to turn cold.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 460 (if crows caw more than usual, it means bad weather); No. 459 (if a crow caws an uneven number of times, it forebodes bad weather) — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 163, No. 14 (when many crows gather together and chatter, it is a sign of bad weather).—HDA v, 365, s.v. "Krähe." Cf. Nos. 6711 f., below.

6292 The flying of wild geese towards the south means that cold weather is coming.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 41; Garriott, 40 — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 16 (geese going from their northern home to the south) — *Tennessee*: O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 4; Redfield, No. 412; Rogers, *Animal*, No. 30 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3481 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 19 (seeing the wild geese flying south in winter) — *New York*: Barnes, No. 8 (when geese fly south in the fall, it will get cold); Boughton, 251, No. 3 (a flock of geese flying south); Gardner, No. 156 (geese flying south); Vance, 166 (if the wild geese fly south very early in the fall, it indicates a cold wave coming on) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 244, No. 17 (wild geese flying toward the south in early fall indicates that a cold wave is on the way [German]) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Birds*, 9 (geese flying south) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 64 (geese flying south) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 148, No. 63 (geese flying south [Spanish]) — *California*: Dresslar, 29 (geese flying south).—HDA VII, 1279, s.v. "Schneegans"; Inwards, 188.

6293 If killdees fly high and keep up a big racket, it is going to be cold and windy.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. *South*: Evans, 16 (to hear a killdee crying in the morning or evening indicates cold weather [Negro]); Puckett, 510 (a killdeer [plover] crying in the morning or evening indicates cold weather [Negro]). Cf. No. 6994, below.

6294 If you hear an owl hooting, the weather is going to be cold.

Grace Barbee, Stanly county. *South*: Evans, 16 (to hear a small owl hooting is a sign of cold weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 442 (colder weather is coming when an owl hoots in the morning).—Sébillot I, 163. Cf. Nos. 6719 ff., 6995, below.

6295 In the winter when you hear a hooting owl hollo, it is the sign of cool weather.

Wilma Foreman, Stanly county. *General*: Dunwoody, 38 (a screeching owl indicates cold) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 244, No. 12 (the hooting of a screech owl in the fall is a sign that a severe cold spell is on its way [German])—Inwards, 194; Sébillot I, 163.

6296 Redbirds bring cold weather.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2619 (if a redbird you are looking at flies to the right, the weather will turn cold) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 524 (a cold spell if redbirds appear in winter); No. 527 (a redbird singing early in the spring means cold weather); No. 525 (if a redbird you are looking at flies to the right, etc). Cf. Nos. 6727 f., 6931, below.

6297 Robins are forerunners of cold weather.

Anonymous. Cf. Inwards, 194. Cf. No. 6729, below.

6298 The flying of robins toward the south means that cold weather is on the way.

Green Collection.

6299 There will be more cold weather after the first frogs appear; they will have to look through glass windows.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. *Iowa*: Stout, No. 519 (if a frog croaks at Easter, he will close his mouth six weeks later because of cold weather).

6300 When a sea turtle comes ashore, there will be cool weather.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county.

6301 Blackberry blossoms bring cold weather.

Mrs. Maude Minish Sutton, Lenoir, Caldwell county. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 33 (cold weather when blackberries are in bloom is blackberry winter); Price, 31 (cold weather in May is called "blackberry winter"); Thomas, No. 2432 (cool weather in May is called

"blackberry winter") — *South Carolina*: PADS xiv (1950), 14 (a blackberry winter is defined as "a late cold spell, a spell of cold weather late in the spring").—HDA I, 1583, s.v. "Brombeere."

6302 When holly "berries out" handsomely, it is one of nature's sure signs of cold weather to come.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

6303 If the husks on corn are thick, it will be cold weather.

Anonymous. Cf. Nos. 6088 f., above.

6304 If shucks are on the corn, it is sign of cold weather.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. Nos. 6088 f., 6303, above.

6305 If leaves fall down and blow among perennials, cold weather will follow.

Anonymous.

Dry Weather

6306 A wet May foretells a dry July.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 96; Garriott, 44.—Inwards, 55.

6307 June fifteenth, "Mary goes over the mountains." If it rains that day, "she walks in the clouds." Look for six weeks of dry weather. If it is dry that day, six weeks of wet.

Green Collection. Whether "Mary goes over the mountains" on June 15, as here, on June 29 (No. 6496, below), or as is more properly the case, on July 2 (Nos. 6497 f., below), she indicates by her visit what the weather will be for the ensuing forty days, or six weeks—wet or dry. The entry in Whitney-Bullock, No. 2325, only partially explains the allegory ("July second. 'Mary comes over the mountain,' according to the *Almanack of Hagerstown*, is a common saying among the mountain people of Maryland. The Virgin Mary goes over the mountain to visit Elizabeth and returns after forty days have passed. The weather on that date foretells what it will be for the next six weeks"). The visit of Mary into the hill country, into the city of Juda, to visit her cousin Elizabeth, when both were great with child (Luke 1:24-59, esp. vv. 39, 56), has doubtless served as a model for this colorful figure, but the visit lasted three months, not six weeks, and there is no mention of the weather in St. Luke's account. Cf. Chambers II, 11, s.v. July 2: "Visitation of the Virgin Mary." Cf. No. 6230, above, and Nos. 6496 ff., below.

6308 If it doesn't rain the first of the dog days, it will be dry for forty days.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (the first three of the dog days rule the others; if they are dry, the others will be dry [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Tennessee*: Bass, 68 (if it is dry the first dog day, it will be dry forty days); TFSB xxii (1956), 84 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 21 (if the first dog day is dry, all the rest will be dry).—HDA IV, 498, s.v. "Hundstage."

6309 Dusts and bad storms appear on the autumnal equinox, September 22, or 23.

Green Collection.

6310 If the sun sets in a rosy bank of clouds, it is a sign of dry weather.

Mary L. Walker, Durham county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 379 (if the sun sets like a big red ball, the next day will be hot) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3470 (when the sun sets red, it is a sign of a dry spell) — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 60 (a red sunset in summer is a sign that the weather will be hot and dry); 61 (when the sun sets a ball of red, it will be dry two weeks); Doering-Doering II, 197 (same as the preceding item) — *New York*: Boughton, 190, No. 19 (a red sunset means continued hot weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 655 (a red sunset in summer means hot weather next day).—HDA I, 56, s.v. "Abendröte."

6311 Red clouds in the south are a sign of dry weather.

Kathleen Mack, Davidson county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Stewart, 15 (if you see red clouds at night, more dry weather is in store).

6312 The moon is the controlling planet of the year, and governs drought.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *General*: Dunwoody, 59 (the further the moon to the south, the greater the drought) — *Florida*: Figh, *Rawlings*, 202 (if the moon is straight across in the first quarter, it will push water out and drought will ensue [Rawlings, *The Yearling*, p. 222]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (if the moon remains low in the southern sky, the old folks say that it is well to prepare for a severe drought).—Inwards, 88; 68 (1898 ed.).

6313 If a new moon is on its back, it is a sign of dry weather.

Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county, and an anonymous informant. In only the Indiana item is the "new moon" specifically mentioned. *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 33 (a crescent moon on its back) — *Tennessee*: Lassiter, 30 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 35 f. (a moon tipped on its back is a "dry moon") — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 38 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 12.—Inwards, 93 (When the moon lies on her back, / Then the sou'-west wind will crack; / When she rises up and nods, / Then north-easters dry the sods). Cf. Nos. 6856 f., below.

6314 Dry weather can be expected when the moon hangs on her back.

Anonymous. Inwards, 93; Garriott, 37.

6315 When the new moon lies on its back or with horns turned up, it is the sign of dry weather.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *South*: Puckett, 515 (the horny moon seems to be thought of as a sort of bowl holding water. If it is "on its back" [the points straight upward] dry weather will result [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2574 (when the new moon lies on its back, that is, when the horns extend upward, it is generally thought that the following month will be dry, for the moon will hold water) — *New*

York: Gardner, No. 150 (when the moon is flat on its back so that the water can't run out, it is called a dry moon) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 267 (when the horns of the crescent moon were about even [the moon on its back], it was a dry moon because none of the water could spill out) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 447 (if the horned moon is on its back, etc.) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 73 (signs of approaching drought or a long dry spell: "a hold-water moon" [a crescent moon that is on her back with the two points turned up]).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond." Cf. Nos. 6856 f., below.

6316 If the moon hangs on the point, it will be a dry month.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. *Kentucky*: Fentress, 17 (a moon with points extending upward will hold the water; hence no rain [and dry weather]); Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 20 (if the moon points extend upward, we may expect dry weather, for the moon will hold water) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 190 (if the moon stands on its point, etc.); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 191 (same as the preceding item) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3463 (when the moon hangs on the corner, it will be a dry moon); No. 3466 (when the moon is standing on its points, it indicates that the water has poured out, and that there will be dry weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 398 (a moon standing on its end is a dry moon) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 173 (a moon which stands on its point is a dry one, because it has been drained of its moisture) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 73 (a crescent moon standing on one end shows that all the water has been poured out; hence a sign of approaching drought).

6317 When the moon is tilted so it will not hold water, it is a dry moon.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3467 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 89 (when the moon is on its side, dry weather) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 267 (when one horn of the crescent moon was notably lower, the moon was dry, because the tilt has already allowed the water to run out) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 408 (a "crescent moon," a moon resting on its ends, is a dry moon, for the water has run out of the dipper) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 579 (if the crescent moon is tipped like a boat, there will be a period of dry weather) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 11 (if the moon is tipped over, it is a dry moon).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6318 If the moon is filtered enough for a powder horn to be hung on it, a dry season is on its way.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2575 (when a new moon lies sufficiently on its side to allow an Indian's powder horn to be hung on the point, the moon will be a dry one) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 10 (Indians used to say that when the new moon was tilted so that one could hang a powder horn on it, the water had been spilled out, and it was a dry moon) — *Nova Scotia*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 992 (the Indians told the first settlers that if the moon lay well on her back, so that a powder-horn could be hung on the end, the weather during that moon would be dry); Fauset, No. 92 (when you could hang the powder horn on the moon, she held the water; go to the woods. Indian sign, 150 years ago) — *New England*, *New York* and *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991 (should the new moon lie on its back, it is a sign it will be dry that month, for the moon would hold water. The Indian says the hunter can hang his powder-horn upon it) — *New York*: Gardner, No. 148 (when

the new moon sits up straight so that one cannot hang arrows and powder horn on it, it is called a dry moon) — *Illinois*: Briggs, 210 (the moon hanging in such a way that an Indian could hang his horn on it); Hyatt, No. 392 (there will be dry weather, if an Indian's shot horn cannot be hung on the tip of the moon); No. 393 (a new moon upon the point of which an Indian is unable to fasten his powder horn will be a dry moon); Norlin, 209, No. 19 (in summer, if the moon is in such a position that a powder-horn cannot be hung on it, there will be dry weather); Wheeler, 57 (the horns of the new moon being turned up, "so that an Indian could hang a powder-horn on them,") — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 466 (the moon being tipped so an Indian can hang his powder-horn on it safely) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 21 (if you can hang a powder horn on the new moon, it will be a dry moon) — *Oregon*: Hand, No. 77 (dry too, will be the month if the lower point of the moon is so far down a powder horn could not be hung on it, because all the water has run out).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond" (so that one can hang a bridle on it); Inwards, 91.

6319 If the new moon has its arms up, it will be a dry moon.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. Nos. 6315 f., above, Nos. 6320 ff., below.

6320 If a moon has the horns cupped so that they will hold water, the month will be dry.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 59 (when the horns of the moon are sharp, it indicates dry weather) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Moon*, 55, No. 1 (when the moon is turned up there will be dry weather).

6321 If the new moon's horn is pointed up, it will be a dry moon.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 61 (the new moon appearing with the points of the crescent turned up); JAFL, III (1890), 127 (if the "Bicornis Regina" carries both horns up it retains all the water, as in a bowl, and dry weather is expected) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 403 (when the horns of the moon are up, the weather will be dry because the water cannot fall out) — *West Virginia*: Mockler, 310, No. 2 (if the horns of the moon point up, the moon is holding water and the weather will be dry) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 20 (the moon lying with the horns will hold water) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 14 (new moon standing on end is a sign of dry weather) — *Florida*: SFQ, VII (1943), 106 (the moon standing up straight [Greek]) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 59 — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 10 (the waning moon having both horns up); JAFL, II (1889), 232, No. 8; Phillips, 162, No. 8 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 403 (a moon with ends pointing upward is a dry moon, because it is holding up the water. Hence, there will not be any rain during the following month) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114 (the waning moon having both horns up) — *Oregon*: Hand, No. 76 (Like smart people everywhere, the Lower Rogue folk adhere to the weather signs which are indicated in the new moon. In reading the signs, they assume the new moon to be in the nature of a bowl, or a pan full of water. If the two points are up at about the same level, the moon is full of water, but it cannot get out; and, of course, under such conditions, the month following will be dry) — *British Columbia*: Boas, 219, No. 414 (if the crescent of the moon stands upright, dry weather [Kwakiutl Indian]).—Inwards, 91.

6322 If the points of a new moon point up, it is a sign of dry weather.

Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia). Cf. *General*: Garriott, 35 (if the new moon appears with the points of the crescent turned up, the moon will be dry) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3464 (when the moon news and lies on its corner, it will be dry weather) — *California*: Dresslar, 22 (if the new moon is so placed in the sky that the two points are up, it is a sign of a dry month, for it is said that it will hold all the water). Cf. Nos. 6856 f., below.

6323 If the new moon is standing on its edge, the month will be a dry one.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2573 (when the new moon stands on end, the following month will be dry) — *New England*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991 (should the moon stand vertically, it will be a dry month) — *New York*: Gardner, No. 148 (when the new moon sits up straight so that one cannot hang arrows and a powder horn on it, it is called a dry moon).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond." Cf. Nos. 6856 f., below.

6324 If you see a rainbow after a rain, you may know there will be dry weather for a while.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county. *South*: Puckett, 515 (two rainbows seen at once vaticinate [prophesy] dry weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2614 (a rainbow in the east) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 513 (rainbow in the east) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (a rainbow in the west means that a month of dry weather will follow).—Kamp, 39, No. 64.

6325 When the dew is on the grass
 Rains will never come to pass.

An anonymous informant, and an unidentified newspaper clipping. *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 207; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 208 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2494 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 181. Cf. No. 6874, below; cf. also No. 6814, below.

6326 Dew on the grass in the morning means there will be no rain during the day.

Anonymous. In none of the following references is mention made of the dew's being on the grass. *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 46 (no rain when dew falls) — *Alabama*: No. 3668 (doorsteps wet with dew; no rain); No. 3669 (if in early morning you see dew drops on spider webs, it won't rain enough that day to break the spider webs) — *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 212 (if there is a heavy dew it won't rain that day) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 19 (heavy dew) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 180 (heavy dew).

6327 The direction from which the wind blows on the twentieth of March will be the direction of the prevailing winds until the equinox. If the wind blows from the south, there will be a summer drought.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 83 ([wind] North and south / The sign o' drought) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (steady south winds are an omen of drought).—Inwards, 69, 113; Lean v, 401; HDA v, 1738, s.v. "März." Cf. No. 6962, below.

6328

Wind in the south
Brings a drouth.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 83 ([wind] North and south / The sign o' drouth).—Inwards, 69, 113; Lean I, 401.

6329 Whirlwinds of dust are a sign of dry weather.

Lucille Massey, Durham county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 387 (little whirlwinds of dust) — *Kentucky*: Price, 30; Thomas, No. 2677 — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 25 (seeing a whirlwind) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3472 (a whirlwind) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 30 (whirlwinds of dust going straight up); Hyatt, No. 765 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (during the summer, whirlwinds, or dust devils, as they are sometimes called, are taken as an indication of continued dry weather; and if the whirlwinds are numerous, the expectation of dry weather is accordingly stronger) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (whirlwinds are an omen of drouth); Turner, 171 ("dust devils" [whirlwinds] are an infallible sound [?] of dry weather) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200 (whirlwind).—HDA IX, 653, s.v. "Wind."

6330 Whirlwinds are often seen in the dust of fields or roads and indicate dry weather.

Green Collection. Cf. *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 54 (if a whirlwind crosses a field, it is a sign of dry weather) — *Tennessee*: TFSB XIV (1948), 36 (dry weather is on the way when you see a whirlwind moving downhill [Negro]) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 448 (a whirlwind crossing a field).

6331 If a whirlwind goes away from water, there will be dry weather.

James Hawfield, Union county.

6332 Lightning in the north means dry weather.

Green Collection. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2560 — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 14 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3461 — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 29. —HDA I, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln" (sign of heat).

6333 Lightning in the south is a sign of dry weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and Kathleen Mack, Davidson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 81 (lightning in the south low on the horizon indicates dry weather) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 11 — *Kentucky*: Price, 31; Thomas, No. 2563 — *Indiana*: Butler, 316 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 335 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15; Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 — *Kansas*: Inwards, 169 (lightning in the south, low on the horizon, etc.).

6334

Lightning in south,
Is a sign of drouth.

Green Collection. Cf. *South*: Puckett, 515 (lightning in the west is a sign of drought [Negro]) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 439 — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 16 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 336 (it is a sign of drouth if it lightens in the east); Smith II, 63, No. 33 — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 331 (lightning in the south, long dry drouth).

6335 If the first thunder of the new year is in the direction of the north, it will be a dry year.

Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Duncan, 82 (if the first thunder in the spring is in the north, it indicates a dry season); also (thunder in the north in the winter indicates dry weather) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 51 (thunder in the north is a sign of dry weather).

6336 If the first thunder squall of the year goes north, the year will be dry.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. No. 6335, above.

6337 When a bad man dies, it is a sign of dry weather.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6652, below.

6338 A bird in the house is a sign of drought.

Anonymous.

6339 Dry flies betoken drought.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county.

6340 When wasps build their nests high in the briars along ditchbanks, it will be a dry year.

R. T. Dunstan, Greensboro, Guilford county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 58 (wasps building nests in exposed places indicates a dry season).—*Inwards*, 205; HDA ix, 506, s.v. "Wespe." Cf. No. 6058, above.

Fair Weather

6341 Evening red, and morning gray,
Sure sign of fair day.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3447 (Evening red and morning gray / It is a sign of a bonny day).—*Lean* i, 353; HDA vi, 579, s.v. "Morgen"; ODEP, 176, s.v. "Evening red . . ."; FFC 113, p. 30, s.v. "Evening."

6342 Rain before seven,
Fair before eleven.

Doris Overton, Greensboro, Guilford county. *New York*: Gardner, No. 141 — *Texas*: Turner, 171.—HDA vi, 580, s.v. "Morgen"; ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; FFC 113, p. 55.

6343 A red sunrise indicates fair weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. No. 6144, above.

6344 If the sun sets clear, the next day will be fair.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *South*: Puckett, 518 (if it is raining and the sun sets fair in the evening, it will be fair in the morning [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2485 (fair weather for the next three days) — *Tennessee*: Hatcher, 153 — *Illinois*: Allison,

No. 19 (fair weather tomorrow) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 46; *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1.—Inwards, 81. Cf. No. 6223, above.

6345 If the sun sets pretty, look for fair weather the next day.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3453 (a bright sunset, a fair tomorrow).—HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne."

6346 If there is a red sunset, the following day will be fair.

Julian P. Boyd, and Dixie V. Lamm, Lucama, Wilson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 77 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 53 — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 212 (when the sun sets, if a pink glow is in the western sky and the eastern sky is dark, the next day will be a fair day); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 213 (same as the preceding item) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3554; No. 3455 (fair weather tomorrow) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (bright red sunset) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 652 (fair weather next day); No. 654 (if the sun sets clear and red, etc.) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 488.—HDA I, 56, s.v. "Abendröte." Cf. No. 6144, above, Nos. 6350, 6852, below.

6347 If there is a bank north on Monday morning, and it comes on over, it will be fair weather.

Eva Furr, Stanly county. *General*: Dunwoody, 22 (clouds small and round like a dapple gray with a north wind: fair weather for two or three days) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (same as preceding item [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 3]) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 73 (clouds going around to the north: clearing weather).—Inwards, 133.

6348 A blue sky and white clouds mean fair weather.

Green Collection. In only the first North Carolina reference is mention made of clouds along with the blue sky. *General*: Dunwoody, 85 (after it has been raining some time, a blue sky in the southeast indicates that there will be fair weather soon) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 16 (a deep blue sky, even when seen through clouds, indicates fair weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90]); also (same item as in Dunwoody [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 553 (a deep blue sky indicates fair weather). Cf. No. 6228, above.

6349 Clouds going away from the sun in the morning is a sign of fair weather.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 43 (clouds in the east, obscuring the sun, indicate fair weather) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 9 (if clouds are above the sun, fair weather).—Inwards, 102 (1898 ed.). Cf. No. 6226, above.

6350 When you see red clouds, fair weather can be expected.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 45; also (if at sunset the clouds are red bordered with black in the south-east, it will be very fine); also (if the clouds at sunset have a tinge of purple, the weather will be fine) — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 8 (red clouds in the evening indicate good weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2374 (fair weather if the clouds have a golden appearance) — *Ten-*

nessee: Rickard, 8 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 128 (a golden appearance of the clouds signifies fair weather).—Inwards, 127; HDA I, 55 f, s.v. "Abendröte." Cf. Nos. 6227, 6346, above.

6351 When red clouds appear in the west in the evening, it will be fair weather the following day.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 45. Cf. Nos. 6227, 6350, above.

6352 If you see the new moon for the first time with no objects such as tree tops between, the weather will be fair.

S. M. Davis, White Hall (Seven Springs), Wayne county. For various items connected with "seeing the moon clear," see Nos. 5926 ff., above.

6353 A full moon rising clear means fair weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 60 (fine weather); Garriott, 27 (fine weather) — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 57 (fine weather).

6354 A bright, clear-faced moon indicates fair weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6355 A moon tilted up indicates fair weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3430 (if the new moon is tipped, moderate weather is coming) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1232 (the horns of the moon turned upward indicate clear weather [German]) — *New Mexico*: Hurt, 197 (when the corners or "horns" of the moon are up, there will be good weather [Spanish]).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6356 They say that if the stars are thick it is a sign of fair weather.

Macie Morgan, Stanly county. *General*: Dunwoody, 73 (in summer, when many stars twinkle, clear weather is indicated) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 617 (fine weather may be expected if stars twinkle brightly) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 580 (a starry night foretells a good day next day).—Addy, 118.

6357 As many stars as there are in the circle around the moon there will be that many fair days.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *South Carolina*: Davis, 245, No. 1 (the number of stars within a lunar halo indicates the number of days before clear weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2576 (a ring around the moon with a star in it brings clear weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 422 (a star in the circle round a moon is a sign of clear weather).

6358 If a rainbow appears in the evening, it is a sign of fair weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 71; also (a rainbow appearing at night) — *South*: Evans, 16 (Negro) —

North Carolina: Barker, 15 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 209 (rainbow at night); Farr, *Superstitions*, 210 (rainbow at night).—Inwards, 160 f.; HDA I, 34, s.v. "Abend"; I, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln."

6359 If the morning is foggy, and the fog comes down, it is the sign of a fair day.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county, and Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Dunwoody, 52 (when the fog falls, fair weather follows) — *South*: Evans, 16 (on a foggy morning, if the fog comes down: fair weather [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 9 (if a fog comes to earth, it is a sign of fair weather) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3448 (when the fog in the morning remains near the earth, fair weather is coming) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 232 (if a morning fog falls, the weather will be fair) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 458 (a fog lying close to the ground indicates fair weather [Scotch])—HDA vi, 986, s.v. "Nebel"; Inwards, 147; Lean I, 352. Cf. Nos. 6232, 6254, above.

6360 When the wind follows the sun, you may expect fair weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 21 (if the wind follows the sun's course, expect fair weather); 83 (it is a sign of continued fine weather when the wind changes during the day so as to follow the sun) — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 103, No. 10 (When the wind comes around with the sun / Fine weather just begun).—Inwards, 107.

6361 When the wind is in the north, it is the sign of fair weather.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Manitoba*: Wallis, 46 (in summer, a north wind heralds good weather [Canadian Dakota Indians]).—Inwards, 112, 115.

6362 When the wind changes from southwest or south to west, fair weather follows.

Green Collection. *General*: Garriott, 8; also (westerly winds, both from the northwest and southwest quadrants, are, essentially, fair weather winds, the principal distinction between these winds being that the southwest winds are warm and the northwest winds are cold) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 19 (wind from the west signifies fair weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1938, p. 45]) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 547 (the weather will be clear when the wind is in the southwest) — *Texas*: Turner, 170 (when the wind blows from the west, fair weather will come).—Inwards, 108. Cf. No. 6235, above.

6363 If it begins to clear up in the direction from whence the wind is blowing, it will be fair in a short while.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county.

6364 Lightning in the south is a sign of fair weather.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 80 (if there is lightning without thunder after a clear day, there will be a continuance of fair weather).—Inwards, 168.

6365 Burning a broom is a sure sign of fair weather.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. HDA I, 1145, s.v. "Besen."

6366 Smoke rising from a chimney indicates fair weather.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county, and Fawn Watson, Robeson county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 487 (if smoke rises from a chimney, etc.) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 67) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3533.

6367 If smoke goes straight up, it means good and fair weather.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 197 (when the smoke is white, it is a sign of fair weather [French]) — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 163, No. 12 (smoke ascending is a sign of fair weather) — *Nebraska*: *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 (when smoke goes straight up the day will be fair).—HDA VII, 523, s.v. "Rauch." Cf. Nos. 6236, 6366, above.

6368 If all the bread is eaten at the table, the next day will be fair.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. HDA II, 1037, s.v. "essen"; v, 1506, s.v. "Mahl, Mahlzeit." Cf. No. 6237, above, No. 6383, below.

6369 If a cat washes itself, the weather will be fair.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 29 — *California*: Dresslar, 36 (if a cat washes herself smoothly and slowly, it will be fair weather). Cf. No. 6238, above.

6370 Birds singing during the rain indicate fair weather.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *General*: Dunwoody, 34; Henry David Thoreau, *Journal*, April 21, 1852 (not verified) — *Kentucky*: Price, 30; Thomas, No. 2332 (the singing of birds during rain is an indication of approaching fair weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 31.

6371 The singing of hens during a rain denotes fair weather.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2332 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 87 (chickens singing in the rain) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Birds*, 9 (the cackling of chickens during a rain is a sign of fair weather to follow).

6372 If chickens are seen picking themselves during a rainy spell, it will soon be fair again.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county. *South*: Puckett, 509 (it will "fair off" when chickens pick their feathers after a rain [Negro]). Cf. No. 6242, above.

6373 The crowing of a rooster lustily early in the morning indicates a fair day.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2366 (if when it is raining the cock crows before noon, the afternoon will be clear) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 460 (good weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 114 (if you hear a rooster crowing during a morning rain, the afternoon will be fair).

6374 If roosters crow at night, fair weather will follow.

Green Collection. *West Virginia*: Lopez, No. 46 (if the rooster crows at dawn, the day will be clear).

6375 The arrival of wild geese presages fair weather.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 36 (geese flying high is a sign of fair weather).

6376 If a turkey buzzard flies high in the air, fair weather is not far off.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county; and three other informants from widely separated localities. *General*: Dunwoody, 34 (buzzard, not turkey buzzard).

6377 If you kill a snake and want fair weather, be sure to bury it.

Burns. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 19 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 574 (cast in the air a snake that you have killed, and if it drops on its stomach, the weather for the day will be fair) — *Nebraska*: Pound, 168 (it is a sign of fair weather the next day if a snake lies on its back).

6378 Ants running to and fro indicate fair weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *General*: Dunwoody, 55 (expect fair weather when ants scatter); Garriott, 24 (expect fair weather when ants scatter).—Inwards, 205.

6379 Cobwebs outdoors on a rainy morning are a sign of fairing weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 970 (cobwebs on the grass are a sign of fair weather) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 22 (on such mornings as you see cobwebs on lawns and grass fields shining with dew, the day will be fair) — *Massachusetts*: Brooks, No. 3 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 20. Cf. No. 6380, below.

6380 Many cobwebs on a foggy morning indicate fair weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *New England*: Backus I, 501 (on a foggy morning in the haying season no farmer will go into the hayfield unless there are cobwebs on the grass, which are thought to predict a fair day) — *Massachusetts*: Brooks, No. 3 (cobwebs in the grass on a wet or foggy morning are a sign of a fair day).

6381 If the grass is wet in the morning, it will be fair for the rest of the day.

W. J. Stanford, Wake county. In only the last Dunwoody entry, the Illinois item (Hyatt), and in Lean and HDA, is mention made of the dew's being on the grass. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 48 (heavy dew indicates fair weather); also (much dew after a fair day indicates another fair day); also (if the dew lies on the grass plentifully after a fair day, it indicates the following day will be fair) — *South*: Evans, 16 (heavy dew in the morning: fair weather) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (dews which lie long in the morning signify fair weather [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 3]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2492 (dew on the grass at night;

good weather) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 198 (when there is a lot of dew in the morning, sign of good weather [French]) — *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 (a heavy dew in the morning, etc.) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 186 (dew on the grass at night indicates that the next day will be fair).—Inwards, 146; Lean I, 394; HDA VIII, 692, s.v. "Tau." Cf. No. 6388, below.

6382 Sleep with a flower under your pillow, and the weather will be fair the next day.

Madge Colclough, Durham county. *South*: Puckett, 321 (Negro).

6383 If everything on the table at meals is eaten up, the following day will be fair.

Doris Overton, Greensboro, Guilford county. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 4 — *Tennessee*: O'Dell, 5 (if no food is left on the table from an evening meal, etc.); Redfield, No. 417 — *New York*: Gardner, No. 161 (if, when one is through eating, the table is clear of food, etc.) — *Pennsylvania*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 971 (if every dish is cleaned at a given meal, etc. [German]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 246 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 47 (if everything cooked for one meal is eaten, etc.); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1.—HDA II, 1037, s.v. "essen"; v, 1506, s.v. "Mahl, Mahlzeit." Cf. Nos. 6237, 6368, above.

Good Weather

6384 Look to the leeward for good weather.

Anonymous.

6385 Soft and delicate clouds indicate good weather.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 42 (soft-looking, delicate clouds foretell fine weather with weak, moderate, or light breezes); 44 (clouds being soft, undefined, and feathery, will be fair); also (light, delicate, quiet tints or colors, with soft undefined forms of clouds indicate and accompany fair weather) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1890, p. 44; 1923, p. 67).—Inwards, 127; HDA IX, 812, s.v. "Wolke."

6386 The higher the clouds the better (finer) the weather.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county; Green Collection; and an anonymous informant. *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67) — *Michigan*: WF XIII (1954), 283.—Inwards, 123.

6387 A rainbow in the afternoon indicates good weather.

Anonymous. Entries are to the time element involved, not to various other phenomena connected with rainbows. *South*: Puckett, 515 (rainbow in the evening; good weather next day [Negro]) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 987 (rainbow in evening; clear weather) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 192 (rainbow in evening; clear weather [French]) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 99 (rainbow at night; sign of good weather) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 509 (rainbow in the evening; fine weather) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (rainbow in the evening means fine weather).—Radford, 196 (evening); Sébillot I, 348 (morning); Kamp, 35, No. 37.

6388 Dew is an indication of fine weather.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 48 (if there is a heavy dew and it soon dries, expect fine weather) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67).—Inwards, 146; also (if there is profuse dew in summer, it is about seven to one that the weather will be fine); HDA VIII, 602, s.v. "Tau"; IX, 813, s.v. "Wolke." Cf. No. 6381, above [grass wet from the dew].

6389 If an owl hoots on the west side of a mountain, it denotes good weather.

Anonymous. *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1138 (if owls hoot from the hills it indicates clear weather [German]); Rupp, 244, No. 12 (if the screech owl calls from the hills, the weather will be clear and much colder [German]).—HDA II, 1073, s.v. "Eule"; Sébillot I, 165.

6390 When smoke goes straight up, it is a sign of good weather.

Anonymous. *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 30 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 35 (when smoke curls to the heavens there will be a good day) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 476.—HDA VII, 523 f., s.v. "Rauch." Cf. Nos. 6236, 6366 f., above.

6391 Lady bug, lady bug fly away home;
 Bring good weather, whenever you come.

Allie Ann Pearce, Colerain, Bertie county; and four other informants from eastern and central counties. HDA v, 1697, s.v. "Marienkäfer" (from the Bohemian Forest: "Liebes, liebes Frauenkäferlein, flieg in Brunn, / Bring uns heut' und morgen a recht a schöne sunn" [the writer of the entry equates "Brunnen," 'well,' with rain-heavy clouds, behind which the sun has taken refuge; and further points out the mythic identity between sun and weather]); an even better example from Mecklenburg: "Sünnenworm, fleeg aewer min Hus, / Bring mi morgen good weder to Hus." For ladybug incantations, cf. Nos. 7370 ff., below.

6392 To insure good weather, stick a hatchet up in the yard, or make a cross with matches and salt.

Edward Dreyer (Louisiana). Cf. HDA I, 745, s.v. "Axt, Beil" [use of axes to abate hailstorms, thunderstorms, etc.].

Warm (Hot) Weather

6393 The weather is hottest around big meeting time. (August)
Green Collection. Cf. HDA I, 721, 723, s.v. "August."

6394 It is a warm moon when she hangs far to the south.

Anonymous. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 148 (when the moon is far south, expect warm weather) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 178 (a warm winter moon is well to the south) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 19 (when the moon is far south, expect warm weather).

6395 If the moon in her course drops low down to the south (runs far south), it is going to be hot.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county, and Clara Hearne, Roanoke

Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2589 (any month when the moon is south of due west is a hot month) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3443 (when the new moon lies in the far south, it will be a hot moon).—Inwards, 92. Cf. Nos. 6313 ff., above.

6396 Thunder early in fall betokens warm weather.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 80 (thunder late in the fall [or early in the winter] indicates warm weather) — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 104, No. 28 (thunder and lightning in the fall mean warm weather, an open fall) — *New York*: Boughton, 251, No. 2 (in very late fall or early winter, if we have a thunderstorm, we say it is a sign of warmer weather); Cutting, *Farm*, 36 (thunder in the fall precedes warm weather); NYFQ VII (1951), 137 (thunder in the late fall betokens warm weather) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1173 (thunderstorms in the fall are followed by warm weather [German]); Owens, 121 (thunder in late fall: warm weather) — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 57 (thunder late in the fall, followed by warm weather).—Inwards 167 (thunder and lightning).

6397 Heavy white frost indicates warm weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 54.

6398 A woodpecker's pecking on a tree means that warm weather is coming.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 41 (when woodpeckers peck low on trees, expect warm weather); Garriott, 40 (same as preceding item) — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 53 (when woodpeckers come in the spring, it is a sign of warm weather).—Inwards, 192.

6399 The coming of locusts is a sign of hot weather.

Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia), and J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *General*: Dunwoody, 57 (when locusts are heard, dry weather will follow) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 476 (locusts being noisy) — *Kentucky*: Price, 30 (if locusts [cicadas] are noisy, it is a sign of dry weather); Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 19 (if locusts make a great deal of noise, dry weather will follow); Thomas, No. 2565 (if locusts are noisy, dry weather will follow) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1016 (locusts singing) — *New England*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 478 (the locust sings when it is to be hot and clear) — *New York*: Boughton, 190, No. 18 (the locusts singing in the trees in the summer); Cutting, *Farm*, 37 (when the locust or "harvest fly" sings, it will be dry and hot); NYFQ, x (1954), 212 (the sound of locusts forecasts hot, dry weather for a few days) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 363 (noisy locusts are a sign of dry weather) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Insects*, 7 (locusts being very noisy was a sign of warm weather).—Inwards, 208.

Wet (Falling) Weather

6400 A ring around the sun denotes the approach of falling weather.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 77 (if there be a halo around the sun in fine weather, it will be wet); Garriott, 27 (the circle of the moon never filled a pond; the circle of the sun wets a shepherd).—HDA VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; VIII, 48, s.v. "Sonne." Cf. No. 6460, below.

6401 If the sun sets in a bank of clouds that are angry red, it is a sign of wet weather.

Mary L. Walker, Durham county. Cf. No. 6483 ff., below.

6402 When the moon changes, there is likely to be falling weather.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 387 (the moon that changes at night is a wet moon).—HDA VI, 518 f., s.v. "Mond." Cf. 6201, above.

6403 If the new moon is laying on its back, the month will be a wet one.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2574 (when the new moon lies on its back, that is, when the horns extend upward, such a moon betokens wet weather) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 190 (new moon not specified); Miller, 66, No. 14 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3572 — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 990 (new moon not specified) — *New England*, *New York*, and *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991 — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 267 (when the horns were even [the moon on its back], it was a wet moon because it was full of water) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 401 (new moon not specified); No. 396 (the apron is full of water if a moon reclines on its back).—Inwards, 93; Lean 1, 386; HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond"; Garriott 37 (When the moon lies on her back, / She sucks the wet into her lap).

6404 If the new moon has arms down, it will be a wet moon.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. Nos. 6407, 6542, below.

6405 If the new moon's horn is pointed down, it will be a wet month.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county.

6406 When the moon hangs on her point, it is a sign of wet weather.

Anonymous. *Tennessee*: Carter, 2 (if the new moon is tilted on its point, the water will run out); Lassiter, 30 (the moon is hanging by the point; wet weather) — *Florida*: Figh, *Rawlings*, 202 (when the moon is almost perpendicular in the first quarter, wet weather will follow [Rawlings, *The Yearling*, p. 222]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3569 (when you see a new moon hanging on the corner, it is a sign of wet weather during the life of that quarter) — *New England*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991 (should the new moon stand vertically, it will be a wet month) — *New York*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991; Meeker, *Blanket*, 188 (if the moon is tipped and will not hold rain, the weather will be wet) — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 10 (if the moon is tilted, the water will all run out, and the month will be wet; it is a wet moon) — *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 991 (moon standing vertically: wet month) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 397 (the moon is wet if it stands on its point); No. 395 (when the moon rests on its point, water is pouring out of the apron) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 173 (a wet new moon is one which stands on its point ready to pour out water) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 11 (if the moon is straight, it is a wet moon).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6407 If the points of a new moon point down, it is a sign of wet weather.

Emmet Reed Albergetti (Virginia); J. B. Hinnant, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 61; Garriott, 36 — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Moon*, 55, No. 1 (when the moon [points of the moon?] is turned down, etc.) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 13 (when the moon points tilt down, the weather will be wet).—Inwards, 91; HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond"; Kamp, 32, No. 9. Cf. No. 6838, below.

6408 When the raindrops hit the ground hard and jump up, it is a sign of wet weather.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

6409 Where the wind blows from [on] the twentieth of March will be the direction of prevailing winds until the equinox. If the wind blows from the south, one may expect a wet summer.

Green Collection. HDA v, 1738, s.v. "März."

6410 Lightning in the north is a sign of wet weather.

W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county. Cf. Nos. 6610 ff., below.

6411 If the first thunder of the new year is in the direction of the south or southwest, it will be a wet year.

Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Dunwoody, 82.—HDA III, 821, s.v. "Gewitter." Cf. No. 6055, above, No. 7043, below.

6412 If the first thunder squall of the year goes south, the year will be wet.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. No. 6411, above.

6413 When you see smoke coming down rather than going up, expect damp weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. HDA vii, 524, s.v. "Rauch"; vii, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. Nos. 6630 ff., below.

6414 Corns ache just before damp weather.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151. Cf. No. 6207, above, Nos. 6641, 6916, below.

6415 If you dream of the dead, there will be falling weather.

Mabel Ballentine, Raleigh. Cf. No. 6169, above, No. 6651, below.

6416 When the cat turns her back to the fire, there will be falling weather.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; and an anonymous informant. HDA iv, 1108, s.v. "Katze." Cf. No. 6918, below.

6417 If a cat sleeps with her back to the fire, it is a sign of falling weather.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. No. 7062, below.

6418 The lowing of cattle at night indicates falling weather.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. HDA ix, 537, s.v. "Wetterkunde." Cf. No. 6668, below.

6419 Falling weather is foretold when chickens are especially busy.

Green Collection. HDA iv, 448, s.v. "Huhn." Cf. Nos. 6680, 6925, below.

6420 If a rooster crows about eight or nine o'clock in the evening, it is a sign that it is going to be falling weather.

Grace Barbee, Stanly county. *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 19 (a rooster that crows when he goes to bed will get up with a wet head) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3626 (if a rooster crows after dark there will be wet weather); No. 3625 (Roosters crows [sic] when you go to bed, / Put on your hat or you'll wet your head) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, 18 (If the cock goes crowing to bed / He'll certainly rise with a watery head) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 99 (it is a sign of falling weather to have a cock crow when going to roost) — *Nebraska*: *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1 (If a rooster crows before he goes to bed, / He will get up with a wet head).—HDA iii, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen." Cf. Nos. 6689 ff., below.

6421 If guineas stand and look up, there will be falling weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. Nos. 6696 ff., below.

6422 A wren singing around the house is a sign of falling weather.

Green Collection. Cf. HDA ix, 882, s.v. "Zaunkönig."

6423 When one kills a snake, and the snake lies on its back, there will be wet weather.

S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county, and James Hawfield, Union county. Cf. Nos. 6742, 6747, below.

6424 If the wasps build high, we know that it will be wet because they are putting their nests where they will not be drowned out.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. HDA ix, 506, s.v. "Wespe."

6425 When wasps build their nests high in the briars along ditchbanks, it will be a wet year.

R. T. Dunstan, Greensboro. Cf. No. 6424, above.

6426 If you hear limbs falling it is the sign of falling weather.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. No. 6828, below.

6427 When worms creep out of earth, wet weather is foretold.
Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (when worms creep out of the ground in great numbers, expect wet weather).—HDA 1, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln"; ix, 857, s.v. "Wurm."

RAIN

Indicators

6428 February rain is only good to fill ditches.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 94; Garriott, 44.—Inwards, 17 (1898 ed.).

6429 If it rains on Easter Sunday, it will rain the six following Sundays.

Lucille Massey, Durham county; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 31 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 34 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 71.—HDA vi, 1352, s.v. "Ostern"; vii, 598, s.v. "Regenorakel" (it will rain every Sunday until Pentecost). The belief in rain for seven consecutive Sundays following rain on Easter, much better known, is encountered everywhere in the United States, but not in Canada.

6430 If it rains on the first of June, it will continue for forty days and nights.

Green Collection; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county; William B. Covington, Scotland county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 91 (if it rains on June 27, it will rain seven weeks) — *South*: Puckett, 512 (if it rains on the eighth of June, forty days of rain will follow [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2434 (if it rains June first, there will be fifty-seven rains in June, July, and August) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 7 — *Texas*: Turner, 170 (it will rain somewhere in sight every day in June if it rains June 1).—Inwards, 57 (if it rains on June 27, it will rain seven weeks).

6431 If it rains on the full moon in June, it will rain for forty days and nights thereafter.

Green Collection.

6432 If it rains on the first of July, it will rain throughout the month.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 98 (If the first of July be rainy weather, / 'Twill rain more or less for three weeks together) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2440 (if it rains July first, it will rain seventeen days in the month) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 490 (rain July 1, seventeen days of rain for the month) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 35 (same as verse in Dunwoody, above); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 (same verse, except: "'Twill rain off and on for four weeks together").—Inwards, 58; Lean 1, 365.

6433 If it rains on the Fourth of July, it will rain on forty successive days following.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 97 (if it rains on the second of July [St. Mary's], then it will rain the next four weeks); 98 (if it rains on

July 10, it will rain for seven weeks) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2442 (if it rains between the first and the fourth of July, it will rain forty days). — Inwards, 59 (July 10; rain for seven weeks); HDA iv, 837, s.v. "Juli."

6434 If it rains on July fifteenth, it will rain the following forty days.

An anonymous informant; Green Collection. Cf. No. 6435, below.

6435 If it rains on St. Swithin's Day (July 15) it will rain somewhere in sight for forty days.

The Misses Holeman, Durham county. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 90 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2445 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 388 (if it rains St. Within's [sic] day, 'twill rain every day for thirty days) — *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 — *New York*: Boughton, 189, No. 7; Cutting, *Farm*, 34 (St. Swithin's Day, if thou dost rain, / For forty days it will remain; / St. Swithin's Day, if thou be fair, / For forty days 'twill rain nae mair); Gardner, No. 376 (if it rains on St. Swithin's Day, that being the fifteenth of June [sic], it will rain for forty days, that being the day the flood began, as they reckon it back) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 496. — Garriott, 43 (In this month is St. Swithin's Day [July 15], / On which, if that it rain, they say / Full forty days after it will / Or more or less some rain distill. — *Poor Robin's Almanack*, 1697); Inwards, 59 (same verse as in Garriott); also (same verse as in Cutting, above); Radford, 210. Cf. Chambers II, 61 f., who repeats the familiar legend of forty days of unabated rain when an attempt was made to remove St. Swithin's remains from a grave on the north side of the church where the droppings from the eaves could fall on him, and where his grave could be trod upon by passersby.

6436 If it rains on the fifteenth of July, it will rain every day in the dog days.

Anonymous.

6437 If it rains on the first dog day, it will rain for forty days.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county, and Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 102 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 1 (if it rains on the first dog day, July 28, it will rain every day for forty days, July 28-September 5) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2825; No. 2439 (it will rain thirty days) — *New England*: Johnson, 21 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 491. — Inwards, 58; HDA iv, 498, s.v. "Hundstage" (fourteen days). Cf. No. 6009, above, which helps to explicate the verse in Dunwoody (p. 98): Dog days: When accompanied by rain, / We hope for better times in vain.

6438 It always rains Quaker Meeting week.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Pennsylvania*: JAFL II (1889), 232, No. 9; Phillips, 162, No. 9.

6439 If it rains the first Sunday in a month, it will rain every Sunday that month.

Lucille Massey, Durham county; Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh; Eleanor Simpson, East Durham; and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 101 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, Grey, No. 215 — *Massachu-*

setts: Brooks, No. 15 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 19 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 71 (you can expect showers for the next three Sundays).

6440 If it rains the first Sunday in the month, it will rain all the Sundays except one.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Massachusetts* and *New York*: Bergen, *et al.*, 206.

6441 If it rains the first Sunday in the month, it will rain three Sundays in that month.

Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2150 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 52 (it will rain three Sundays out of the four).

6442 If there is one rainy Sunday, there will be three in succession.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county.

6443 If it rains for two Sundays in succession, it will rain on the third one.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2149.

6444 Rain on the first Sunday in the month means rain every other Sunday in that month.

Green Collection.

6445 If it rains on Monday, it will rain every day in the week.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; and an anonymous informant. *West Virginia*: Musick, *Weather*, 44, No. 13 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2460 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 484 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (it will rain every day more or less that week) — *California*: Dresslar, 73.

6446 If it rains at seven,
 It will rain at eleven.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. Cf. Nos. 6221, 6251 f., above, Nos. 6861 ff., below.

6447 It never rains as hard at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county.

6448 If it rains when the sun is shining today, it will rain at the same time tomorrow.

Edna Arrowhead, Buladean, Mitchell county. Cf. No. 6466, below.

6449 When the sky is red at sunrise and gray at sunset, there will be no rain the next day, but when the morning is gray and

the evening red, there will certainly be rain the next day, as attested in the following little verse:

Morning red and evening gray,
Sets the traveler on his way;
Morning gray and evening red,
Brings rain upon his head.

James Hawfield, Union county, and S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 2 (3: Evening gray and morning red) — *Washington*: Person, No. 334 (brings down rain upon your head). Cf. No. 6123, above.

6450 Evening red and morning gray,
Helps the traveler on his way;
Evening gray and morning red,
Brings down rain upon his head.

Alex Tugman, Todd, Ashe county, and six other informants from widely separated localities. Tenses of the verb, such as "will send" as against "sends," have not been distinguished in these notes. "Help the traveler" stands in only the Nebraska reference and in Inwards and Lean, and forms of "send" are encountered in the first two Kentucky references and in the Indiana item; "speed the traveler," or "set the traveler" are noted as they occur, as are likewise the variations "pour" and "send" in place of "bring" or "bring down." *General*: Garriott, 12 (2: Will set the traveler) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 377 (2: Will set the traveler) — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99 (2: Speed the traveler / 4: Send the rain) — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 11; Roberts, *Floyd County*, 51, No. 1; Thomas, No. 2483 (2: Speed the traveler) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 17 (2: Sets the traveler / 4: Lets the rain fall on the head.) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 21 (2: Will speed a traveler / 4: on the traveler's head.) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3447 (2: Speeds the traveler / 4: Pours down rain on the traveler's head) — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 104, No. 25 (2: Will set the traveller; 4: Will pour down rain) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 20 (2: Will set the traveller / 4: Will pour down rain on the traveler's head) — *Massachusetts*, *New York*, and *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 982 (2: Will speed the traveler) — *New York*: Gardner, No. 134 (2: Is a sure sign of a perfect day; 4: Rain will fall on the traveler's head) — *Pennsylvania*: Grumbine, 284 (2: Set the trav'ler; 4: Pour down rain on the trav'ler's head); Owens, 121 f. (2: Set the traveller; 4: Pour down rain on the traveller's head) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 5 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 543 (2: Speed the traveler); No. 544 (2: Will set the traveler; 4: Will pour the rain down on his head) — *Michigan*: HF, v (1946), 163 (2: Sets the traveler; 4: Brings down showers) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 183 (2: Will set the traveler; 3: But the morning gray and the evening red; 4: on the traveler's head.) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (2: Will set the traveler) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 486 (2: Sets the traveller) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 33 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15 (2: Will set the traveler). — Inwards, 84; Lean I, 353; ODEP, 176, s.v. "Evening red"; FFC 113, p. 30, s.v. "Evening red." Cf. Nos. 6123, 6449 f., above.

6451 Evening red, morning gray,
Sets the traveler on his way;
Evening gray, morning red,
Puts the traveler in his bed.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. No. 6123, above.

- 6452 Evening red, morning fine,
Evening's red a rainy sign.

But when red goes over, a red sunset and sunrise, you'll have rain that afternoon.

Green Collection.

- 6453 Evening gray and morning red,
Pour down rain on the traveler's head.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. Except in the first New York item, where the order of the couplets is reversed, the present verse appears to be the concluding couplet represented in No. 6450, above. In only the first general item (Conder), in the Nova Scotia, New England, Oklahoma, and first Illinois items, and in both Pennsylvania entries, does the word "pour" stand; elsewhere the action is indicated by forms of "bring." *General*: Conder, 32; Dunwoody, 44 — *South*: Puckett, 517 (Negro) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 377 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99 (send the rain) — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 11; Roberts, *Floyd County*, 51, No. 1; Thomas, No. 2483 — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 17 (Lets the rain fall) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 21 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3447 — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 104, No. 25 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 20 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 34 (Will bring a rain upon his head); Gardner, No. 134 (Rain will fall) — *Pennsylvania*: Grumbine, 284; Owens, 122 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 5 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 544; No. 543 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 33 — *Texas*: Turner, 171 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 486 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15.—Inwards, 84; Lean 1, 353. Cf. Nos. 6123, 6450, above.

- 6454 If the evening's gray and the morning red,
Put on your hat or you'll wet your head.

Green Collection, and Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2484 (Evening red and morning gray, sets a traveler on his way; / Evening gray and morning red, put on your hat and [or?] wet your head).—Lean 1, 353.

- 6455 If the sunset is gray,
The next will be a rainy day.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 650.—Inwards, 81, 114.

The Sun as an Indicator of Rain

- 6456 Red at sunrise, rain in twenty-four hours.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county; Ted Caldwell, Chapel Hill, Orange county; and an anonymous informant. In none of the following references does "in twenty-four hours" occur. Unless other temporal data are given reference is to the coming of rain. *General*: *Woman's Day*, Vol. 17, No. 10 (July, 1954), 36; Dunwoody, 78 (the sun appearing red on rising); also (if the sun rises a pale red there will be rain during the day); also (in winter if the sun rises with a red sky, expect rain that day) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 378 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3554 (rain soon); No. 3555 (red sunrise, rain that day); No. 3681 — *South Carolina*: Bryant 1, 279, No. 4 (if the sun rises red in the morning, it sends rain upon the traveler's head) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*,

31 (If red the sun begins his race, / Expect the rain will fall apace) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 8 (the sun being red when it rises); 12, No. 34 (If red the sun begins his race, / Expect that rain will flow apace); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1; 2 (a red sunrise foretells rain before the day is over).—Inwards, 79; 80; 58 (1898 ed.); HDA I, 56, s.v. "Abend-röte"; HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne."

6457 If the sun goes behind a bank at sunrise, there will be rain during the day.

Anonymous.

6458 If the sun rises clear and immediately hides under the clouds, it will rain that day.

Green Collection, and Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh.

6459 If the sun comes out fair when it rises and goes under a cloud a little afterwards, look for rain before night.

W. J. Stanford, Wake county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (if the sun rises clear, is then shadowed by a cloud, and comes out clear again, it will rain before night) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (if the sun rises clear and soon goes into a cloud, it will rain before night [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 42 (if the sun rises clear and goes behind a cloud before seven, etc.) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 26 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3551 (if the sun rises and goes back to bed, it will rain tomorrow).

6460 If a circle forms around the sun during the day, it is sign of rain very soon.

Julian P. Boyd, and Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. *General*: *Woman's Day*, Vol. 17 (July, 1954), 36 (a halo around the sun signifies rain) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 14 (a halo around the sun [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]); 12 (a corona growing smaller about the sun indicates rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90]) — *West Virginia*: WVF, v (1954), 6, No. 2b (there is an Indian proverb, "When the sun is in his house it will rain soon," which means a halo or ring around the sun [Indian]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 641 (if there is a halo round the sun, look for rain before night) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 182 (a circle about the sun in summer indicates a rainstorm) — *Texas*: Turner, 170 (if there is a red circle around the sun when it sets, it will rain three days later) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 77 (when the sun is in his house [in a halo or circle] it will rain soon [Zuñi Indians]); 125 (the sun being in his house [halo or circle] cloud it will, rain will come soon [Zuñi Indians]) — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 46 (a circle about the sun bodes rain [Canadian Dakota Indians]).—Inwards, 86; HDA VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; VIII, 48, s.v. "Sonne." Cf. No. 6400, above.

6461 When you see the sun drawing water, it is the sign of rain soon.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county; Marie Harper, Durham county; W. L. McAttee; newspaper clipping (unidentified). *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1038; Dunwoody, 77; also (if the sun draws water in the morning, it will rain before night); Garriott, 26; also (if the sun draws water in the morning it will rain before night) — *South*: Puckett, 514 (to see the sun "drawing water" as it sets is also an indication of rain [Negro]) —

South Carolina: Bryant I, 280, No. 21 — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2656a; Thomas, No. 2656 (if the sun draws water in the morning, there will be rain in the evening); No. 2626 (the sun drawing water in the evening) — *Tennessee*: Carter, 5 (when the sun draws water from the earth late in the afternoon it means that soon there will be rain, for the heavens are being stocked with water) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3556 (when the sun is drawing water at sunrise on Monday morning, it will rain by Wednesday) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 17 (when you see the sun drawing water at night, know that it will rain on the morrow) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31 — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 41 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 642 (a sun drawing water in the morning is the sign of rain in the evening); No. 643 (if the sun draws water in the evening, it will rain that night); No. 644 (if in the evening the sun has drawn water, rain will fall next day); Wheeler, 57 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 433 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74.—HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne."

6462 The sun drawing water (streaks of sunlight through clouds) is called Jacob's ladder, and indicates rain.

Green Collection. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 1259 (the streaks of light seen through clouds are pipes drawing water to the sun) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 13 (if the sun draws streaks from the earth, it means rain) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 211 (when one sees long light streaks in triangular shape from the earth to the sun, it is said that the sun is drawing water and is a sure sign of rain); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 212 (same as the preceding item); Miller, 67, No. 44 (when the sun's rays are clearly evident in the sky, as if drawing water, etc.) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 (it will rain when the "sun draws water," that is, when its light makes radiating lines through water vapor in the air near sundown) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114 (when the sun sends its rays through a dark bank of clouds, it is drawing water).—Inwards, 77.

6463 When the sun wades one day, we will wade the next.

Autie Bell Lambert, Stanly county.

6464 A red sun has water in its eyes.

An anonymous informant, and Green Collection.

6465 If the sun shines during a rain, there will be rain the following day.

An anonymous informant, and seven other informants from eastern and central counties. No attempt has been made to differentiate such reasonable synonyms as "tomorrow," "the next day," etc. *General*: Dunwoody, 70; Knortz, 154 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 384 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 50 — *Kentucky*: KFR, 1, (1955), 105; Price, 30; Thomas, No. 2653 — *Tennessee*: Burton, 4; Page, 53; Guerin, 53 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1044 — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 60; Wintemberg, Grey, No. 70 — *New England*: Backus I, 501 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 978; Brooks, 310, No. 9 — *New York*: Boughton, 189, No. 12 (Rain and sunshine in one day / Brings more rain the following day); 190, No. 16; NYFQ, VII (1951), 203; NYFQ, IX (1953), 34, No. 6 (seldom true) — *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 203; Shoemaker, 3 — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 36; McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 59; Hyatt, No. 684 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 183 — *Iowa*:

Stout, No. 452 (Scotch) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 17 — *New Mexico*: Moya, 67, No. 10 (Spanish) — *Kansas*: WF, xix (1960), 190, No. 6 — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, 162, No. 14 (Sunshine and shower, / Rain again tomorrow.) — *Idaho*: Lore, 200 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 20 — *California*: Lowrimore, 178, No. 10.—Inwards, 157 f.; Kamp, 31, No. 1. Cf. No. 6466, below.

6466 If the sun shines while it is raining, it is a sign that there will be rain at the same time the next day.

S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county; Pearl Forbes, Roan Mountain, Tennessee; and two other informants from Mitchell and Wake counties. *South*: Puckett, 518 (various signs are derived from the phenomena of rain falling while the sun is shining. Some say that it will rain [the same time] the next day [Negro]) — *Cumberland Mountains*: Shearin, 321 (rain at the same hour next day) — *Kentucky*: KFR, 1 (1955), 105 (rain at exactly the same time the following day); Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 6; Thomas, No. 2654 — *Tennessee*: Hatcher, 152; Lassiter, 30; O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 6; Redfield, No. 432 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3557; No. 3558 (rain tomorrow at the same hour and the same place) — *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 (if the sun shines during a rainstorm, it will rain at precisely the same time the following day); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 — *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 203 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 10 (rain at the same hour next day); Brewster, *Specimens*, 367 (rain at the same hour next day); Richmond, *Weather*, No. 6 (if the sun shines during a rain, the devil is beating his wife and it will rain the next day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 685 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 183 — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (if the sun shines while it is showering, it will shower at the same hour the following day); Hendricks, No. 315; Turner, 171 — *Nebraska*: *Nebraska Proverbs* 1, 2 (rain when the sun shines, rain all day tomorrow) — *Colorado*: Kimberle, 74.—Inwards, 158; Lean 1, 396. Cf. No. 6448, above.

6467 Rain on Wednesday, and sunshine while it rains, means another rain before Sunday. Coming on Sunday, this foretells rain before Wednesday.

Green Collection.

6468 If it rains when the sun is shining, the "bad man" is whipping his wife, and it will rain again tomorrow.

Green Collection; Louise Bennett, Middleburg, Vance county; four informants from widely separated counties; and an unidentified newspaper clipping. There are no references in my files to the "bad man" in place of the devil in connection with the present entry therefore, since all other entries from No. 6469 through No. 6479 deal with details, I am using this number for a treatment of references under the simple proposition: "If it rains while the sun is shining, the devil is beating his wife." Since Professor Matti Kuusi, eminent Finnish folklorist, has shown the prevalence of this and related beliefs on a worldwide scale, I am indicating here, and throughout these entries, references to his monograph where further source materials may be found. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 979 (the devil is beating his wife with a codfish); Knortz, 154 (with a stockfish) — *North Carolina*: Mooney, 100 (a sun shower is caused by the devil whipping his wife, the raindrops presumably being her tears); Whiting, 393, s.v. "Devil"-30; Kuusi, 114, F-V, USA-2; 115, F-V, USA-8 — *South Carolina*: Kuusi, 114, F-V, USA-1 — *Virginia*: Kuusi, 115, F-V, USA-11; WF xviii (1959), 334 (the informant says: "My

mother used to answer this with, 'I hope they beat each other up!'" [Negro] — *Kentucky*: KFR 1, (1955), 105 — *Tennessee*: Joseph S. Hall, unpublished Great Smokies Field Notes, Vol. 7, p. 105 (November, 1939): "The devil's whuppin' his wife." An expression used in Grainger and Jefferson counties [Tennessee] when it's raining and the sun is shining. Reported by Robert W. Ray, age 22. He was born in Breathit Co., Kentucky, and lived in both of the Tennessee counties mentioned above." Professor Hall also reported a variant, "The devil's whippin his wife, and all her feathers are coming out." (This would appear to be a confusion with folk notions concerning the origin of snow, as indicated in No. 5969, above.) — *Louisiana*: JAFI xix (1906), 124; Roberts, No. 1043 — *Jamaica*: *Folk-Lore* xv (1904), 456 — *New England*: Backus, 1, 501; Johnson, *What They Say*, 25 (it is also noted that it will rain the next day, as in the present entry) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI 11 (1889), 232, No. 14; Phillips, 162, No. 14; Shoemaker, 3 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 687; No. 688 (if sunshine, rain and a rainbow are seen at the same time, the devil is fighting with his wife) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 "the Devil is a-whippin' his wife") — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114 — *New Mexico*: Moya, 67, No. 11 (Spanish) — *Oregon*: CFQ v (1946), 239, No. 160. — HDA VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne," rain again; as well as the devil beating his wife; VII, 578, s.v. "Regen" (raindrops being the devil's wife's tears [as expressed in the first North Carolina item]3; Sébillot 1, 362; Laval, 21, No. 44; Wislocki, *Magyaren*, 165; ODEP, 532, s.v. "Rains when the sun shines"; Kuusi, 99-124, *passim*. See also B. J. Whiting, "The Devil Beating his Wife," *Modern Language Forum* xxiv (1939), 81, n. 66; Herbert Halpert, "The Devil is Beating His Wife," KFR 1 (1955), 105-106; Wayland D. Hand, "The Devil Beating His Wife and Other Folk Beliefs about the Sun's Shining While it Rains," KFR 11 (1957), 139-143.

6469 If it has been raining all day, and the sun shines again before setting, the "bad man" is beating his wife; also, it will rain the next day.

Laurice Gwinn Chambliss, Wilson, Wilson county; Louise Bennett, Middleburg, Vance county; and Dixie V. Lamm, Lucama, Wilson county. Once more, since this entry cannot be documented from other parts of the country, it is being used to indicate persons rather than the devil's wife who are whipped or beaten. *Kentucky*: KFR 1 (1955), 106 (the devil is whipping his children); also (the devil is whipping his grandma) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 76 (the devil is beating his mother-in-law). — (The foreign references, Kuusi excepted, deal with the devil's grandmother.) Lean 1, 396; Inwards, 157; Ploss-Renz 11, 48; FFC 113, p. 26, s.v. "The devil is beating his grandmother"; Kuusi, 117 (citing the Halpert references from Kentucky, above).

6470 When the sun is shining, and it is raining at the same time, stick a pin in the ground, place your ear to the pin, and you can hear the devil and his wife quarreling.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county, and Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Basic references to the devil beating his wife as an explanation of concomitant rain and shine (of which the present entry is a variant) are given in No. 6468, above. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 1259A (see No. 6476 below, where the reference is to "whipping" rather than to "quarreling").

6471 When the sun shines while it rains, it means the devil is beating his wife behind the door.

Will S. Sease (Oklohoma). Jonathan Swift, *A Compleat Collection of Genteel and Ingenious Conversation* (1738), Dialogue 1: *Col.* It rained, and the sun shone at the same time. *Neverout.* Why, then the devil was beating his wife behind the door, with a shoulder of mutton (*The Prose Works of Jonathan Swift, D.D.*, ed. Temple Scott [12 vols., London, 1898-1908], xi, 235).

6472 Sunshine and rain indicates that the devil is whipping his wife around a stump.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *South*: Puckett, 518 (the devil is whipping his wife around the stump with a frying pan [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 51 (the devil is beating his wife around the bush) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3560 (same as the present entry, and "stick a pin in the ground and you will hear her holler") — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (same as the present entry, and "it will rain the same time the next day"). Cf. No. 6478, below.

6473 If it rains while the sun is shining, the devil is beating his wife for forgetting to put salt in his soup.

Edward Dreyer (Louisiana). Cf. *South*: Puckett, 549 (the devil is whipping his wife [behind the door or around a stump] for not having turnip greens or cornbread for dinner [Negro]) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 188 (the devil is beating his wife in order to get "crêpes" [pancakes] and she does not want to make him any [French]); JAFL xxxii (1919), 174 (pancakes).

6474 If a person will put his ear to the ground when it is raining and the sun is shining at the same time, he can hear the devil beat his wife.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: KFR 1 (1955), 105 (you can hear the devil beating his wife if you put your ear against a big rock); II, 101 (Negro).

6475 When it is raining while the sun is shining, one may hear the devil beating his wife if he places his ear close to the ground over an old horseshoe covered with a piece of white cloth.

Ada Briggs (Virginia).

6476 When it is raining, and the sun is shining, stick a pin into the ground, and put your ear to it. You can hear the devil whipping his wife.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). *South*: Puckett, 518 f. (You must stick a pin in the ground and place your ear close to the pin to hear the whipping going on; or else kneel down and stick a needle in the wall; then get up and pull the needle out with your mouth. You can then hear the devil's wife "hollering." Or, simpler still, you can simply cross a knife and fork and go behind the door, to see this dastardly deed being done [Negro]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 1259A (if at this time [when the devil is beating his wife] you stick a pin into the earth, and hold your ear to the ground, you will hear him beating her) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2694 (if you put a black-headed pin into the clay and put

your ear to the pin, you may hear them) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 689 (essentially the same as in the preceding item). Cf. No. 6470, above (where the quarreling is overheard in the same way).

6477 When it is raining, and the sun is shining, stick a pin in a stump, and you can hear the devil beating his wife.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. Nos. 6470, 6476, above.

6478 After a rain, beat on a stump, and you will hear the devil beating his wife.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6472, above.

6479 If you take a needle out in the rain when the sun is shining, and stick it up in the ground, you can hear the devil playing his harp.

Green Collection. This item seems unique, since Kuusi has been unable to find other parallels (Kuusi, 129, F-Ö, USA-1).

6480 If there is no sunset, it will rain or be cloudy.

Ted Caldwell, Chapel Hill, Orange county, and an anonymous informant.

6481 When the sunset is gray-white or pale yellow, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. References to a gray sunset are treated under No. 6455, above. Yellow: *General*: Dunwoody, 78 (a golden sunset indicates rain); Garriott, 25 (when after sunset the western sky is of a whitish yellow, and this tint extends to great height, it is probable that it will rain during the night or next day) — *Ozarks*: Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 (a yellow sunset means rain).—Inwards, 81, 83; HDA; 1, 58, s.v. "Abendröte" (pale or yellow); VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen" (when the sun sets white and draws water [for the first part of the entry]). Cf. No. 6508, below.

6482 If the sun sets clear on Friday night, there will be rain before Monday morning.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county, and an anonymous informant. In none of the following references is "Monday morning" indicated; however, in a few items "Monday night" is specified, and these are noted. *General*: Dunwoody, 101; 77 (Monday night) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (Monday night [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2181 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2469 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *et al.*, 207 — *New York*: Barnes, No. 21 (Sun sets clear on Friday night, / Rain before Monday night); Cutting, *Farm*, 31 (If the sun sets clear on Friday night, / It will rain before Monday night); Cutting, *Lore*, 31 (Monday night) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 662; No. 663 (Monday night) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 508 (if the sun sets in a cloud Friday night, there will be rain before Monday); No. 509 (Monday night).—Inwards, 73. Cf. No. 6901, below.

6483 If the sun sets behind clouds, there will most likely be a rainy day tomorrow.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. In the Kentucky and Tennessee references no time element is given; and in the two items from

Alabama "rain soon" is promised. *General*: Dunwoody, 76 (sun setting in dark, heavy clouds); Garriott, 26 (sun setting in dark, heavy clouds) — *South Carolina*: Bryant 1, 280, No. 32 (sun setting in a cloud) — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2485a — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 426 — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1039 (sun setting in a bank of clouds); Browne, No. 3564 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 19 (sun setting in a cloud) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 18 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 507 (if the sun sets in a cloud at night, it will rain before morning); No. 492 (sun setting in a cloud).—Inwards, 82; HDA viii, 45 f., s.v. "Sonne"; ix, 811 f., s.v. "Wolke." Cf. No. 6401, above.

6484 When the sun sets behind a bank of clouds, it will rain in twenty-four hours.

W. J. Hickman, Caldwell county.

6485 For the sun to set in a cloud means rain within three days.

Esther F. Royster, Henderson, Vance county; Zebulon Teeter (Florida); Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 648 (if the sun sets cloudy, it will rain for three days).

6486 If the sun sets in a cloud, it will rain before Friday night.
Green Collection.

6487 If the sun sets behind a bank, it will rain before Sunday.
Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh.

6488 The sun's setting in a bank of clouds on Wednesday is a sign it will rain on Thursday.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. Cf. *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 312 (rain by Friday night).

6489 When the sun sets behind a bank of clouds on Wednesday (afternoon), it's a sign that it will rain before Sunday.

Jane Christenburg, Huntersville, Mecklenburg county, and an anonymous informant. *Kentucky*: Price, 31 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3563 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 659.

6490 If the sun sets behind a bank on Wednesday evening, there will be rain before the weekend.

Eva Furr, Stanly county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2463 (rain before the week is gone) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 660.

6491 If the sun sets behind a bank Wednesday night, it will rain before Sunday night.

Green Collection. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2456 (if the sun sets on Wednesday evening, there will be rain before Sunday) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 446 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31.

6492 If the sun sets behind a bank on Friday evening, it will rain between then and Monday.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county. Unless otherwise specified, rain is indicated as falling on Sunday. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2471 (it will rain be-

fore Tuesday) — *Maine*: Decrow (rain before the week is out) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1228 (German) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 313 (rain by Sunday night) — *California*: Lowrimore, No. 12.

6493 If the sun goes down in a bank on Sunday, it will rain before Wednesday.

Julian P. Boyd, and six other informants, all from central counties. *General*: Dunwoody, 46 (if a Sunday sunset is obscured, expect rain before Wednesday); 101 (if the sunset on Sunday is cloudy, etc.) — *Kentucky*: Price, 31 — *Tennessee*: Hatcher, 153 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 504 (if the sun sets under a cloud on Sunday, etc.).—Inwards, 74.

6494 If the sun sets behind a bank of clouds on Sunday evening, it will rain before Wednesday evening.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 2 (sun sets behin' bank [of clouds], rain 'fore Wednesday night) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 445 (if the sun sets clear [N.B.] on Sunday night, etc.) — *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 15 — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 316 (if the sun goes down behind a bank on Sunday, etc.).

6495 If the sun sets behind a bank on Sunday night,
It will rain in sight before Wednesday night.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. No. 6494, above.

Clouds as Indicators of Rain

6496 If Mary goes over the mountain on June 29, walking in sunshine, there will be rain for six weeks.

Maude Minish Sutton, Lenoir, Caldwell county. HDA v, 1675, s.v. "Maria Heimsuchung." For another reference in June [June 15] to Mary's making the trip over the mountains, but in a cloud, and hence in wet weather, but with a consequent dry spell of six weeks, see No. 6307, above.

6497 Following a comment on the wet weather, an old man from Caldwell county said: "Mary went over the mountain the second day of July. She walked in clouds, and it'll rain every day for forty days."

Mrs. Maude Minish Sutton, Lenoir, Caldwell county. For Mary's trip over the mountain as a general indicator of the weather for the next six weeks, and for the biblical background of this trip "over the mountains," see No. 6307, above. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 2326 (in western Maryland, there is a saying: "Mary's gone over the mountain"; if clear, forty days of clear weather will follow; if rainy [or cloudy, as in the present entry], forty days of rain will follow.—HDA v, 1675, s.v. "Maria Heimsuchung"; for a possible connection, cf. Lean I, 380: July 20. St. Margaret's Day: Heavy rains. St. Mary Magdalen said to be washing her handkerchief to go to her cousin St. James' fair. Cf. Nos. 6230, 6307, 6496, above.

6498 If Mary walks on clouds when she goes over the mountain on the second of July, there will be forty days of rainy weather.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Rain for forty days reckoned from the day of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary (July 2)

and St. Swithin's Day (July 15) is likely in the tradition of the forty days and forty nights of rain at the time of the Flood.

6499 After three successive cloudy mornings, it will rain on the third.

Lucille Massey, Durham county, and Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2376 — *New England*: Backus, *Weather*, 26.

6500 If the clouds open before seven and shut up again, it will rain before eleven.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Kentucky*: Price, 31; Thomas, No. 2474 (concluding with: Open and shet is a sign of wet") — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 125.

6501 When heads or white clouds "boil up" rapidly, it is the sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county.

6502 When small white or hazy clouds travel rapidly through the sky, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 42 (if an assemblage of small clouds spreads out or becomes thicker and darker, expect rain) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 158 (when the sky is covered with little clouds, it is going to rain [French]).—Inwards, 124.

6503 If clouds are fleecy, like cotton, it will rain in twenty-four hours.

Mary L. Walker, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 44 (if there be a fleecy sky, unless driving northwest, expect rain); also (if, in winter the clouds appear fleecy, with a very blue sky, expect cold rain) — *Florida*: Hauptmann, 15 (fleecy clouds are a sign of rain [Italian]).—Inwards, 134; HDA ix, 811, s.v. "Wolke."

6504 If there is a bank north on Monday, and it settles back, there will be rain in three days.

Eva Furr, Stanly county. Cf. HDA ix, 811, s.v. "Wolke."

6505 When red clouds appear in the east early in the morning, it will rain that day.

Harry G. Hall, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 46 (red clouds at sunrise indicate rain on the following day [same day?]); 78 (essentially the same as in the preceding item) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 431 (when clouds are red at sunrise it is a sign of rain).—Inwards, 127; ODEP, 536, s.v. "Red clouds." Cf. Nos. 6453 f., above, 6506 f., below.

6506 When the sky is red in the morning, you may expect rain.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 78 (if red extends far upwards, especially in the morning, it indicates rain).—Inwards, 80; HDA i, 56, s.v. "Abendröte."

6507 When the sky is red in the morning, it will rain in twenty-four hours.

W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county.

6508 Yellow clouds in the evening are a sign it will be raining in the morning.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 48 (a pale yellow sky at sunset presages rain); 76 (when after sunset the western sky is of a whitish yellow, and this tint extends to great height, rain during the night or next day).—Inwards, 81; HDA IX, 811, s.v. "Wolke." Cf. No. 6481, above.

6509 It is a sign of rain when the sky is deep blue.

Vella Jane Burch, Durham. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (if the sky during rain is tinged with deep blue, the rain will be showery) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 27, No. 36 (when the sky looks dark blue there will be rainy weather).—Inwards, 148.

6510 When the sky has a greenish hue, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (when the sky during a rain is tinged with sea-green, the rain will increase) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 552 (a clear sky with a slight greenish hue is a sign of rain).—Inwards, 148 f.

6511 Small inky clouds bring rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 42 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1890, p. 44).—Inwards, 127.

6512 When clouds appear like rocks and towers,
The earth's refreshed by frequent showers.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county.—HDA IX, 812, s.v. "Wolke."

6513 Clouds going across the sun in the opposite direction is a sign of rain.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *South*: Puckett, 517 f. (if clouds cross the sun going west, it is a sign of rain [Negro]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3547 (streaks of clouds moving toward the sun).

6514 When clouds cross over the sun in the morning, it will rain that day.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3544 (when clouds hang around the morning sun, it is a sign of rain); No. 3545 (if clouds pass between you and the sun early in the morning, it is a sign of early rain). — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 13 (if morning clouds drift toward the sun, there will be rain).

6515 If the clouds go north across the sun early in the morning, it will soon rain.

Lucille Massey, Durham county.

6516 To see cross clouds (a white thunderhead with a black cloud across it) in the south or west is a sure sign of rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3548 (thunderheads are a sign of rain) — *Kansas*: WF. XIX (1960), 190, No. 12 (thunderheads in the northwest coming up against a southeast wind means rain).

6517 Stray clouds moving at right angles to cirrus clouds prognosticate rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2370 (cirrus, cirro-stratus, and alto-stratus clouds are almost invariably forerunners of rain in all seasons); No. 2371 (cirrus and cirro-stratus clouds indicate rain, but are far from being a sure sign).—Inwards, 134.

6518 It is a sign of rain when the cirrus clouds, or "rain seed," appear.

Vella Jane Burch, Durham.

6519 If the eastern sky in the morning is full of very small clouds, racks apparently about the size of a man's hand, these are "rain seed" and it will certainly rain that day.

Green Collection, and Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county.

6520 A mare's-tail across the clouds indicates rain.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2630 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 430 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 548 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, II, No. 20 (mare-tail clouds signify rain within three days).—Inwards, 132.

6521 Mare's-tails in the sky,
Never leave the ground dry.

Anonymous. *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 30 (Mare's tails and mackerel sky / Brings rain very nigh).

6522 Water dogs indicate rain.

Green Collection.

6523 When it's cloudy all over, and pouring down in the middle, we are having rain. This is a sign coming from the Indians.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *Iowa*: Stout, No. 468 (an Indian sure sign of rain: "Cloudy all around and rain in the middle").

6524 An Irishman's sign of rain is when it's "thick cloudy all over, and pouring down in the middle."

Lucille Massey, Durham county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3517 (Irish sign of rain: "Cloudy all 'round, pouring down rain in the middle").

6525 If the sky is perfectly clear, it will rain in twenty-four hours.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. Inwards, 91.

6526 If, in the middle of the day, you look around and can see no sign of a cloud, it will rain within three days.

Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county. *New York: Cutting, Farm, 34* (during the day people say of a break in a storm, "It's lighting up to see the rain").

6527 Clear just before midnight,
Rain before daylight.

Anonymous. In none of the following items are there verses, nor is midnight specified. *General*: Dunwoody, 68 f. (if rain clears off in the night, it will rain the next day) — *South*: Puckett, 518 (if it clears off at night it will rain soon [Negro]) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 15 (if rain clears off in the night, it will rain next day [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 383 (if it clears during the night, it will rain in two or three days) — *Kentucky*: Price, 30 (if the weather clears off during hours of darkness, it will rain again in thirty-six hours); Thomas, No. 2487 (if the weather clears off during the hours of darkness there will be rain again within thirty-six hours) — *New York*: Cutting, *Lore*, 31 (if the storm clears in the night, it will rain again within forty-eight hours) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (if the weather clears between sundown and dawn there will be more rain within forty-eight hours) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 450 (if it clears off in the night, it will rain the next day [Scotch]).

The Moon as an Indicator of Rain

6528 Rains in summer usually come on a change of the moon.

Green Collection. In none of the following references is there mention made of rains during the summer. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3568 (if the moon changes in the morning, it means rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 939 (when the moon changes at an odd hour, there will be rain the next day, most likely at the exact hour at which the moon changed the night before) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (there is a very general notion that if it doesn't rain at the change of the moon, there will be little rain until the moon changes again; in the midst of a drought, one of my neighbors remarked that it couldn't rain until the new moon appeared) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 182 (rain is most looked for at the change of the moon).—HDA VI, 518 f.; Inwards, 94.

6529 There will be no rain until the moon turns back.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 63. Cf. No. 6528, above.

6530 If the moon is in dim outline, it is a sign of rain.

Merle Smith, Stanly county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 13 (when the moon's outline is not very clear, rain is looked for) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 179 (when the moon is not clear, it is a sign of rain [French]).—Inwards, 88.

6531 A pale moon foretells rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 62; also (if the moon rise pale, expect rain); Garriott, 27 (if the moon rise pale, etc.) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 399 (a pale rising moon portends rain the next day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 378 (A pale moon doth rain [part of a longer verse]).—Inwards, 88, 91; Lean I, 386.

6532 When the moon is very pale, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6533 The moon lying on her back is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Wayne county. *General*: Dunwoody, 63 (if the moon turns on its back in the third quarter, it is a sign of rain) — *Kentucky*: Carter, *Mountain*, 14 — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 191 (wet weather) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3566 (if the moon is lying on its back, it is full of water and means rain) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 88 (plenty of rain).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond"; Inwards, 93.

6534 It promises to be a rainy month, if the new moon is lying on her back.

Anonymous. *South*: Puckett, 516 (Negro) — *Tennessee*: Carter, 2 (plenty of rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3567 — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 10 (Indians used to say that when the new moon lay flat like a saucer, it was full of rain, and rain would come soon) — *Texas*: Dobie, 96 (some claim that the tipped moon is "drained," and that unless the new moon lies on its back the probability of rain is slight) — *California*: Dresslar, 22 (If the new moon lies on its back, it is a sure sign that there will be rain that month. [This is true because then the Indian has a place to hang his powder horn while he is at home]).—Inwards, 93.

6535 If the moon hangs on the level, it will be a rainy month.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. *Georgia*: Figh, *Arp*, 172 ("The new moon is quite level this time, which is a sure sign that it will rain, or that it won't" [Arp, *Farm and Fireside*, p. 122]).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6536 A wet moon is tilted over, pouring water out.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 20 (if the moon points in such a position as to not hold water, it will rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, N. 3571 (when the moon is pouring water, it will rain) — *Illinois*: Briggs, 210 (a "wet moon" stands so that the rain will pour out of it).—Inwards, 88.

6537 If the moon rises on its back, it is a sign of rain.

Marjorie Rea, Craven county; Alma Irene Stone, Meredith College, near Raleigh.

6538 If the horns of the moon are tilted so the water will spill out, the month will be rainy.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 60 (When Luna first her scattered fear recalls, / If with blunt horns she holds the dusky air / Seamen and swain predict abundant showers [Virgil]); Beckwith, *College*, No. 89 (if the moon of the first quarter is tipped so that water would pour out of the curve, it means a rainy month) — *South*: Puckett, 515 f. (if the point of the moon is down ["is on its point"] it is "spilling water" and rain will surely come [Negro]) — *West Virginia*: Mockler, 310, No. 3 (if the horns of the moon point down, the weather will be rainy) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 33 (if the crescent moon

is point down, it will rain—it will pour out) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 19 (a new moon with crescent up indicates rainy weather) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1023 (there will be a great deal of rain when the points of the moon turn down) — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 60 (when the moon is in a phase where water could run off the end, it will rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1213 (if the horns of the moon are turned downwards it is a sign of rain [German]); JAFI, 11 (1889), 232, No. 8 (if the horns of the new moon are turned downward it is a sign of rain); Phillips, 162, No. 8 (when the new moon lies with its horns down-turned, it is a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 405 (a "crescent [*sic*] moon" has its points tilting downward. Since it cannot hold water, look for rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 447 (if the point of a horned moon is down, "spilling water," rain will follow); No. 579 (if a crescent moon is upset, there will be rain) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 12 (if the new moon has one of its horns tipped toward the earth, the weather will be rainy until the moon changes again) — *Idaho*: Lore, 199, No. 1 (new moon is tipped so water will run out: rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 22 (if the point of the new moon hangs down there will be rain soon) — *British Columbia*: Boas, 219, No. 414 (if the crescent of the moon turns downward with its concave side, it indicates rain [Kwakiutl Indians]).—HDA VI, 519, s.v. "Mond"; Foster, 54. Cf. No. 6407, above.

6539 If the quarter moon is turned down, it will rain.

Ruth Barlowe; Ila Taylor; and an anonymous informant. Cf. No. 6538, above.

6540 If you see the new moon first through the tree tops, it will be a rainy month.

S. M. Davis, White Hall (Seven Springs), Wayne county.

6541 When the new moon stands upright, it is a sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Cf. Inwards, 93. Cf. No. 6542, below.

6542 If the new moon appears to stand on end, it will be a rainy one as the water can run out easily.

Thurston T. Hicks, Henderson, Vance county; Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 61 (a new moon standing on its point indicates rain in summer) — *South*: Evans, 16 (a moon hanging on the point is called a wet moon, and means rain) — *Kentucky*: Carter, *Mountain*, 14 (if the moon is tilted on its point, the water has run out) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Moon*, 55, No. 3 (the moon tilting toward its corner) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 93 (when the moon stood on her end, held no water, stay home) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 406 (if a moon stands on its horns, it will begin to rain within three days and continue all month).—Inwards, 93. Cf. No. 6406, above.

6543 When the moon is full, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida); Green Collection.

6544 "Burr around the moon, rain soon."

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. Cf. Inwards, 89; Lean 1, 386.

6545 A hazy circle around the moon is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; and five other informants. In only the Ozark reference is the circle or halo described. *Virginia*: Mockler, 310 (a circle around the moon and no stars inside, the circle means rain within a short time) — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2579a (the same as the preceding item [Mockler]); Thomas, No. 2577 (Circle around the moon, / Rain soon) — *Indiana*: Butler, 315 (circle around the moon, it will rain soon) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 410 (Circle round the moon, / Rain soon); No. 413 (a circle around the moon means rain; the nearer the circle, the sooner the rain); No. 418 (as many circles as there are around the moon, so many will be the days until it rains) — *Ozarks*: Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 (a white circle) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 17 (the moon with a circle brings water in her beak; the bigger the ring, the nearer the wet) — *California*: Lowrimore, No. 11.—Inwards, 89, 98; HDA vi, 519 f. Cf. No. 6906, below.

6546 Moon in a mist,
Is worth gold in a chist.

Green Collection. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 379 (you may look for rain if the moon hides behind a thin veil of mist).—Inwards, 92; HDA ix, 538, s.v. "Wetterkunde."

6547 If there is a circle around the moon, it will rain the next day; but if there is a star within the circle, it will rain the second day following.

Julian P. Boyd. References are to the first part only. For references to stars within the halo, see Nos. 6549, 6552, below. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 86; Dunwoody, 61 (a large ring around the moon, and low clouds, indicate rain in twenty-four hours); Garriott, 27 (same as preceding; also, a small ring and high clouds, rain in several days) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 22 (a ring around the moon with one star in it is a sign it will rain within twenty-four hours) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3574 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 416 (if there is a ring around the moon in the evening, rain will fall on the following day) — *New Mexico*: Moya, 43 (a clear and distinct ring [Spanish]) — *California*: Rumley, No. 10 (rain before morning).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond." Cf. No. 6906, below.

6548 If there is a circle around the moon, it will rain before the next night.

Lizzie May Smith, Hamlet, Richmond county. Since there are no references to rain "before the next night," this entry has been used to cite references simply to "rain" or "rain soon," which latter category will be thus noted. *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (a corona growing smaller about the moon indicates rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90]); 16 (a ring around the moon signifies rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1942, p. 23]); Walker, 9, No. 4 (a ring around the moon) — *Virginia*: Dober, 16 (Mountain people say, "Ring a-round the moon, / Rain soon") — *Kentucky*: Roberts, Floyd County, 52, No. 15 (a ring around the moon, the rains come soon); Thomas, No. 2655 (ring around the moon, rain soon); No. 2590 (if there is a ring around the moon, rain may be expected; the nearer it is, the sooner will the rain come); No. 2580 (the number of rings around the moon shows how many days there will be before rain) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 21 (a ring around the room [*sic*] means rain); Redfield, No. 420 ("Ring around the moon, / Rain soon");

No. 423 (if the moon has a ring around it, it is a sign of rain. If the ring is small it will rain soon. If the ring is large it won't rain for some time) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3573 (a ring around the moon means rain soon); No. 3578 (a ring around the moon means days of rain) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 19 (Ring around the moon / Rain is coming soon.) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1011 (a "ring around the moon") — *Maine*: Speck, *Penobscot*, 33 (once when a big ring was observed around the moon, author was told that "the big bear (constellation Ursus Major) was fenced in and could not get out." This portended rain [Penobscot Indian]) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 29 (When there's a ring around the moon, / Rain is coming soon . . . is a saying based on the appearance of the moon shining through clouds) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 410 ("Ring around the moon, / Rain soon") — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (a ring around the moon) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 148, No. 58 (it will rain if you see a wedding ring around the moon [Spanish]) — *Kansas*: WF, xix (1960), 190, No. 4 (a circle around a full moon means rain) — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 46 Canadian Dakota Indians) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (a ring around the moon) — *California*: Dresslar, 23 (a ring around the moon); also (if there are rings around the moon, rain will come in as many days as there are rings); CFQ, iv (1945), 178, 290; WF, xvi (1957), 211 (ring around the moon means rain. Ring indicates increase of moisture in air and a sign of ice-crystal-type clouds [Stockton, Cal., *Record*, Mar. 21, 1957]) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 21 (a ring around the moon).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond"; HDA ix, 538, s.v. "Wetterkunde"; Inwards, 89; van Gennep II, 67, No. 92; Thompson, DI812.5.1.5.

6549 A halo around the moon portends rain. If there are any stars inside the halo, their number tells how many days before rain.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county, and ten other informants. *General*: Dunwoody, 60; Puckett, 516; also (The rings referred to are the lunar coronas, those small colored halos encircling a body when seen through the mist. The larger the water droplets, the smaller the corona [the fewer the stars within it] and the nearer the rain. A large corona indicates smaller droplets and a rain further removed [citing W. J. Humphreys, "Some Useful Weather Proverbs," *Year Book*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1912, pp. 377 f., 380]) — *South*: Evans, 16 (three stars within the circle around the moon; rain in less than three days) — *West Virginia*: Mockler, 310, No. 5 (a circle around the moon and no stars inside the circle means rain within a short time; one star, rain in twenty-four hours; two stars, rain in forty-eight hours; there are hardly ever more than three stars in the circle) — *Kentucky*: Fentress, 17 (one star in the ring, only one day before rain); also (the closer the star to the moon, the sooner the rain may be expected); Fowler, No. 2579a (when the moon has a ring around it, there will be as many pretty days as there are stars in the ring; if there are no stars, there will be rain the next day); Thomas, No. 2581 (two stars in the circle; rain in two days); No. 2582 (seven stars in the circle, rain in seven hours); No. 2578 (there will be as many rainy days that week as there are stars in the ring) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3577 (three stars in the circle; rain in three days); No. 3576 (the number of stars in the ring around the moon indicates the number of rainy days that month) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 423 (two stars within the ring; rain within two days); Smith II, 63, No. 18 (stars in the moon's circle mean rain).

6550 If the moon has a halo, it will rain within thirty-six hours. The number of stars in the halo signifies the number of days till rain.

Eleanor Simpson, East Durham. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 60 (the large the halo about the moon, the nearer the rain clouds, and the sooner the rain may be expected); Garriott, 21 (a lunar halo indicates rain, and the larger the halo, the sooner the rain may be expected); 27 (same as entry on page 21) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, 184, No. 8 (But if she [the moon] rises haloed round, / Soon we'll tread on deluged ground).—Inwards, 89.

6551 If there is a ring around the moon, it will rain within forty-eight hours.

J. B. Hinnant, Durham county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 61 (a small ring around the moon and high clouds indicate rain in several days).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6552 If the moon is closed in with a circle, it is a very true sign of rain within the number of days that the circle contains stars.

Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 996; Dunwoody, 60 (number of stars in a lunar halo); JAFI, III (1890), 128 (a ring forming around the moon) — *South*: Puckett, 516 (number of stars in the ring around the moon [Negro]) — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 4 (a ring around the moon) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 405 (a halo around the moon); Whitney, 196 (a halo around the moon) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 5 (if you see a circle around the moon at night, it means rain) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2579 (a ring around the moon) — *Tennessee*: Burton, 4; Guerin, 53; McGlasson, 26, No. 9; O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 5; Rogers, *Moon*, 55, No. 2 (a ring or halo around the moon) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3575 (a ring around the moon) — *Prince Edward Island*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 996 — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 20 (a halo around the moon); Wintemberg, *Oxford*, No. 10 (the ring around the moon); Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 65 (a ring around the moon indicates a rainstorm) — *New York*: Meeker, *Blanket*, 188 (the moon having a ring) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1249 (German) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 3 (a ring around the moon); Butler, 315 (a halo 'round the moon) — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 57 (a halo about the moon) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 f. (you can tell how many days will elapse before the storm by counting the number of stars inside the circle; if there are no stars in the ring, the rain is less than twenty-four hours away) — *Texas*: Dobie, 96 (the ring around the moon); Hendricks, No. 317; Turner, 170 — *Kansas*: WF, XIX (1960), 190, No. 14 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (a ring around the moon) — *California*: Dresslar, 23. Cf. Thompson D1812.5.1.5. Cf. Nos. 6151 f., 6204, 6549 f., above.

6553 When the glow of the lights of town is reflected in the sky at nights, rain is near at hand.

Green Collection.

Stars as Indicators of Rain

6554 If the stars are thick, it is a sign of rain.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Kentucky*: Price, 31; Thomas, No. 2651. Cf. No. 6908, below.

6555 At night, if the stars are small and very close together, rain is not far off.

Anonymous. Cf. Kamp, 34, No. 29; Inwards, 98.

6556 If the sky is unusually full of stars, there will be rain.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. *General*: Dunwoody, No. 73; also (when stars appear to be numerous, very large, and dull, and do not twinkle, expect rain); Garriott, 28 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 12 (if the elements are full of stars at night, it is a sign of rain) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 80 (lots of stars in the sky; sign of rainy weather) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (a clear sky at night, with an unusually number of stars visible, is a sign of rain) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 19—HDA IX (Suppl.), 781, s.v. "Sterne, Stern-glaube."

6557 When the stars begin to huddle,
 The earth will soon be a puddle.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 73 (The earth will soon become a puddle); Garriott, 28 (will soon become) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31 (If the stars are in a huddle, / The world will be in a puddle).—Inwards, 98.

6558 Twinkling stars denote rain.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 74; Garriott, 28 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 11 (unusual twinkling of the stars indicates rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90]) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 19 (excessive twinkling of the stars means rain).—Inwards, 98; HDA VI, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; IX (Suppl.), 781, s.v. "Sterne, Stern-glaube."

6559 When stars flicker in the dark background, rain soon follows.

B. U. Brooks, Durham county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 73; Garriott, 28 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67).—Inwards, 98.

6560 When the stars are very dim and dull, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 73 (when stars appear to be numerous, very large and dull, and do not twinkle, expect rain); Garriott, 28 (same as the preceding item) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (when stars are ghostly dim, it will rain soon [*Blum's Almanac*, 1941, p. 23]) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 23 (stars dim) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 615 (stars dim); No. 616 (stars with a dull and watery appearance) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (when stars appear faded and dim, people say that a big rain is on the way, no matter what the moon signs may be).

6561 Large stars denote rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 74 (if the stars appear large and clear, expect rain); 73 (stars, numerous and large); Garriott, 28 (when the stars appear to be numerous and very large, etc.).

6562 When the big star passes the moon, it is going to rain.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. HDA VI, 518, s.v. "Mond."

6563 A star near the moon means rain.

Anonymous.

6564 The shooting of a star means rain.

Merle Smith, Stanly county. Cf. HDA VIII, 474, s.v. "Sternschnuppe" (bad weather).

Rain, Rainbows as Indicators of Rain

6565 If it is raining and clears off during the night, there will be another rain shortly.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county; the Misses Holeman, Durham county; an anonymous informant; and an unidentified newspaper clipping. Cf. *Ozarks*: Randolph, *Ozark*, 11 (if the weather clears between sundown and dawn, there will be more rain within forty-eight hours).

6566 Rains from the east,
Three days of rain at least.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *General*: Dunwoody, 85 (If the rain comes out of the east / 'Twill rain twenty-four hours at least) — *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (Rains three days at least) — *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 201 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 482 (rain from the east means three days of rain).—Inwards, 116, 118, 155; Lean 1, 395, 399.

6567 When the raindrops hang on the trees, it is a sure sign of more rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (when raindrops stand on the trees, it will rain again); Thomas, No. 2661 (if raindrops cling to the twigs of trees, there will be more rain).—HDA VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6568 Raindrops making many bubbles on a river, or other bodies of water, means more rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1033 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3654 (if raindrops bounce back when they hit the ground, etc.) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 480 (if raindrops splash up and resemble a fountain on the road, there will be rain the next day) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (large, splattering drops [as big as silver dollars] mean a very short rain).—HDA VII, 606, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6569 If you see a rainbow in the morning, there will be lots of rain in a few days.

Allie Ann Pearce, Colerain, Bertie county. All references are to "rain coming." *General*: Dunwoody, 71 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 440 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 500 — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 139 (French).—Inwards, 161; HDA VI, 579, s.v. "Morgen"; Sébillot I, 347 f.

6570 When there is a rainbow before noon, you may expect rain.

R. B. Cochrane, Buncombe county; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 71 (if a rainbow appears at noon, slight and heavy rain will follow) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 16 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1922, p. 90) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2611 (rainbow in the morn, sailors warned, / Rainbow at night, sailor's delight; / Rainbow at noon, more rain soon) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 507 (a rainbow in the forenoon is a sign that it will rain before night); No. 508 (Rainbow at noon, / More rain soon).—Inwards, 161; Lean 1, 406.

6571 The sun's rising with a "dog" is a sign of rain.

Green Collection. In only the South Carolina reference is the "sun-dog" connected with the rising, or morning sun. *General*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 986 (halos before or after the sun are called "sun-dogs," and are said to be a sign of coming rain) — *South*: Evans, 16 (rain the next day [Negro]); Puckett, 518 (Negro) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 3 (if you see a sun dog [a red spot on the north side of the sun] in the morning, it means rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3550 — *Prince Edward Island*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 986 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 19 (rain soon) — *Maine*: Speck, *Penobscot*, 33 (sun dogs are a sign of rain in the summer [Penobscot Indian]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 17; Hyatt, No. 679 (if a sun dog is seen on the north side of the sun, the next rain will come from the northwest); No. 680 (rain from the southwest, if the sun dog is on the south side of the sun) — *Texas*: Dobie, 98 (if a "sun dog" [a rainbow colored splotch on the ground, generally the hillside] appears to the south, there will be rain in three days); Hendricks, No. 304 (when one sees a "sun dog" in the afternoon, it specifies a siege of rain).

6572 When there is a sundog around the sun when it sets, there will be rain.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. HDA VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. No. 6571, above.

Dew, Moisture, Sweat as Signs of Rain

6573 When the dew falls thick and heavy in the morning, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Although dews are more common in the morning than at other times of the day, none of the items cited below specify the morning. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 48 (a heavy dew with a northwest wind: rain); also (if there is a heavy dew and it remains long on the grass, expect rain within twenty-four hours) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 42 (heavy dew for three consecutive mornings means rain); Hyatt, No. 184 (same as preceding item) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, *Ozark*, 12 (a heavy dew is one of the most reliable rain signs known) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (a heavy dew indicates rain is near).

6574 Dew on cobwebs is a sign of rain.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 73.

6575 When the ground looks damp after a long dry spell, it is a sign of rain.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. Cf. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (when the surface of plowed ground appears damp, or moisture seems to gather on the gravel in the dry gullies, a rain is expected within a few hours).

6576 If water comes to the surface in low places, it is a sign of rain the following day.

Anonymous. *Texas*: Dobie, 94 (the rising to the surface of hidden water at night is a sign of rain).

6577 During dry weather, if water rises in the springs of the earth, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 119 (water rising in wells and springs); 107 (many springs that have gone dry will give a good flow of water just before rain); 117 (springs running flusher [commonly called earth sweat], etc.); Garriott, 22 (in dry weather, when springs that have gone dry become moist, etc.) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 53 (when springs go below their usual level, it is going to rain) — *Newfoundland*, Bergen, *Current*, No. 1045 (water low in wells is a sign of rain) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (if a dry spring begins flowing again during a drought, rain will follow).—Inwards, 222 f.

6578 If moisture collects on a team's collar when it is in the house, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd.

6579 If moisture collects on the pump in the early morning, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 61 (when plumbing fixtures sweat, it is going to rain); II, 197 (same as preceding item); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (when the iron work of a pump sweats, it is a sign of rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1224 (the sweating of water pipes [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 753 (sweating water pipes) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181; also (sweating water pipes).—HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6580 When the water bucket is wet on the outside, it is going to rain within three days.

W. H. Smith. In none of the following references is mention made of rain within three days; it is simply a matter of "rain" or "rain soon"; and in only the Tennessee items is sweating on the outside of the bucket, or pail, specified. *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 198 (when a tin bucket sweats on the outside, it will rain soon); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 200 (same as the preceding item); McGlasson, 26, No. 12 (a bucket sweating) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31 (when a water pail sweats, etc.); Gardner, No. 162 (water pail) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, *Ozark*, 11 (rain may be expected before many hours have passed).

6581 Moisture on stones indicates rain.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 118 (sweating stones); 117 (stones sweating in the afternoon are atmos-

pheric indications of rain); also (quarries of stone and slate indicate rain by moist exudations from the stones); Garriott, 21 (Quarries of stone and slate) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1225 (the sweating of stones [German]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (moisture gathering on the gravel in dry gullies); also (flintrocks in the field beginning to sweat). — Inwards, 219.

6582 When rocks of any considerable size begin to sweat on the under or shaded side, it will rain in less than forty-eight hours.

Dr. James Maynard Keech (Florida). In none of the following references is the point indicated where the sweating takes place, nor is a time limit set. *General*: Dunwoody, 116 — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 2 (dampness of rocks around a spring or stream indicates rainy weather) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2623 — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 37, No. 2; McGlasson, 27, No. 31; Miller, 66, No. 3 (when rocks are damp in the morning, there will be rain soon) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 531.

6583 When vapor condenses on a cold glass, they say there will soon be rain.

James Hawfield, Union county; S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. *Kentucky*: Fentress, 17 (sweating glass is a sign of rain); Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 26 (sweating glass) — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1016 (when the glass sweats, etc.) — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 37 (sweating glass) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 482.

6584 When moisture gathers on window glass, or any kind of glass, in hot weather, you may expect rain that day.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; and S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. Cf. *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 110 (when drops hang on a window pane, the rain is not over).

6585 When glass and pitchers sweat, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2674 (a sweating water pitcher) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 51 (a glass or earthenware vessel is said to "sweat" when moisture is deposited on it, the belief being that the water exudes through the vessel as perspiration does through the pores of the body; the sweating is said by some to indicate rain); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (a glass tumbler sweating) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 754 (sweating water pitcher) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 27 (sweating water pitcher). — HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen" (pots and pans sweating).

6586 When a glass filled with water sweats, rain may be expected.

Green Collection. Cf. *South*: Puckett, 513 (moisture collecting on the outside of a cold glass of water [Negro]) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 961 (when vessels containing water sweat, it is a sign of rain) — *Indiana*: Butler, 317 (when a pitcher of water sweats, it will soon rain); McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 (sweat on a water pitcher) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (sweat drops on a pitcher with cold water in it).

6587 When oiled floors or painted walls sweat, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. References are to floors only. Dunwoody, 109; Garriott, 22. — Inwards, 218; HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

Mist, Fog as Indicators of Rain

6588 When the morning is misty, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *North Carolina*: Barker, 14 (if a general mist rises before sunup, in the old moon, there will be rain in the new moon [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 31]); also (if a morning mist rises high, or to the top of the hills, you may expect rain in a day or two [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 31]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 372 (three misty mornings in succession are a sign of rain) — *Oregon*: Dunwoody, 53 (three misty mornings); Garriott, 21 (same as preceding).—HDA vi, 986, s.v. "Nebel."

6589 A rising fog foretells rain.

Green Collection; and three other informants from eastern and central counties. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3524.—HDA vi, 986, s.v. "Nebel."

6590 If the fog rises in the morning, it will fall before night; that is, it will rain.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 234 (whatever goes up must come down; therefore, a rising fog will come down in rain). Cf. No. 6596, below.

6591 If the morning is foggy, and the fog goes up, it is the sign of rain.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3527 (if a fog rises in the morning, it will rain that day).

6592 If fog in the morning goes up, it will rain the next day.
Green Collection.

6593 If a fog appears each morning of three days in succession, rain will come on the third day.

Green Collection. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3525 (if a fog goes up in the morning, rain within three days).

6594 In the western part of the state, they say: "When the fog comes down the mountain diagonally, look for rain."

Green Collection.

6595 If a fog goes downstream, it will rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *Kentucky*: Stewart, 16 (when fog rises from the creek, it will rain) — *Indiana*: Butler, 315 (when fog goes up the river, it will rain soon).

6596 If a fog falls it will rain.

Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh. *General*: Garriott, 21 (if a fog settles down, expect rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1022 ("quand le brouillard tombe c'est signe qu'il va pleuvoir" ['when the fog falls it is a sign of rain']).

Winds, Whirlwinds as Indicators of Rain

6597 The rain follows the wind.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

6598 When the wind is in the east, it is the sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county, and an unidentified newspaper clipping. *General*: Garriott, 8 (easterly winds) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 94 (rain: Wind's in the east. Mackleback sky) — *Maine*: Speck, *Penobscot*, 21 (the east wind spirit brings the rain [Penobscot Indian]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 758; No. 760 (it will rain, if the wind remains in the east for three days); No. 767 (wind in the east during early winter or late spring means rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (if the wind blows suddenly and strongly from the east, many old-timers expect a heavy rain soon) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (a steady east wind arouses hope of rain); Turner, 170 (the wind blowing from the east) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 22 (the wind blowing from the east for three days) — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 46 (when a wind blows from the east there will be a mild storm, a little rain in three or four days [Canadian Dakota Indians]).—Moya, *Refranero*, 116; Lean 1, 395; 401; Udal, 269.

6599 Rain beginning with an east wind will continue all day.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 43 — *Kentucky*: Fowler, 46 (if it begins raining while the wind is in the east, it will rain for three days); Thomas, No. 2678 (it will rain every day for seven days).

6600 A strong wind from an easterly or southeasterly direction is a good sign of rain in thirty-six hours.

Green Collection. A wind in the east brings rain inside thirty-six hours). Inwards, 112; Lean 1, 395.

6601 When the steady breeze is from the south or southwest, and turns the leaves of the trees up, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). In none of the following references is the effect of the wind on leaves indicated. This entry is treated in two parts. Wind from the South: *General*: Dunwoody, 88 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 15 (if wind blows from the south for forty-eight hours, it will rain) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2687 (before summer rains the wind is usually from south to east) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3521 (wind from the south); No. 3522 (if the wind blows from the south for three days, it will rain) — *Quebec*: Marie Ursule, 166 (wind [French]) — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 103, No. 12 (a south wind brings rain already) — *New York*: NYFQ, XIII (1957), 113 (wind from the south); Gardner, No. 142 (wind blowing hard from the south) — *Illinois*: Hyatt No. 771 (winds from south to east) — *California*: Dunwoody, 69 (south winds).—Inwards, 112; Lean 1, 400 f. Wind from the Southwest: *General*: Dunwoody, 87 (three southwesters, then one heavy rain) — *Indiana*: Dunwoody, 84 (in southern Indiana a southwest wind is said to bring rain in thirty-six hours).—Inwards 121.

6602 When the wind's in the south,
 The rain's in its mouth;
 The wind in the west.
 Suits everyone best.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 15, 86 — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 102, No. 4 (when the wind's in the south / The rain's in his mouth); Fauset, No. 76 (Wind in the south, / Rain in its mouth; / Wind in the west, / Everybody likes best) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFL 11 (1889), 232, No. 10 (When the wind veers against the sun, / Trust it not,

for back it will run; / When the wind is in the south / It is in the rain's mouth); Phillips, 162, No. 10 (same as the preceding entry) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 14 (Wind in the south has rain in its mouth) — *Kansas*: WF XIX (1960), 190, No. 19 (When the wind blows from the south, / It will bring rain in your mouth).—Lean I, 400; Inwards, 120.

6603 When the wind comes from the southwest, it is the sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 84 (from the southern river of the world of water, rain [southwest wind: Indian]).—Inwards, 113; HDA IX, 651, s.v. "Wind"; IX, 809, s.v. "Wolke."

6604 The west wind always brings the rain,
 The east wind blows it back again.

Green Collection. Only the Illinois and the first Inwards item preserve the verse; other entries are simply to the west wind's bringing rain. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 69 (rain from the west is always best) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 769 (The south wind brings wet weather; / The north wind, wind and cold together. / The west wind always brings us rain; / The east wind blows it back again) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (if a shower comes from the west, it will be followed by a "gully washer and fence lifter") — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 126 (the west rain, it comes from world of waters to moisten the home of Shi wi [Zuñi Indian]).—Inwards, 113, 114, 122; Lean I, 401; Udal, 269; HDA VII, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; IX, 631, 651, s.v. "Wind."

6605 If a cool breeze springs up just before sunrise, it will rain before noon.

Fawn Watson, Robeson county.

6606 If the wind suddenly hushes before a coming storm, the rain is near to hand.

Green Collection.

6607 When dust clouds whirl around the street, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 26 (a dust whirlwind is a sign of rain); Guerin, 53 (little whirlwinds in a dusty road) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1051 (little whirlwinds of dust going down the street; no rain for quite a while) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 204 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (little whirlwinds in a dusty road).—Inwards, 220.

6608 If a whirlwind goes toward the nearest body of water, it will rain within few days.

Green Collection, and S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. *South*: Puckett, 514 (a whirlwind going toward a pond or any other body of water [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2676 (if a whirlwind goes down stream, there will be rain soon) — *Alabama*: Woodall, 325 (if a whirlwind goes toward the branch or any other water, it is a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 763 (a whirlwind going downstream).

Lightning, Thunder as Indicators of Rain

6609 It's lighting up to see to rain.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

6610 If it lightens in the north, it will rain soon.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *South Carolina*: Bryant I. 279, No. 10 (lightning in the north is a sign of rain bubbles in the yard) — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2560a — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1010 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 332 (immediate rain); No. 334 (lightning in the north for three successive nights will bring rain) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 331 (Lightning in the north, rain right off; / Lightning in the south, long dry drouth; / Lightning in the east, rains the least; / Lightning in the west, rains the best). Cf. No. 6410, above.

6611 If it lightens in the north, there will be rain within twenty-four hours.

The Misses Holeman, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 81 — *South*: Puckett, 515 (Negro) — *Kentucky*: Price, 31; Thomas, No. 2559 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 47; Hyatt, No. 333.—Inwards, 169.

6612 If you see it lightning in the north, it will rain within twenty-four hours. If it doesn't, you need not expect rain for three weeks.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6611, above.

6613 If it lightens in the north at night it will rain within twenty-four hours.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 4 (lightning in the north early in the night means rain before morning).

6614 When lightning is seen in the north, it will rain in forty-eight hours.

Green Collection. Cf. *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 28 (rain within three days); Miller, 67, No. 29; Redfield, No. 438; No. 437 (when it lightens and there is no cloud, it will rain in forty-eight hours) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3528 (within three days); No. 3530 (see lightning in the north at night; it will rain in three days); No. 3530 (if it lightnings in the north and it doesn't answer back anywhere, it will rain in three days).

6615 Lightning under the North Star is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. No. 6616, below.

6616 If it lightens under the North Star in the summer, it will rain in forty-eight hours.

Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Dunwoody, 81 (lightning under the north star will bring rain in three days).—Inwards, 169.

6617 Lightning in the south is a sign of rain.

Green Collection. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3531.—Inwards, 169 (China).

- 6618 Lightning in east, will rain least;
 Lightning in west, will rain best;
 Lightning in north, it will rain in twenty-four hours.

Green Collection. For the idea as expressed in verse, see the Texas item in No. 6610, above, which is limited to the one pertinent line (east) here. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 435 (when it lightens in the east it will rain in three days) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 331 (Lightning in the east, rains the least) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (lightning in the east, it looks like rain; the boss said, "Boys, get the cattle in the lane!").

- 6619 If it thunders in the north, it will rain within twenty-four hours.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 81 (thunder in the north indicates rain from the west).

- 6620 Thunder before eleven,
 Rain before seven.

Green Collection. In all items the order is reversed, i.e., "thunder before seven; rain before eleven." *South*: Puckett, 514 (Negro); 514 f. (thunder before the seventh, rain before the eleventh [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 47 — *Tennessee*: Carter, 5 (if it thunders before 7 A.M. there will be rain before 11 A.M.) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3536; No. 3537 (if it thunders before seven in the morning, it will rain before eleven) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 5 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1020 (prose version) — *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 7 — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 327 (if thunder comes before seven, it will rain before eleven) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 434.

Frost as an Indicator of Rain

- 6621 A heavy frost brings rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Garriott, 21 (heavy frosts bring heavy rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 432 (big frosts are followed by rain [Norwegian]) — *California*: Dunwoody, 55.

- 6622 Hoar frost is a sign of rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 54; also (if there be an abundance of hoar frost, expect rain); Garriott, 21 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1015 (rain within twenty-four hours). — Inwards, 163; HDA VII, 627, s.v. "Reif."

- 6623 A white frost is the sign of rain.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2522 — *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26 — *New York*: Boughton, 251, No. 5 (rain twenty-four hours later) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 260.

- 6624 Three white frosts and then rain.

Elsie Doney, Currituck county; and four other informants, three from central counties, and one from Florida. *General*: Dunwoody, 55; also (white frost on three successive nights) — *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (three white frosts and then a rain); Thomas, No. 2523 — *Louisiana*: Roberts,

No. 1005 — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 17 (three white frosts, and then rain [thought to be Indian]) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31; NYFQ ix (1953), 34, No. 4 (three white frosts and then a drunk precede rain) — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 27.—Inwards, 163; Udal, 267.

6625 Heavy frosts three nights in succession is a sure sign of rain.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county. Cf. Nos. 6626 f., below.

6626 When there has been frost for three mornings, there will be rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3540 (if you have three frosty mornings in the winter, you will then have a sudden rain).

6627 If there are three heavy frosts in succession, they will be followed by rain and a cold snap.

Green Collection. *South*: Puckett, 514 (two or three big frosts are followed by a rain [Negro]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3541 (if it clouds up after three heavy frosts, it will rain soon); No. 3539 (when it frosts three times in succession in the south, it will rain the next day or the next) — *Indiana*: Butler, 316 (three black frosts [in autumn] are followed by rain).—Inwards, 163. Cf. Nos. 6624 ff., above.

6628 If it clouds up on a frost at morning, it is a very true sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd.

Fire, Smoke as Indicators of Rain

6629 Smoke going up vertically presages rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 109 (when with hanging fog smoke rises vertically, rain follows) — *California*: Dresslar, 17.—Inwards, 147; HDA VII, 524, s.v. "Rauch."

6630 Smoke falling from the chimney is a sign of rain.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Fawn Watson, Robeson county. *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26.

6631 Smoke going to the earth is a sign of rain.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county; and four other informants, mainly from central counties. In all items except the one from Alabama, "settling to the ground" is used instead of "to the earth." *General*: Dunwoody, 117 (smoke falling to the ground); Garriott, 19 (smoke falling to the ground) — *South*: Puckett, 513 (smoke falling towards the ground [Negro]) — *West Virginia*: Musick, *Weather*, 44, No. 19 (if you are burning waste paper and the smoke goes to the ground, this is a sure sign of rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 997 (smoke staying near the ground) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3532 (smoke settling to earth; rain that day) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 16 (it will soon rain); Hyatt, No. 558 (smoke clinging to the ground).—Inwards, 220; HDA VII, 524, s.v. "Rauch." Cf. No. 6413, above.

6632 If the smoke from the chimney goes down toward the ground in the morning, it is a sign of rain.

Green Collection; Rosa Efird, Stanly county. In none of the following references is "morning" specified. *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 3 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3533 — *New England*: Backus I, 501 — *New Mexico*: Baughman, *Sayings*, 24 (if the smoke from a newly made fire settles quickly from the chimney to the ground, it is going to rain).—HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. Nos. 6413, 6630 f., above.

6633 There will be rain if smoke settles to the sand.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county; and an anonymous informant. Cf. No. 6631, above.

6634 When the smoke follows the course of water, it will rain.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2635 (if smoke goes downstream, expect rain) — *Indiana*: Butler, 315 (smoke going upstream) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 563 (smoke going down a stream).

6635 When soot falls down the chimney, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 109, 115; Garriott, 22 — *South*: Puckett, 513 (if the soot falls into the fireplace or on the roof, etc. [Negro]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3534 (when soot falls to the ground from the top of the chimney, it is a sign that it will rain in one or two days) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 2 — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, 184, No. 30 (a reliable sign of approaching rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 590; No. 593 (you may look for rain if soot drops to the ground in summer).—Inwards, 222; Udal, 268; HDA VII, 858, s.v. "Russ." Cf. No. 6914, below.

6636 The fire burning blue means rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Cf. No. 6912, below.

6637 If candles, lamps, or fires snap and flicker, rain is at hand.

Green Collection. Candles: *General*: Dunwoody, 13 (when the flame of candles flare and snap or burn with an uneasy or dim light, rain, and frequently wind also, are found to follow).—Inwards, 221; HDA IV, 1246, s.v. "Kerze." Lamps: Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 115 (lamp wicks crackle before rain); Garriott, 22 (wicks crackle) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2558 (if a lamp flickers continually, there will be rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 329 (the continual sputtering of a lamp) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (the sputtering of a kerosene lamp). Fires: *Illinois*: Smith II, 62, No. 13 (if the fire pops, it will rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (an extraordinary amount of crackling in a wood fire indicates rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 16 (if the fire crackles loudly, there is going to be a rain).

6638 The burning of new ground causes rain.

Green Collection. *West*: WF XIII, (1954), III (a large prairie fire will cause rain [regarded as a Western proverb]).

6639 The firing of cannons causes rain.

Green Collection. *General*: WF XIII (1954), III (a concussion will bring rain; Plutarch observed, "Heavy rains fall after great battles").

HUMAN INDICATORS OF RAIN

Aches, Physical Signs

6640 If old folks' ankles ache, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd.

6641 If one's corns or bunions burn and hurt a great deal, it is going to rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; Doris Overton, Greensboro, Guilford county; Louise Lucas, White Oak, Bladen county; and an anonymous informant. Bunions: *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 11 (aching bunions) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (unusual soreness of bunions).—HDA iv, 794, s.v. "Jucken." Corns: *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (corns aching); 107; Garriott, 21 (corns itching more than usual) — *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 9; Puckett, 508 (corns aching [Negro]) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (corns giving extra pain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1942, p. 23]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 37 — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 11 (corns aching); Stewart, 16 (corns aching); Thomas, No. 2382 (corns itching) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 24 (painful corns) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3640 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 974 — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 104, No. 27 (corn biting) — *Maine*: Decrow, 318 (corns sting) — *Pennsylvania*: Brendle-Unger, 69 (corns aching [German]); Fogel, No. 1113 (corns aching [German]); also (corns pricking) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 19; McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 146 (corns itching) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (unusual soreness of corns) — *Texas*: Dobie, 98 (corns aching) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 446 (corns aching) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 — *California*: Dresslar, 105.—Inwards, 217; Udall, 268. Cf. Nos. 6207, above, No. 6916, below.

6642 Unusual itching of the head is a good sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 204 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 39.—HDA iv, 793, s.v. "Jucken."

6643 An itching of the nose indicates rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 435 (your nose itching three times inside an hour is a sign of rain within a day).—HDA iv, 793, s.v. "Jucken."

6644 If you have a large scar from an operation, it will itch before a rain.

Anonymous.

6645 When curly hair becomes unruly, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2540 (when your hair curls, you may expect rain) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 395 (your hair will always curl before a rain) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (when a person's hair curls, etc.) — *Indiana*: Butler, 317 (human hair curls before rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 293 (it is a sign of rain to have your hair curl) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 7 (if your hair curls, expect rain); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1 (if hair curls more than usual, etc.).

6646 When a baby's hair curls up, it is sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. No. 6645, above.

6647 A person subject to rheumatism can always tell whether it is going to rain or not by an unusual number of twinges of the rheumatism.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; Vella Jane Burch, Durham; and the Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (people complaining of more than ordinary pains in the joints); Garriott, 21 (people complaining of more than ordinary pains) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 37 (if rheumatism hurts, expect rain) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 10 (rheumatic pains); Thomas, No. 2621 (an attack of rheumatism means the coming of rain soon); No. 2622 (every time your rheumatism hurts you, you may look for rain) — *Tennessee*: Burton, 4; Guerin, 53; Page, 53 (rheumatism hurting worse); Redfield, No. 396 (rheumatism hurting) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3642 (rheumatism hurting) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 973 (rheumatism hurting) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 528 (rheumatic pains); No. 43 (a person with rheumatism will have rheumatic pains before a rain. "When I was a boy, a German teacher [in a Quincy parochial school] asked, 'Where do you get the rains?' A boy got up and said, 'From grandma's bones, because every time grandma's bones ache, it rains'") — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (twinges of rheumatism) — *Texas*: Dobie, 98 (awakened rheumatism presages rain) — *Nebraska*: Ericson, 150, No. 15 (pain in the joints of a rheumatic person indicates rain) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 (my rheumatism is acting up again; it must be going to rain) — *Inwards*, 217; Udall, 268.

6648 When you get a ringing in the ears you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *British Columbia*: Boas, 217, No. 390 (a buzzing in the left ear indicates rain). — HDA iv, 1531, s.v. "Klingeln, klingen"; vi, 1215, s.v. "Ohr"; Wessman, 19; Ivan Goncharov, *Oblomov* (1859), chap. ix "Oblomov's Dream."

6649 When a grown person falls down, spectators are heard to exclaim, "Old trees are falling; rain tomorrow."

Doris Overton, Greensboro.

Death, Dreams as Signs of Rain

6650 A dream of death is a sign of rainy weather.

Green Collection; and an anonymous informant. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3651.

6651 To dream of the dead is a sign of rain.

Lida Page, Nelson, Durham county; and seven other informants, mainly from central counties. *South*: Puckett, 499 (Negro) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 494 — *South Carolina*: Bryant II, 136, No. 7 (dreaming of a dead person) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 1926 (dreaming of a dead person); No. 2501 — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 22, No. 21 (dreaming of someone dead) — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 502 (to dream of seeing a deceased friend means rain within a few days); Browne, No. 3648 (dreaming of a dead person); No. 3649 (if you dream of dead

people, it will rain that day); No. 3650 (if you dream of a dead person, it is a sign of rain the next day) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 813 (dreaming of someone who is dead) — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 501 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 168 (Negro) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *German* II, 89 (if you dream of deceased relatives it will rain [German]); Wintenberg, *Oxford*, No. 9 (dreaming of a dead person); Wintenberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (dreaming of a dead person); also (dreaming of dead friends); 21 (dreaming of deceased relatives or friends) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 279 (German); Starr, 321 (to dream of a dead man means rain [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 6099 (it will rain soon, if you dream of the dead).—HDA VIII, 1031, s.v. "Tote (der)." Cf. Nos. 6169, 6415, above.

6652 When a good man dies, it is a sign of rain.

W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3646 (if an old person who dies was a good person, there'll be rain weeping over him). Cf. Nos. 5504 f., 6337, above.

6653 The burial of an old person causes rain.

Green Collection. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3645 (when an old person dies, it will rain within three days).

ANIMAL INDICATORS OF RAIN

Mammals

6654 When animals huddle together in open fields, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Garriott, 23 (domestic animals foretell the coming of rain by appearing restless and uneasy) — *New York*: Boyer, 74 (if animals crowd together, rain will follow) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 15 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 2 (animals huddling together in the pasture).—Inwards, 178.

6655 Hark, I hear the asses bray,
We shall have some rain today.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 14, 29 — *New York*: Vance, 166 (the braying of a donkey is a sign of rain) — *Texas*: Dobie, 90 (if more than two burros begin braying immediately after dusk, and are answered by one or more burros off some distance, it will rain before morning).—Inwards, 180; Leather, 24 (donkey).

6656 When bats cry or attempt to fly into buildings, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 34 (bats who speak flying tell of rain tomorrow); Garriott, 23 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 17 (when bats squeak loudly and continuously and try to enter the house, rain may be expected) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 127 (bats speaking in flight tell of rain the next day [Zuñi Indian]).—Inwards, 185.

6657 A sneezing cat presages rain.

Green Collection; Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia). *General*: Dunwoody, 29; Kanner, 569 — *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro) — *Tennessee*:

Farr, *Riddles*, No. 202; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 203 — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 105 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 55; No. 56 (if a cat sneezes while its head lies on the floor, you may expect rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12. — Inwards, 179; Radford, 62; HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze."

6658 When cats wash their faces, it is the sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county; Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 109 (when the cat washes her jaws with her paws it will rain); Bergen-Newell, 151 — *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (a cat usually washes its face before a rainstorm [*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 13]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 413; No. 414 (it is a sign of rain when cats back their bodies and wash their faces) — *South Carolina*: MAFS XVI (1923), 210 (Negro) — *Kentucky*: Rainey, 15 (cat washing her face in the parlor); 14 f. (cat washing her face before breakfast) — *Tennessee*: Rickard, 7 — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 514 — *Louisiana*: JAFL, v (1892), 330 (cat washing her face with dainty touches of her velvety paw [*Negro*]) — *Labrador*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 510 (a cat washing her head over the left ear signifies rain) — *New England*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 516 (a cat washing her face in the parlor); No. 515 (a cat washing her face before breakfast) — *New York*: Vance, 166 (if a cat washes over one ear there will be a shower); also (if a cat washes the right ear with the right paw there will be rain) — *Pennsylvania*: JAFL, II (1889), 232, No. 2; Phillips, 162, No. 2 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 24a (when cats face the east to wash their faces, it will rain); Hyatt, No. 57 (look for rain, when a cat begins to wash its face) — *California*: Dresslar, 36 (seeing a cat wash its face) — HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze"; Gregor, 125; Leather, 24; van Gennep II, 67.

6659 When cats wipe themselves behind the ears, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 29 (it is a sign of rain if the cat washes her head behind her ear) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 416 (a cat passing its paw over its ear); No. 415 (when a cat, in washing her face, runs her paw up over her ear, it is a sign of rain) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 27 (a cat washing behind its ears) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2351 (a cat washing its face around its ear) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 202; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 203 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 960 (a cat washing behind its ear); No. 1249 (a cat washing behind its ear) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 517 (the cat putting her paw behind her ear is a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 58 (a cat washing its face around the ears) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12 (cats washing behind their ears) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 540 (if a cat washes its face and puts its paws behind the ears, there will be rain within a short time) — *California*: Dresslar, 36 (if a cat, in washing her face, rubs her paws over her ears, it is a sign of rain). — Gregor, 125; Radford, 62; Udal, 268; HDA IV, 1107, s.v. "Katze"; van Gennep II, 67.

6660 If cats lick themselves overmuch, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county; and J. Schaffner. *Maryland*: Lee, 110 (a cat licking her face [*Negro*]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 24 (when cats lick behind their ears, it will rain); Wheeler, 58 (the housewife is sure that rain is imminent when puss licks her jaws) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 487 (if the cat licks his face in front of the fire, it is a sign of rain).

6661 If a black cat licks her fur the wrong way, it will rain.

F. C. Brown, Durham, and an anonymous informant. In none of the following references is a black cat specified. Cf. *Missouri*: McKinney, 104 (if a cat licks its fur forward, rain is coming) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12 (if cats lick their fur against the grain, it presages rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 36 (a cat licking herself against the grain).—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze."

6662 Bathing a cat causes rain.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county. *Philippines*: Brown, *Filipino*, No. 37; Meeker, 287.—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze."

6663 It is a sign of rain for a cat to eat grass.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county; Lucille Massey, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 31 (when a cat eats grass in the morning it will certainly rain before night) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1014 — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 15; No. 26; Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 80 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 25 — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 504 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31; NYFQ IX (1953), 134; x (1954), 212 (cat chewing grass) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1234 (German); Grumbine, 283 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 54; Norlin, 208, No. 12; Smith II, 62, No. 13 — *Michigan*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 504 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 180 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 626 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 40 — *California*: Dresslar, 36 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25.—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze"; VII, 604, s.v. "Regen-vorzeichen." Cf. No. 6671, below.

6664 When cattle congregate in the fields, it is a sign of rain.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Oxford*, No. 7.

6665 Cattle refusing to go to pasture in the morning is a token of rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 30; 31 (when cattle go out to pasture and lie down early in the day, it indicates early rain); Garriott, 22 (same as the preceding item) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 21 (when cattle lie down as soon as they are turned out to pasture in the morning, it is because they feel a rheumatic weariness in their bones, and you can look for a rain soon) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 156 (rain before night).—Inwards, 180.

6666 Expect rain if you see cows lying around in a pasture.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (cows lie down before a rainstorm [*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 13]) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 537 (when cows, on going out to pasture in the morning, lie down immediately, it is a sign of rain) — *New York*: Boughton, 124, No. 11; 190, No. 15 (lying down in the daytime); Boyer, 74; Cutting, *Farm*, 32 (if cows lie down before sundown, it is going to rain).—Inwards, 180 f.

6667 When cows thump their ribs with their tails, or try to scratch their ears, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 153 (first part only).

6668 If the cows low a lot, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd, and O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (expect rain when cattle low and gaze at the sky) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 151 (a considerable amount of lowing among cattle is a sign of rain).—Inwards, 180; HDA v, 768, s.v. "Kuh." Cf. No. 6418, above.

6669 When cream or milk sours during the night, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (country women say that when milk or cream sours sooner than usual, a rain may be expected—and they insist that this works in fairly cold weather as well as in the heat of summer).

6670 When dogs move about uneasily while lying down, look for rain.

Anonymous. *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 152 (if a dog rolls on the floor, it will rain the next day [French]) — *New York*: Boyer, 74 (if a dog chases his tail around and around, it is a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 192 (a dog rolling on his back foretells the approach of rain).—Inwards, 178.

6671 If a dog eats grass, it is going to rain.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *General*: Dunwoody, 29 ff.; also (p. 31) (when a dog eats grass in the morning it will certainly rain before night); Garriott, 23 (dogs eating grass in the morning) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 437 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2496 (a dog chewing grass) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1014 — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 548 — *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 61; Doering, *Customs*, 151 (when a dog eats green grass, it is a sign it will rain within three days); Doering-Doering II, 197; Waugh, No. 15; Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 80 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 25 — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 504 — *New York*: Barnes, No. 3; Boyer, 74; NYFQ, x (1954), 212 (when dogs are seen chewing grass rain will come) — *Pennsylvania*: Brendle-Unger, 210 (German); Fogel, No. 1240 (German); Lick-Brendle, 131 (dogs eating couch grass [German]); Shoemaker, 12 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 341; Hyatt, No. 188; No. 189 (if a dog while chewing grass changes his position frequently, expect rain); Norlin, 208, No. 12 — *Michigan*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 504 — *Missouri*: McKinney, 104 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12 (dogs suddenly beginning to eat grass) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 180 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 470; No. 531 (a dog eating weeds) — *Kansas*: WF, xix (1960), 190, No. 8 — *California*: Dresslar, 40 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 25.—Inwards, 178; HDA iv, 470, s.v. "Hund." Cf. No. 6663, above.

6672 When horses sweat in the stable, sniff loudly, and switch their tails violently, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Unless otherwise stated, all references are to the first part only. *General*: Dunwoody, 115; Garriott, 21 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 441 (rain will come soon) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3612 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 317 (if horses in the stable are sweating and switching their tails, rain is near).—Inwards, 179.

6673 When sheep or goats bleat loud and long, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Sheep: *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 201; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 202 — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 496 (sheep "bawling"). Goats: *General*: Dunwoody, 31 (the goat will utter her peculiar cry before rain) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 201; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 202 — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 471 (if goats come home "bawling" while the weather is fine, it will rain).—Inwards, 182.

Fowls

6674 It is a sign of rain for chickens to be out in the sunshine.

Esther F. Royster, Henderson, Vance county. *South*: Puckett, 509 (chickens lying on their sides in the sun [Negro]) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 401 (chickens lying in the sun).

6675 When the chickens are sunning, it is a sign of rain.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. Cf. No. 6674, above.

6676 If chickens preen, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. HDA iv, 448, s.v. "Huhn." Cf. No. 6677, below.

6677 Chickens picking themselves is a sign of rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (if chickens stand on the woodpile and pick their feathers, rain is on the way). Cf. No. 6679, below, especially the New York item.

6678 When chickens droop their feathers, it is the sign of rain.

Martha Wall, Wallburg, Davidson county. HDA i, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln."

6679 When chickens oil their feathers, it is the sign of rain.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2354 — *New York*: Boyer, 75 (when chickens oil their feathers by picking under their wings and then picking their feathers, it's sure to rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 247, No. 30 [German] — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 76 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, *Ozark*, 11 (if chickens spread their tail feathers and oil them conspicuously, it will rain very soon) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 456 — *Okla-homa*: Smith, *Weather*, 180 — *California*: Dresslar, 33 (when chickens stay on the ground and oil their feathers, etc.).—HDA iv, 448, s.v. "Huhn." Cf. Nos. 6693, 6700, below.

6680 Chickens flocking together is a sign of rain.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *South*: Puckett, 509 (chickens huddling together in a bunch [Negro]). Cf. No. 6419, above, No. 6925, below.

6681 When chickens huddle together outside the coop, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 80 (chickens huddling outside the hen-house). Cf. No. 6680, above.

6682 If the chickens come from under the house on a rainy morning, it will rain all day.

Madge Colclough, Durham county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2357 (if chickens do not seek shelter during a rain, it will rain all day, or at least for some hours) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 82 (the rain will continue all day if the chickens do not seek shelter) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 29 (the rain will continue all day, or for some hours, if the chickens do not seek shelter) — *California*: Dresslar, 33 (if chickens leave their shelter during a rain, it will continue raining at least three days more).

6683 If the chickens run out and remain in the rain, it will rain all day.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Rain "continuing" is not taken into account here unless "all day" is specified. *General*: Dunwoody, 35 — *South*: Puckett, 509 (if chickens do not run for shelter, but stay out in the rain, the rain will be a lengthy one [Negro]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3589 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 979 (if chickens come out and walk in the rain, etc.) — *New York*: Travis, 199 (if the chickens stay out when it is raining, etc.) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 (if chickens keep on feeding during a rain, etc.) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 184 (if in the morning a shower comes up and chickens remain out in the shower, it shows they expect no better opportunity to forage, and a rainy day must be expected) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 498 (when a chicken runs in the rain, it will rain all day) — *Kansas*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 442 (if the chickens [fowls] stay out on a rainy morning, the rain will continue all day); WF XIX (1960), 190, No. 16 — *California*: Dresslar, 33. — Kamp, 65, No. 94 (rain all week, if the chickens go out in a rain on Monday).

6684 If chickens walk about in the rain, it will rain the next day.

Julian P. Boyd.

6685 Chickens staying out late in the evening is a sign of rain.

R. T. Dunstan, Greensboro.

6686 If chickens go crowing to bed,
 They are apt to wake with a watery head.

Dixie V. Lamm, Lucama, Wilson county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 35 (when chickens crow before sundown, it is a sign of rain the next day) — *Pennsylvania*: Owens, 122 (chickens that crow at ten o'clock at night will bring rain before morning, according to the old saying: Chickens that go crowing to bed / Are sure to get up with a watery head). Cf. No. 6690, below.

6687 If a chicken crows after it goes to roost, it will come out with a wet head.

Minnie Stamps Gosney, Raleigh; and three other informants, two from Bladen and Caldwell counties, and one from South Carolina. Cf. No. 6686, above, Nos. 6689 ff., below.

6688 When the rooster crows on the ground,
 The rain will fall down;
 When he crows on the fence,
 The rain will depart hence.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, 456 (same idea, but in prose, and involving a cock); Dunwoody, 39 (if a rooster crows on the ground it is a sign of rain) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 457 (same idea, expressed in prose [Cock]) — *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26 — *New York*: Boyer, 76 (Cock crow on the ground, / The rain will come down; / Cock crow on the fence, / The rain will go hence).—HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen."

6689 If a rooster crows at sundown, he'll get up with a wet head in the morning.

Green Collection; Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (when roosters crow at sunset, rain may be expected) — *New Mexico*: Moya, 66, No. 7 (if roosters crow at sunset, it means rain [Spanish]). Cf. No. 6420, above.

6690 A rooster that goes crowing to bed,
 Is sure to bring rain down on your head.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Only variations on the verse will be given, and "cock" will be distinguished from "rooster." *General*: Dunwoody, 39 (When roosters go crowing to bed / They will rise with watery head); Garriott, 23 (If the cock goes crowing to bed, / He'll certainly rise with a watery head) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, 2358 (like Garriott) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 19 (A rooster that crows when he goes to bed, / Will get up with a wet head) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3625 (Roosters crow when you go to bed, / Put on your hat or you'll wet your head) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 37 (like Garriott, except "wet head") — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 23 (If the rooster crows when he goes to bed, / He will get up with a wet head) — *New York*: Boyer, 76 (As sure as the cock goes crowing to bed, / So sure will he rise with a wet head); Cutting, *Farm*, 32 (like Garriott); Travis, 199 (like Garriott) — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 9 (like Johnson) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 13 (like Johnson); Richmond, *Weather*, No. 18 (like Garriott) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 101 (like Garriott); Wheeler, 58 (like Dunwoody) — *Missouri*: SFQ xvi (1942), 266 (like Johnson [citing Collins, *Legends and Lore of Missouri*]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 12 f. (like Johnson, except "cock") — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 635 (like Johnson) — *Kansas*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 463 (like Johnson) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 1 (like Johnson); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1 (like Johnson) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (like Johnson, except "cock") — *California*: Dresslar, 32 (like Johnson).—Addy, 66; Inwards, 187; Radford, 83; Udal, 238, 271. Cf. Nos. 6420, 6686, above.

6691 When roosters crow at night, you may expect rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. *West Virginia*: Lopez, No. 46 (rooster crowing at three in the morning; the day will be rainy) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2361 (cocks crowing at 8 o'clock at night) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 968 (if roosters crow early in the night, it is a sign that they will wake up with wet heads) — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 461 (cocks) — *New York*: Boyer, 76 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1135 (the crowing of cocks before nine at night [German]); Rupp, 247, No. 35 (same as previous

[German]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 56 (if roosters crow early at night, before the nine o'clock crowing time, it will rain); Hyatt, No. 104 (a rooster crowing about eight o'clock at night); Smith II, 62, No. 11 (if a cock crows before three o'clock in the morning, it will rain for three days) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 474 — *California*: Lowrimore, No. 9. — HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen." Cf. Nos. 6185, 6208, above.

6692 If the rooster crows before midnight, it will rain before daylight.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. In several references in the preceding entry the crowing of the cock falls before midnight; in the present entry, however, the word "midnight" is used for a more precise indication of time. *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 1 (rain before morning) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 110 (rain expected soon); No. 109 (there will be rain before morning, if a rooster crows between nightfall and midnight) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (rain may be expected) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 536 (rain; no time set). — HDA III, 1341, s.v. "Hahnenkrähen"; VI, 436 f., s.v. "Mitternacht." Cf. No. 6210, above.

6693 When a duck oils his feathers, he expects rain.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. HDA II, 850, s.v. "Ente." Cf. No. 6679 above, No. 6700, below.

6694 When ducks or geese quack louder than usual, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Ducks: *Maryland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 467 (ducks quacking in the night); Whitney-Bullock, No. 473 (ducks quacking at night prophesy rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 199 (ducks quacking unusually loud) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (when ducks or geese suddenly become very noisy, without any visible reason, it is a sure sign of rain). — HDA II, 850, s.v. "Ente." Geese: *Maryland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 470 (geese cackling foretell rain); Whitney-Bullock, No. 475 (geese cackling) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 245, No. 18 (restless and noisy geese are a sign of rain [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 266 (noisy geese mean rain); No. 267 (geese will cry unusually long just before a rain). — Inwards, 187; HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6695 When a goose flies east, and walks west, rain is near.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 35 (when a goose walks east and flies west, etc.).

6696 If a guinea hen cackles in the morning, there will be rain before night.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6421, above, Nos. 6697 f., below.

6697 The screeching of the guinea fowl a great deal during the day betokens rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. All references are to guinea fowls "crying" in the afternoon. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2539 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 292 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 31. Cf. No. 6189, above.

6698 Guinea fowls squall more than usual before rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 472 (the calling of guinea fowls forebodes rain); Dunwoody, 39 (when guinea fowls scream, expect rain); also (before rain the pintados, or guinea fowls called "comebacks," squall more than usual); 109 (guinea fowls groaning at night); Garriott, 23 — *South Carolina*: Bryant, 280, No. 24 (guinea hens crying) — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 2539a (guinea hens crying at night) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 15 (guinea hens chattering incessantly) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3608 (guineas are noisy before a rain); No. 3609 (when guineas "potrack" at night, it is a sign of rain) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Grey*, No. 77 (guinea hens crying); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (guinea fowls crying continually) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 291 (guineas cry continually before a rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (when guineas suddenly become very noisy, without any visible reason, it is a sure sign of rain).—Inwards, 189.

6699 The gobbling of a turkey means rain.

Green Collection. HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6700 If you see a turkey picking the oil from under his wings, and putting it on his feathers, it is the sign of rain.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. Nos. 6679, 6693, above.

Birds

6701 When birds fly close to the ground, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 29.—HDA VIII, 1674, s.v. "Vogel."

6702 If a bird sings while sitting on a chimney, there will be rain before dark.

Anonymous.

6703 Birds singing in the morning is a sign of rain.

Anonymous. Cf. *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 17 (when birds sing until late in the evening there will be rain the next day).

6704 If land birds fly toward water, and sea birds toward land, it is a sign of rain.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Michigan*: Chamberlain, *Superstitions*, 146. Cf. Nos. 6730, 6928, below.

6705 The bobwhite calling all afternoon is always the surest sign of rain to farmers.

J. Schaffner. Cf. *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (if a bob-white calls, rain may be expected).

6706 If a bobwhite only says "Bob" once (that is, does not repeat the first note), there will be a rain.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. Cf. No. 6705, above.

6707 If bullbats fly low, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 25 (to see a large group of bullbats flying around in the air is a sign of rain) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 148, No. 23 (the bullbat flying at noon and making a deep noise in his throat is a sign of rain).

6708 If buzzards sit on trees with outspread wings, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd. *Texas*: Strecker, *Birds*, 33 (a buzzard sitting on a fence or tree and raising his wings—"airing his body"—indicates rain).

6709 To see buzzards forming Job's Coffin means rain within forty-eight hours.

Anonymous. In none of the following references is mention made of Job's Coffin, but buzzards soaring high might somehow approximate the rhomb-shaped constellation of that name. *South*: Evans, 16 (buzzards soaring high, rain); Thompson, *Buzzard*, 157 (almost all southern Negroes believe that a high-flying buzzard is a prognostication of rain) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 403 (the number of buzzards you see flying at one time, it will be that many days before rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1339 (when a great many buzzards circle about in the air, it will soon rain) — *Texas*: Turner, 171 (a buzzard's sailing high in the sky means he is getting above rain clouds).—HDA I, 1716, s.v. "Bussard" (England). Cf. No. 6929, below.

6710 When crows fly about in the afternoon late, there is going to be rain soon.

James Hawfield, Union county, and S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. Cf. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 463 (look for rain when crows fly low) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 544 (low-flying crows) — *New York*: Travis, 199 (crows flying low) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 172 (a crow flying alone warns you of approaching rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 28 (a sign of rain to see crows flying). Cf. No. 6187, above.

6711 When you hear crows cawing, it will rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *South*: Puckett, 510 (Negro) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, Grey, No. 76 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1223 (German); Rupp, 245, No. 18 (German).—HDA v, 365, s.v. "Krähe." Cf. No. 6291, above.

6712 The cawing of a crow almost incessantly during the day is a sure sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 36 (if crows make much noise and fly round and round, expect rain); Garriott, 23 (same as preceding item) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (crows unusually noisy presage rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 244, No. 13 (if, in the winter, crows congregate and scream and caw on the "summer side" [south side] of the hills, it indicates rain [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 176 (crows cawing loudly and incessantly) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (when crows make more racket than usual, the hillman expects rain in twenty-four hours or less).—Inwards, 191; HDA vii, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; Kamp, 71, No. 142.

6713 The rain crow brings rain with his calling.

Green Collection. *South*: Puckett, 509 f. (to see a "rain-crow" [cardinal grosbeak], or, especially, to hear one call, is a sure sign of rain [Negro]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 467 (hearing a rain crow [cuckoo]) — *Kentucky*: KFR, III (1957), 10 f. (rain expected when a raincrow, or yellow-billed cuckoo, calls its mournful notes repeatedly); Thomas, No. 2616 (a rain crow calling late in the evening); No. 2331 (after a drought the cry of a rain crow near a settlement is a sure sign of rain) — *Tennessee*: Bond, 6 (rain crow hollering); Burton, 4; Hatcher, 153 (rain crow hollering); O'Dell, *Superstitions*, 4; Redfield, No. 404 (the rain crow "hollering"); Rogers, *Animal*, No. 17 (hearing a rain crow hollow) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3594 (the rain crow hollering); No. 3595 (if a rain crow calls, it is calling for rain); No. 3596 (if a rain crow hollers, it will rain that day) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1018 (when a rain crow croaks expect rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1190 (the calling of the rain crow [or American cuckoo] [German]) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 (the rain-crow [or cuckoo] calling persistently) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 50; Hyatt, No. 516; No. 518 (when a rain crow calls late in the evening, rain will fall on the following day); No. 517 (hearing the cry of a rain crow after a drought) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (the name "raincrow" is given to the yellow-billed cuckoo because its cry is thought to presage rain) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, II, No. 6.

6714 The rain crow, or cuckoo (both species), is supposed by all hunters to foretell rain, when its "Kow, kow, kow," is long and hard.

An unidentified newspaper clipping, and five informants from widely separated localities.

6715 When you hear the cuckoo calling, it is the sign of rain.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 36 (cuckoos hallooing in lowlands indicate rain); Garriott, 18 (if the cuckoo is heard in low lands, etc.) — *Virginia*: McAtee, *Birds*, 176 (the yellow-billed cuckoo is a foreteller of rain; "it is also called in Virginia the rain crow, being observed to be most clamorous immediately before rain" [citing A. Wilson, *Amer. Ornith.* IV (1811), 131]) — *Tennessee*: Massey, 57 (when the cuckoo sings late of an evening, we may look for rain) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 15 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 23 — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 163, No. 10; Rupp, 245 f., No. 20 (German) — *Ohio*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 465 (if the cuckoo's cry is heard in the morning, it will rain the next day).—Inwards, 30, 192; van Gennep II, 67; HDA V, 734 s.v. "Kuckuck."

6716 If a dove coos before sunup, it will rain before three days.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. Cf. No. 6717, below.

6717 If a dove mourns, it will rain within a week.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; Green Collection. *South*: Puckett, 510 (the mourning of the dove is a sign of rain [Negro]) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 6 (when doves start to "holler" it is going to rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 209 (a dove cooing at night means rain the next day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 197 (to hear a dove cooing in a tree means rain inside of three days).—HDA VIII, 703, s.v. "Taube."

6718 The unusual screeching of a jaybird is a good sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Cape Breton Island*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 476 (the calling of the bluejay is said to foretell rain) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 167, No. 170 (the croaking of the jay [French]) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Negro-Canadian*, 621 (the squawking of bluejays [Negro]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 41 (bluejays become excited and call continually before a rain).—HDA III, 1324, s.v. "Häher"; VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6719 When owls hoot a lot, it is the sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd; Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 38, 109 — *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 11 (hoot owl: sign of rain) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2600 (an owl's hooting indicates the coming of heavy rains) — *Cape Breton Island*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 494 — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 75 (the cry of a screech owl) — *Vermont*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 494.—Inwards, 194; HDA II, 1073, s.v. "Eule." Cf. Nos. 6190, 6294, above.

6720 If you hear owls hooting in the summer time, there is going to be rain.

Eva Furr, Stanly county. Items in the preceding entry generally apply here also.

6721 An owl hooting in the daytime is a sign of rain.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 407 (if you hear a hoot owl during the day, it will rain within three days); Rogers, *Animal*, No. 32 (hearing an owl hollow in the daytime) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3618 (hoot owls hollering in the daytime); No. 3617 (when you hear a hoot owl in the morning, it will rain during the day); No. 3616 (if a hoot owl hollers in the afternoon up the swamp, it will rain; if it hollers down the swamp, no rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1341 (if an owl hoots in the day time it will rain that night) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 245 f., No. 20 (the hooting of the owl immediately after daybreak [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 443; No. 444 (if an owl hoots during the day, a heavy rain is near); No. 448 (an owl sitting on a fence and hooting); No. 445 (the hooting of an owl about two o'clock in the afternoon signifies rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (if a big owl hoots in the daytime, or calls loudly and persistently near the house at night, there will be a heavy rain within three days) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 — *Texas*: Dobie, 93.—Sébillot II, 106, No. 193; van Gennep II, 68.

6722 If a screech owl screeches after dusk, it will rain before dawn.

Emmy Lou Morton (West Virginia). Cf. *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1140 (the hooting of an owl at dusk indicates rain [German]); Rupp, 245 f., No. 20 (same as preceding item [German]).

6723 If the owl hoots in the night in summer time, it will rain.

Merle Smith, Stanley county, and Julian P. Boyd. Cf. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 408 (when you hear an owl after night, it will rain in about three weeks).

- 6724 When the peacock loudly bawls,
Soon we'll have both rain and squalls.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 14, 38; Garriott, 23 — *New York*: Travis, 199 — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 58.—Inwards, 189; HDA vii, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen" (not versified).

- 6725 When the peacock screams, rain follows.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county; Green Collection; and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 39; 109 (a peacock loudly screaming from its roost) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 469 (a peacock screeching) — *South Carolina*: Bryant 1, 280, No. 25 — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 48.—HDA vi, 1569, s.v. "Pfau."

- 6726 If quail call in the early morning, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd. *Michigan*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 490 (the quail [Bob White] is said to "call for rain") — *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (if the Mexican quail calls, rain may be expected).

- 6727 The appearance of a redbird is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Cf. Nos. 6192, 6296, above, No. 6728, below.

- 6728 When redbirds come near the house, it is a sign of rain.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. The following references all deal with the sound of redbirds as they relate to predictions of rain. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2617 (the redbird's whistle is a sign of rain); No. 2618 (when a redbird says, "Wet, wet," a heavy rain may be expected) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 406 (redbirds "hollering") — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3621 (redbirds singing in March) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 519 (redbirds sing for rain); No. 520 (you can expect rain if a redbird whistles); No. 521 (if a redbird says, "Wet, wet," look for a heavy rain).

- 6729 When robins sing on the ground, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 530 (robins singing on the ground near the house) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (if robins suddenly begin to sing near the cabin, when they are not accustomed to sing there, the housewife prepares for a shower).—HDA vii, 836, s.v. "Rotkehlchen." Only references to the place where robins sing before rain are given here; those to the various times of day when the song is heard have been omitted. Cf. No. 6297, above.

- 6730 When sea gulls fly inland, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 535.—HDA vi, 596, s.v. "Möwe." Cf. Nos. 6193, 6704, above, No. 6928, below.

- 6731 It is a sign of rain if chimney swallows are noisy.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *Iowa*: Stout, No. 537 (it is going to rain if you see and hear a group of chimney swallows flying around) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 35 (when chimney swallows circle and call, they speak of rain [Zuñi Indian]); 127 (the same); Garriott, 23 (the same as Dunwoody).

6732 If swallows stay at home and fly up and down or very low, expect rain soon.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (when birds of long flight, swallows [or others], hang about home and fly low, rain may be expected). —HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Swallows flying low before a rain is treated in Nos. 6733 f., below.

6733 If swallows fly lower than usual, skimming the ground, it is a sign of rain.

An anonymous informant; an unidentified newspaper clipping; and three informants from central and western counties. *General*: Dunwoody, 40; also (swallows flying low); also (swallows in evenings flying low); 70 (rain is indicated when: Low o'er the grass the swallows wing, / And crickets, too, how sharp they sing); Garriott, 19 (when swallows in evenings fly high and chirp, fair weather follows; when low, rain follows) — *South*: Puckett, 510 (swallows flying low in the summer time indicate rainy weather [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Rainey, 14 (swallows flying low) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 27, No. 35 (swallows flying low) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (when swallows fly low during a shower it indicates a steady downpour) — *New England*: Backus I, 501 (swallows flying low); Johnson, *What They Say*, 25 (when in the evening the swallows fly low) — *Maine and Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 592 (swallows flying low) — *New York*: Barnes, No. 4 (swallows flying low); Travis, 199 (a flock of swallows foretell rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 246, No. 22 (swallows flying low over the meadows [German]) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 359 (low-flying swallows mean rain) — *Michigan*: Chamberlain, *Superstitions*, 146 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 543 (it is a sign of rain if the swallows fly low or close to the buildings). —HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen"; Sébillot I, 184; van Gennep II, 67.

6734 Expect rain when swallows fly low over water.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 16 (swallows skimming low over the water) — *New York*: NYFQ XIII (1957), 112 (swallows flying near water is a sign of imminent rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Rupp, 246, No. 22 (swallows flying low over ponds). —Foster, 133; Inwards, 195; Sébillot I, 146.

6735 When the swallows sail around, it is going to rain.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham.

6736 If you hear a woodpecker in the morning, it will rain that afternoon.

Green Collection. *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Birds*, 10 (the woodpecker can bring rain); McAtee, *Birds*, 176 (the lumberjacks in Wisconsin called pileated woodpeckers "logcocks" and claim it is a sign of rain when they call). —Inwards, 192 f.; Udall, 244, 270; Sébillot I, 146, 205; van Gennep II, 67. Cf. No. 6737, below.

6737 If the red-headed "peck-o-woods" keeps up an unusual hammering on the girdled trees in the new ground, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 598 (a woodpecker tapping hard foretells rain) — *Penn-*

sylvania: Rupp, 245 f., No. 20 (the drumming of woodpeckers [German]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 13 (when woodpeckers make more racket than usual, the hillman expects rain within twenty-four hours).—Inwards, 192; HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

Reptiles

6738 When blacksnakes crawl on hot days, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. No. 6740, below.

6739 When you see a blacksnake, it is sign of a rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county.

6740 If snakes are seen crawling about, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (snakes are out before rain, and are, therefore, more easily killed); 73 (snakes expose themselves on the approach of rain); Garriott, 22 (same as preceding item) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 5 — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 588 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (if you can see many snakes during the day you may expect rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 14 (snakes, particularly rattlesnakes and copperheads, become very active just before a rain). Cf. No. 6738, above.

6741 If you see where a snake has crawled across the road, it is going to rain.

Grace Barbee, Stanly county. *General*: Dunwoody, 73 (snake trails may be seen near houses, roads, etc. before rain); Klauber, 1257 (if rattler tracks are many and directed to high ground, rain will be abundant) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2638 (a snake crossing your path) — *Tennessee*: Guerin, 53 (snake trails in a dusty road) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 569 (a snake crossing your path) — *Ozarks*: Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 (snake tracks foretell rain) — *Nebraska*: Pound, 168 (snakes crossing the road in unusual numbers).—Inwards, 202.

6742 If a snake dies on his back, it is a sure sign of rain.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county. Cf. *Southwest*: Jeffrey, No. 23 (a dead snake belly up will bring rain). Cf. No. 6423, above.

6743 One may cause rain by killing a snake and turning it over on its back.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Klauber, 1257 (turning a dead rattler on its back will bring rain) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2639 (to kill a snake and turn it over will cause rain) — *South Carolina*: Eartha Kitt, *Thursday's Child*, 15 (if you kill a snake, be sure you don't leave it lying on its back; it'll bring rain) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 993 (if you kill a snake and turn it over, it will rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 571 (rain will fall before sundown) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 147, No. 56 (if the dead snake stays on its back, it will rain [Spanish]) — *California*: Dresslar, 49; also (hang a rattlesnake over a log on its back, and rain will follow in three days); Klauber, 1257 (citing Dresslar). Cf. Nos. 6196, 6256, above.

6744 For rain, kill a snake and turn it belly up.

Anonymous. *South*: Puckett, 74 (Negro) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 31 (kill a snake and if it flops over with its belly toward the sky, it will rain within twenty-four hours) — *Alabama*: Browne, 3508 (rain that day); No. 3512 (if you kill a snake and hang it by the tail, with the belly out, it will cause rain at once) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 218; Brewster, *Specimens*, 367; Richmond, *Weather*, No. 20 (rain before night) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 570 — *Texas*: Dobie, 89; JAF^L LVII (1944), 221 (citing Stanley Vestal, *Short Grass Country*) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 546 (rain before sundown) — *New Mexico*: Baughman, *Sayings*, 26 (after killing a snake, especially a rattlesnake, turn its belly up toward the sky, and this will bring rain).

6745 If you kill a snake and hang it up, it will rain.

Ralph Chesson, Washington county, and three other informants from widely separated localities. *General*: Dunwoody, 109; 73 (hang up a snakeskin, and it will bring rain) — *South*: Puckett, 74 (Negro) — *Tennessee*: Burton, 4; McGlasson, 26, No. 17; Rogers, *Animal*, No. 2 (to hang a snake up by its tail will bring rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3506; No. 3503 (hang a snake and it'll rain); No. 3507 (hang a snake up, belly up, etc.); No. 3505 (hang a dead snake up in a tree); No. 3504 (if you hang a snake belly up, it will rain in three days); No. 3513 (kill a snake and hang it up in the place you want rain to fall) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 148, No. 2 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 19 — *Illinois*: Norlin, 208, No. 13 (it will soon rain) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 11, No. 23 (the higher the snake is hung, the harder it will rain); Pound, 168 (like the preceding item).

6746 All know that rain is coming, if a blacksnake can be killed and hung up.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county; Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 1 — *Kentucky*: Combs, 330 (rain within twelve hours) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3515; No. 3516 (hang the blacksnake up, head down and belly out).

6747 If you hang a dead snake with the stomach up, it is a sign of rain.

Mamie Mansfield, Durham county, and an anonymous informant. *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 106 (a rainstorm the next day). Cf. No. 6423, above.

6748 When anyone kills a blacksnake and hangs it up in a tree, it is a sign of rain.

Carrie Lee Logum, and an anonymous informant. *South Carolina*: Milling, 53 (Cherokee Indian rain charm) — *Florida*: Hurston, 393, No. 5 — *Pennsylvania*: Sener, 241 (blacksnake hung on the limb of a tree).

6749 If you kill a blacksnake and hang him in a tree, it will surely rain before sunset.

Green Collection. In none of the following examples is hanging the snake in a tree mentioned. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2641 (hanging a blacksnake up by the tail will bring rain before night) — *Illinois*:

Hyatt, No. 576 (if you kill a blacksnake in dry weather and hang it up, there will be rain before morning); No. 575 (hang a blacksnake up by the tail and rain will come before night).

6750 To bring rain, kill a blacksnake, and hang him in a tree with his belly up.

William B. Covington, Scotland county, and an anonymous informant. *Cumberland Mountains*: Shearin, 319 (to hang a dead blacksnake up head downwards will bring rain within forty-eight hours).

6751 If you hang a dead snake in a tree, it will rain. If you hang it with the stomach toward the sun, it will rain that day; if the back, it will not rain that day.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county; and an anonymous informant. In none of the following references is mention made of exposing the underpart of the reptile to the sun, nor the back part either. *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (rain in a few hours); Klauber, 1257; Knortz, 47 (if one shoots a snake hanging in a tree there will be rain) — *South*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 625 (hanging a snake on a tree with the back down will bring rain [dead snake not specified]) — *North Carolina*: Walker, 9, No. 5 (in dry weather a moccasin snake hung from a tree will bring rain; the rain will continue until the moccasin is taken down) — *Maryland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 624; Whitney-Bullock, No. 445 (a dead snake hung on a tree back downwards); No. 446 (rain within twenty-four hours) — *Tennessee and Alabama*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 624 — *Georgia*: JAFI v (1892), 231 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 992 — *Illinois*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 625 (snake hung from a tree back down) — *California*: Dresslar, 49 (the longer the snake hung in the tree, the heavier the rain).—Inwards, 202.

6752 If you kill a snake in dry weather and want it to rain, hang the snake on a limb with its belly to the sun.

W. Q. Grigg, Cleveland county. *Tennessee*: WF xvii (1958), 279, No. 49 (dead snake hung on a tree with its stomach turned toward the sky [Negro]) — *Mississippi*: Clark, 144 (turn the dead snake's belly skyward) — *Texas*: Dobie, 89 (if a snake is hung on a limb it will rain); Turner, 170 (a snake hung up with his belly to the sun; tree not mentioned).

6753 If there is a long dry spell, and you happen to kill a blacksnake, be sure to hang it up in a bush. This will make it rain.

Pearl Webb, Pineola, Avery county; L. C. Allen, Jr., Burlington, Alabama county; Esther F. Royster, Henderson, Vance county; and an anonymous informant. Cf. No. 6754, below.

6754 If you want it to rain, hang the dead reptile up in the fork of a bush where the sun can strike the scales on his belly.

Burns. In none of the following references is mention made of the exposure of the snake's underbelly to the sun. *General*: Klauber, 1257 — *South*: Puckett, 321 (rain in twenty-four hours [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Davis, 246, No. 16 (Negro) — *Georgia*: JAFI v (1892), 231.

6755 After having killed a snake, hang it on a fence, and rain will come in a few days.

W. S. Lee, Jr., Monroe, Union county. *General*: Klauber, 1257 (hanging a snake, belly up, on a fence) — *South*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 625 (hanging a snake on a fence with the back down will bring rain); Puckett, 321 (rain may be produced within twenty-four hours by turning a snake that has been killed belly up on a fence [Negro]); Wiltse, *Folk-Lore*, 207 (a snake being killed and hung up or stretched out on a fence) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 444; No. 446 (when a snake is killed, hang its body on a fence and rain will come within twenty-four hours) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 55 (if you want rain, kill a snake and hang it over a fence on its back and it will come); Davis, 246, No. 16 (Negro) — *Kentucky*: Parsley, 73 — *Tennessee*: Guerin, 53 (you may produce rain by killing a snake and hanging it on a barbed wire fence with its belly up); Hatcher, 153 (a snake hung over a fence will bring rain within three days); Page, 53; Redfield, No. 409 (if you kill a snake and hang him belly-up over a rail fence, it will rain); Rogers, *Animal*, No. 1; No. 3 (to hang a dead snake over a fence with its stomach turned toward the sun will bring rain); No. 4 (hang a snake on a fence and watch until after it is dead; if it stays on there will be rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3510 (hanging a snake across a fence); No. 3514 (kill a snake in dry weather and hang it on a fence, and it will rain the same day); No. 3509 (hang a dead snake on a fence on its back); No. 3511 (put a dead snake on a back fence) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 994 (a snake killed and hung upside-down on a wire fence will bring rain) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 19 — *Illinois*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 625; Smith II, 62, No. 10 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 30 (other hillmen try to produce rain by hanging dead snakes belly-up on fences) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 310 (if you hang a snake on a barbed wire fence with its stomach turned toward the sky, it will rain); WF, xv (1956), 60, No. 14 (a poisonous snake hung across a fence will bring rain) — *Southwest*: Jeffrey, 252, No. 23 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 646 (hanging a dead snake over the fence belly up); No. 528 (if you hang a snake over a fence, it will rain until you take it off) — *Nebraska*: Pound, 168, also (if a snake is hung on a fence on its back); also (if you hang a snake on the fence it will rain until it is taken off) — *California*: Dresslar, 49.

6756 Hanging a blacksnake skin on a fence will cause rain.

Edith Walker, Watauga county, and Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Carter, *Mountain*, 15 (a black snake on a fence attracts rain clouds); Thomas, No. 2640 — *Tennessee*: Bond, 6; Carter, 3 — *Pennsylvania*: Sener, 241.

6757 Hang up a blacksnake on a ladder, and it will rain within three days.

Joseph E. Kanipe, Asheville, Buncombe county; Annie Hamlin, Durham; Dr. E. V. Howell, Chapel Hill, Orange county.

6758 To see a terrapin crawling about is a sure sign of rain.

S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county, and James Hawfield, Union county. *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (the sluggish land terrapin is quickened by a foreknowledge of rain, and his ambling forth is hailed with hope) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 147, No. 55 (if you see very many terrapins it is going to rain).

6759 When terrapins and snakes are seen crawling across roads and other unusual places in dry weather, it is a sign of rain very soon.

Green Collection. Only terrapins are treated in this entry. For snakes crossing roads, see No. 6741, above. *Texas*: Hendricks, 14, No. 302 — *New Mexico*: Baughman, *Sayings*, 24 (terrapins crawling over the prairie).

6760 When turtles crawl to high land, rain is expected.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county.

Amphibians, Fish

6761 If a number of frogs appear late in the evening, this is a sign of rain.

Kathleen Mack, Davidson county. *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (frogs are abroad in the evening in large numbers before a rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, 529 (if frogs hop across the road at night, it will rain).

6762 The loud croaking of frogs denotes rain.

Lucille Massey, Durham county; Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Unless the intensity of the croaking is noted, the reference is merely to "croaking." *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (the louder the frogs, the more's the rain); also (frogs croak more noisily before rain) — *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro) — *Alabama*: Browne, Nos. 3601 f. — *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (if frogs croak considerably they are said to be "calling for water"); Hendricks, No. 308 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 454 (Norwegian) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 25 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (peepers [baby frogs] making a lot of noise means rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 45.—Inwards, 202; HDA I, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln"; III, 125, s.v. "Frosch."

6763 When the frogs in the pond hollo, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3603 (frogs croaking in or near branches or marshes early in the morning means a heavy rainfall).

6764 It is a sign of rain if the frogs sing at twelve o'clock.

Pearl Webb, Pineola, Avery county. Since the word "sing" is rarely applied to the noises made by frogs, and since there are no references to "singing" in the files, the present entry is being utilized to indicate the time of day that frogs croak before rain. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 422 (frogs croaking in the morning) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2521 (frogs croaking in the daytime) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 257 (if frogs croak during the day, they are calling for rain) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 72, 127 (when frogs warble, they herald rain [Zuñi Indian]). —Inwards, 202; HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6765 To kill a frog causes rain.

Minnie Bryan Farrior, Duplin county. *South*: Puckett, 321 (the low-country Gullah Negroes believe that hanging a dead frog on a tree, bush, or fence will produce rain within twenty-four hours [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Rainey, 13 (kill a frog and it will rain before morning) —

Alabama: Browne, No. 3500; No. 3501 (kill a frog, cut off its legs and hang it on a fence and it will rain that day) — *Georgia*: Dresslar, 45 (if you kill a frog, it will rain hard for three days); JAF, v (1892), 62 (kill a frog and it will rain hard for three days [Atlanta Constitution, July 9, 1891]) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 609 (kill a frog and it will rain before morning) — *Pennsylvania*: Hand, *Pennsylvania*, No. 207 (if you kill a frog it will rain the next day) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 30 (killing frogs and leaving them in the dry road produces rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 422 (if you kill a frog and leave it on its back, it will rain [Norwegian]) — *Idaho*: Lore, 205 (when Indian tribes desired rain, they killed a frog with a stone and laid it on its back) — *California*: Dresslar, 45.—Petroff, 218.

6766 Bullfrogs croak for rain after dark in dry weather.

Doris Overton, Greensboro. Cf. *North Carolina*: Whiting, 412, s.v. "Frog"-1 (a bullfrog knows more about rain than the Almanac) — *New York*: Vance, 166 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (croakers [bullfrogs] making a lot of noise is a sign of rain).

6767 When the panther frogs hollo it is a sign of rain.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county; Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; Mamie Mansfield, Durham county.

6768 To hear a rain frog hollo is a sign of rain.

Green Collection. *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1017 (a rain frog croaking) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 259 (to hear a rain frog [tree frog or tree toad] calling in a tree is a sign of rain within three days).

6769 Hear a toad-frog scream, it will rain within eight hours.

Madge Colclough, Durham county. *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 25, No. 2 (if you hear a toad frog in the morning it will rain before night) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3605 (a toad frog croaking).

6770 Tree frogs cry just before a shower.

An anonymous informant; an unidentified newspaper clipping; and four other informants from eastern and central counties. Unless otherwise stated, references are to "croaking." *General*: Dunwoody, 72 (tree frogs piping during rain indicates continued rain) — *South*: Puckett, 507 (Negro) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 423 — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 23 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 405 (when a tree frog or rain crow "hollers" it is a sign of rain); Rogers, *Animal*, 19, 28 (tree frogs holloing) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3606 (tree frogs hollering); No. 3607 (tree frogs croaking; rain within three days) — *Pennsylvania*: Brinton, 181; Fogel, No. 1191 (the call of the tree frog indicates rain [German]); Phillips, 163, No. 9 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 51 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 — *California*: Dresslar, 45.—Inwards, 203 (piping).

6771 When tadpoles are seen collecting in the shallow water near the bank of a pond, or other body of water, it will rain.

Tom Trexler, Blowing Rock, Watauga county.

6772 When many toads are seen, it is a sign of rain.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (if toads come out of their holes in great numbers, it will rain soon) — *Maryland*:

Whitney, 195 (toads coming out in the evening) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Oxford*, No. 8 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 180 (just before a rain toads travel into low places where water will stand) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 469 (if toads come around dwellings, etc. [Norwegian]) — *Kansas*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 595 (toads come out before a rain) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (as an effect of rain, thousands of toads come out of the ground) — *California*: Dresslar, 45 (if toads are seen hopping around in the daytime, there will be a rain soon).—Inwards, 203.

6773 To step on toad is sign it will rain soon.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county; Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 426 (if you tread on a toad it will rain); No. 427 (rain the next day) — *Ontario*: Waugh, 32.

6774 When fish jump from the water, or swim close to the surface, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 49 (when fish bite readily and swim near the surface, rain may be expected); 50 (fish jumping after flies); Garriott, 24 (fish biting readily and swimming near the surface) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (when fish jump from the water, it is going to rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1942, p. 23]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2511 (fish jumping above the surface of the water) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 34 (fish jumping) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3598 (if you see fish heads above water, it will rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 17 (it will rain within twenty-four hours if the fish come up for air) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 221 (fish flopping in the water); No. 224 (fish swimming near the surface); No. 225 (when fish wash their faces in a pond [come to the surface and suck], rain may be expected) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 14 (old rivermen claim that when they see a great many fish coming to the surface and "stickin' out their noses," there is sure to be a rainstorm in three or four hours).—Inwards, 198; HDA VII, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

Insects

6775 When insects are numerous, rain will come.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 57 (insects flying in numbers just at evening show a change of weather to rain).

6776 A closed ant hole indicates rain.

Anonymous. *Kentucky*: Rainey, 13 (if ants stop working and close up the entrance to their holes, look for rain) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3581 (when ants cover up their den, it will rain) — *Michigan*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 434 (if ants stop working and close the entrances to their hills, it indicates rain) — *Texas*: Turner, 170 (it is going to rain soon when ants fill their holes).

6777 If ants build up sand around their holes, it is a sign of rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 55 (If ants their walls do frequent build, / Rain will from the clouds be spilled) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 11 (if the ants' hole is surrounded by a cone, there will soon be rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1949, p. 13]); Walker, 9, No. 3 (ants carrying sand to block the opening to an ant hill [said to be Indian in origin]) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 435 (new earth about ant-hills indicates

rain); Decrow, 318 (ants building up sand around their holes) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1159 (ant hills are a sign of rain [German]) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 180 (ants prepare for rain by banking up earth about the entrance of their hills) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 464 (ants piling their mounds high).—Inwards, 204.

6778 Ants building a coop over their nests is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. No. 6777, above.

6779 When more bees enter than leave the hive, you may expect rain.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (when many bees enter the hive and none leave it, rain is near); 55 f. (when bees remain in their hives or fly but a short distance, expect rain); 56 (bees returning hastily and in large numbers are said to indicate approaching rain, although the weather may be clear); Garriott, 19 (bees remaining in their hives or flying but a short distance); 24 (a bee was never caught in a shower) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3584 (When the bees homeward fly, / Then the rain is nigh); No. 3665 (a bee is never caught in the rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 19 (same as in the present entry, with the addition, . . . because a bee is never caught in a shower); No. 20 (bees remaining near a hive foretell rain); Wheeler, 58 (bees will not swarm before a rain).—Inwards, 204; Radford, 30; HDA 1, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln."

6780 When crickets chirp louder and longer than usual, you may expect rain.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 56; 70 (when crickets sing sharp, rain is indicated) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 169; No. 168 (when you hear crickets chirping, they are calling for rain) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 147, No. 54 (crickets chirping [Spanish]) — *California*: Dresslar, 46 (if crickets sing a great deal, it is a sign of rain).—Inwards, 208. Cf. No. 6197, above, Nos. 6792 f., below.

6781 Numerous fireflies foretell rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *Philippines*: Meeker, 287 (fireflies in the house).

6782 When fireflies fly low, it will rain soon.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county.

6783 If flies gather on the porch in the afternoon, there will be rain the following day.

Anonymous. This entry includes references to flies trying to get into the house. *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1012 (when a great many flies appear around the house, expect rain) — *New York*: Boughton, 190, No. 14 (flies trying to enter a house in great numbers) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 226 (a large number of flies about the house) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 179 (the swarming of flies about doors or windows of a house indicates their attempt to find shelter from an approaching rain) — *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (flies gathering about the house or camp) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 39 (if flies try to get in, it is a sign of rain) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (flies hanging on the screen door).

6784 If flies swarm indoors or bite hard, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county, and an anonymous informant. Flies biting before a rain is treated in No. 6785, below. *General*: Dunwoody, 57 (house flies coming into the house in great numbers); 55 (flies gather in house just before rain); Garriott, 24 (flies gather in house before a rain) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 34 (flies flocking to the house) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 558 (flies crawling over the floor) — *Indiana*: Butler, 317 (flies congregating in the house) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (when flies enter the house, rain is coming).—Inwards, 207.

6785 When flies or gnats bite, there is sure to be rain soon.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. The biting of gnats before rain is treated under No. 6790, below. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 559 (flies biting sharply); Dunwoody, 57 (flies biting sharper than usual); 56 (flies biting greedily); Garriott, 21 (flies sting and are more troublesome than usual when the humidity increases before rain); 24 (flies biting greedily) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (when flies stick tight and bite, it is going to rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1942, p. 23]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 1305 (flies biting more sharply) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 34 — *Kentucky*: Rainey, 14 (flies biting more sharply); Thomas, No. 2512 (flies stinging) — *Tennessee*: Guerin, 53 (if house-flies are biting more fiercely than usual, there will be rain within a few hours); Page, 53 (flies biting harder) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 30 — *New York*: Gardner, No. 154 (when little flies keep flying on you and biting you, it is a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 228 (flies biting harder and oftener); No. 227 (flies stinging) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Insects*, 7 ("Expect rain when flies bite" was a common saying) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 179 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 38 (flies stinging); *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 (flies biting hard) — *Colorado*: Kimberle, 74; also (flies stinging) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15 f.—HDA vi, 600, s.v. "Mücke"; van Gennep II, 67.

6786 Flies being unusually bothersome means rain.

Green Collection. *South*: Puckett, 508 (when flies are especially bad, etc. [Negro]) — *Quebec*: Marie-Ursule, 166, No. 150 (when the flies are malignant, it is a sign of rain [French]) — *New York*: Gardner, No. 153 (when little flies come in and sit on cows and bother them more than usual, it is a sign of rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1207 (if flies are exceptionally annoying, etc. [German]) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 445 (when flies are bad it is a sign of rain).—HDA viii, 361, s.v. "Stechfliege."

6787 Large swarms of flying ants coming from the ground are sure signs of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (if winged ants come out and fly about, they have come forth to escape drowning, and their unfortunate kinsmen without wings will be drowned by the ensuing waterfall); Bourke, 142 (when winged ants come out of ant hills, look out for heavy showers; they come out to escape, and the wingless ants which remain in the hill are drowned [Rio Grande area]).

6788 Large swarms of gnats in the air are almost sure signs of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and five other informants, mainly from central counties. Cf. *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (many gnats are a sign of rain) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 176 (gnats know when rain is coming) — *Kansas*: WF xix (1960), 190, No. 3 (swarms of gnats indicate rain within three days).

6789 If gangs of gnats are flying early in the morning, it is a sure sign of rain.

R. S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. HDA viii, 361, s.v. "Stechfliege." Cf. No. 6788, above.

6790 When gnats and flies bite sharper than usual, rain is coming.

Green Collection. For the biting of flies before a rain, cf. No. 6785, above. *General*: Dunwoody, 14, 55, 57, 109; Garriott, 24 — *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 10. — Inwards, 208; HDA vii, 361, s.v. "Stechfliege."

6791 When the grasshoppers climb weeds, it will rain.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

6792 If locusts hollo in the early morning, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd.

6793 If night locusts cry at night, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd. *Vermont*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 477 (the cicada [commonly called locust] shrilling signifies rain). Cf. Nos. 6780, 6792, above.

Arachnids

6794 To hang up a daddy longlegs will bring rain.

Mary Scarborough, Wanchese, Dare county. Cf. *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (to make it rain tomorrow or some time later kill a daddy longlegs [granddaddy longlegs]).

6795 If a spider comes down in front of you, it is a sign of rain.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *Illinois*: Norlin, 209, No. 20.

6796 A spider coming down on its web, and not going back, means rain.

Green Collection. HDA viii, 279, s.v. "Spinne."

6797 The killing of a spider indicates it is going to rain the following day.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham, and Edward Dreyer (Louisiana). Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2648 (if you kill a spider on a rainy day, it will rain next day) — *New Brunswick*: and *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 627 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 601 (*memorat* involving a Sunday School teacher who killed a spider; whereupon the pupils warned of

a rain to spoil the picnic the next day); No. 606 (kill a spider on a rainy day, and rain will fall the next day) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Insects*, 8; also (if you kill a spider on a rainy day, there will be rain the next day).—HDA VIII, 279, s.v. "Spinne."

6798 Numerous spider webs presage rain.

Green Collection. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2377 (cobwebs on the grass are a sign of rain) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 199 (cobwebs on the grass); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 199 (cobwebs on the grass) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1167 (when the old women display their night-caps, you may expect rain [spider webs are meant] [German]); No. 1169 (cobwebs on the grass [German]) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 4 (cobwebs on the grass) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 21 (cobwebs on the grass); Hyatt, No. 596 (when there are a good many webs on the grass, rain is coming) — *Texas*: Dobie, 94 f. (spider webs indicate rain) — *California*: Dresslar, 48 (cobwebs on the grass in the morning).

6799 When spiders desert their webs, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. Garriott, 24 (if garden spiders desert their cobwebs, rain is at hand) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 598.—Inwards, 206; Radford, 252; Udal, 268.

6800 If spiders do not put out their webs, it will rain that day.

Julian P. Boyd.

6801 If there is dew on cobwebs at sunrise, it will rain before night, or by sunset.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General*: Dunwoody, 57 (spider webs scattered thickly over a field covered with dew glistening in the morning sun indicate rain); 58 (when you see the ground covered with spider webs which are wet with dew, and there is no dew on the ground, it is a sign of rain before night, for the spiders are putting up umbrellas); Garriott, 24 (same as preceding item) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 431 (spider webs over the grass in the morning mean rain) — *Nova Scotia*: Jamison, 38 (dew on the cobwebs at sunrise will bring rain at sunset) — *New York*: Boughton, 1, No. 12 (cobwebs formed by dew on the grass).—Inwards, 206; HDA VIII, 279, s.v. "Spinne."

6802 Flying cobwebs are a sign of rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (when spider webs are seen floating about in the air, farmers regard it as a sign of coming rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 545 (if a cobweb flies, it will rain within three days).

6803 Take a tick off a dog, lay it on its back under a rock, and it will rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 3761 (if you cut a tick's head off and bury its body with its back down, there will be rain).

6804 If you catch a tick, and put it on a hot stove or hot ashes, and if it pops up, it will rain that day.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county.

Crustaceans, etc.

6805 When crabs leave the water, and go on land, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 165 (rain will fall before long, if a large number of crabs [crawfish] leave the water and remain on land) — *Dominican Republic*: Andrade, 427 (crabs wandering in large numbers far from the water is a sign of rain).—HDA v, 449, s.v. "Krebs" (Tier).

6806 When there are numerous and fresh crawfish holes near water, there will be rain soon.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 50 (when crawfish heighten their holes about the surface of the ground, it is a sign of approaching rain) — *Kentucky*: Stewart, 16 (when crawfish holes are abundant, rain is coming) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 998 (when a crawfish hole is open, it is going to rain soon).

6807 When earthworms appear in large numbers on the surface of the ground, you may expect rain.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county; and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 58 (worms come forth abundantly before rain) — *Tennessee*: Guerin, 53 (when fishing or red worms [earth worms] are seen coming to the top of the ground, rain is only a few hours away) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3633 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Toronto*, No. 15 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 797 — *Texas*: Dobie, 93; Turner, 170 (it is going to rain soon when angleworms come to the surface of the ground and crawl around) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (as an effect of rain thousands of earthworms and angleworms come out of the ground).—HDA i, 952, s.v. "Bauernregeln"; vii, 613, s.v. "Regenwurm"; ix, 857, s.v. "Wurm"; Inwards, 201. Cf. No. 6427, above.

6808 When many snails come out, look for rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 58, 72 (snails moving on grass and bushes) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 566 — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (snails crawling up the sides of houses); Dobie, 88 (snails climbing up weeds, bushes, posts, etc.).—Addy, 119; Inwards, 201; Udal, 248.

PLANT INDICATORS OF RAIN

6809 The sensitive plant closes up its leaves before rain.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 68 (when the leaves of trees curl, with the wind from the south, it indicates rain); Garriott, 25 (same as the preceding item) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 727 (rain within twenty-four hours when the leaves on trees curl up) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74 (the leaves of the poplar tree curling in a wilted manner).—Inwards, 209; HDA vii, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6810 When clovers fold their leaves, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 65 (clover leaves turned up so as to show the light underside indicate approaching rain); Garriott, 25 (same as preceding item) — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1236 (rain in the next five hours) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 12 (the clover

always contracts its leaves before a rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 134 (when clover leaves turn up and their whitish underside can be seen, expect rain).—HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen."

6811 Corn standing up in straight guills is a sign of rain.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county.

6812 When corn in the field twists the blades, it will rain.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county; Zebulon Teeter (Florida). *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2378 (when corn twists up there will be rain) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 5 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 137 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 (when the upper blades of corn begin to twist, as they do in very hot dry weather, farmers predict rain).

6813 If cotton blossoms are big, it is a sign of rain.

Julian P. Boyd.

6814 When the grass is dry in the morning, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 48 (no dew indicates rain); also (in haying season, when there is no dew it indicates rain) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 28 (it is a sign of rain if there is no dew in the morning) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2495 (if there is not much dew on the ground in the morning, one may expect rain) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 5 (no dew in the morning: rain) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 22 (when a night passes and no dew falls, it is a sign it is going to rain) — *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 212 (no dew on the grass in the morning is definitely a sign of rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 179 (no dew on the grass in the morning — rain); No. 183 (if there is no dew for three successive mornings, it will rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 11 ("One old fellow told me that when tall grass is bone-dry in the morning he 'allus figgered on rain afore night'") — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 467 (it is a sign of rain if there is no dew in the morning).—Inwards, 56, 146; HDA VIII, 692, s.v. "Tau." Cf. Nos. 6325 f. above, Nos. 6872 ff., below.

6815 If grass is dry at night, there will be rain before morning.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 20 (no dew after a hot day foretells rain); 48 (if there is no dew and no wind after a fair day, rain will follow); Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1009 (if there is no dew on the grass at night, it will rain the next day) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 382 (no dew on the grass at night).—Inwards, 146.

6816 When grass is dry at morning light,
Look for rain before the night.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36.

6817 When the grass is dry at night,
Look for rain before the light.

Mary L. Walker, Durham county, and an unidentified newspaper clipping.

6818 Tobacco becomes moist preceding a rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Garriott, 21 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 478 (damp) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (the sudden flabbiness of hitherto dry and crisp tobacco leaves indicates rain) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 181 (damp).

6819 When toadstools spring up overnight, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 70; 67 (toadstools are numerous before a rain); Garriott, 25 (same as preceding item) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 718 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 (the sudden appearance of toadstools or mushrooms is regarded as a sure sign of rain within twelve hours). — Inwards, 216; HDA VII, 31, s.v. "Pilze"; VII, 605, s.v. "Regen-vorzeichen."

Trees

6820 Invert trumpet plants around the bottom of a tree in time of drought, and rain will come.

Green Collection.

6821 When the trees hang in tears, it is a sign of rain.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county.

6822 Leaves turning up so as to show the underside indicate rain.

Green Collection; Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county; the Misses Holeman, Durham county; and an anonymous informant. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1237; Bergen-Newell, 151; Dunwoody, 82 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 485 — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2663 (if you see the white on leaves when the wind is blowing, there will be rain) — *New York*: Boughton, 124, No. 13 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 726 (if tree leaves turn inside out or upside down: rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 f. (if the leaves of a tree turn up so as to show the undersides, which are usually lighter in color, the hillfolk expect a rain within a few hours) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 74. — Inwards, 209 (When the leaves show their undersides, / Be very sure that rain betides).

6823 When leaves of the trees turn wrong side out, it is going to rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Maryland*: Whitney, 196 — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 16 (tree leaves turning upside down); Miller, 67, No. 52 (when leaves turn glossy and twist upside down, it is going to rain) — *New York*: Gardner, No. 157 (tree leaves turning up) — *Pennsylvania*: Shoemaker, 6 (when the leaves turn up rain is near) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 12 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 53 (leaves turning bottom side up).

6824 Aspen trees turn up their leaves before a rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 65; Garriott, 25 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3634 (When the aspen shows the white of its leaves, / It is time for the farmer to bring in his sheaves, / For rain will come dripping from the eaves). — Inwards, 212.

6825 When cottonwood trees turn the undersides of the leaves upward, you may expect rain.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 65; Garriott, 25 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 148.—Inwards, 212.

6826 Leaves of sugar maple turning up indicate rain.

Green Collection. The Dunwoody, Garriott, and Inwards references are to "sugar maples," all other to "maples." *General*: Dunwoody, 82 (leaves turned upside down); Garriott, 25 (same as preceding item) — *Kentucky*: Stewart, 16; Thomas, No. 2664 — *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 211 (when the leaves on the maple trees are turned up and the lighter colored side can be seen, rain is forecast within twenty-four hours) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 729 — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 481 (it is a sign of rain when maple leaves turn inside out or bottom-side up).—Inwards, 211.

6827 If dead trees are heard falling in the woods, it is a sign of rain.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county, and Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 1 (when old tree snags go to falling, it will rain soon).—HDA I, 957, s.v. "Baum."

6828 Dead branches falling in calm weather indicates that rain is coming.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 82; 68 (when tree limbs break off during calm, expect rain) — *Florida*: Figh, *Rawlings*, 202 (the falling of dead limbs in the swamp is a sign of rain [citing Rawlings, *South Moon Under*, p. 291]) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 11 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 732 (dead branches falling from trees in pleasant weather) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 (if dead limbs fall in the woods, with no perceptible wind blowing, it is regarded as a sure sign of rain).—Inwards, 209; Lean I, 394. Cf. No. 6426, above.

Flowers

6829 When flowers stay open all night, or their odor is unusually strong, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. With the exception of the Ozark item, references are all to the second part. *General*: Dunwoody, 65 (when the perfume of flowers is unusually perceptible, rain may be expected); Garriott, 21 (same as the preceding item); 25 (the odor of flowers is more apparent just before a shower [when the air is moist] than at any other time) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 482 (flowers are more fragrant before rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 229 (flowers emit a stronger fragrance before a rain) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 17 (it is said that certain flowers, which ordinarily close at dusk, sometimes remain open all night; this is a positive indication that it will rain very shortly [first part of the present entry only]) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 9 (the perfume of flowers is unusually perceptible before a rain).—HDA VII, 605, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen" (the fragrance of poplar and aspen).

6830 When dandelions close their blossoms, look for rain.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 68 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 177.—Inwards, 214.

6831 The scarlet pimpernel closes up its petals before rain. It is called "the poor man's weatherglass."

Green Collection. *General*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1239; Dunwoody, 14, 67 (Scotch pimpernel); Garriott, 25 (when the pink-eyed pimpernel closes in daytime, it is a sign of rain) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 484.—Inwards, 215 (also: ploughmans' weather glass); 191 (1898 ed., pink-eyed pimpernel).

MISCELLANEOUS

6832 When women begin to visit around, you may look for rain.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. *General*: Knortz, 155 (if one sees many women on the street, it will rain) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *German* I, 45 (many women on the sidewalks in a village or town [German]); Wintemberg, *German* II, 89 (a German was heard to remark, "We are going to get rain," and when asked what made him think so, he answered, "Because there are so many women out today" [German]); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (same as preceding item) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1005 (when a great many women are seen in the street, etc.) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1166 (many women seen in the street [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 796 (a great many women on the street).—HDA VII, 606, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. No. 6168, above.

6833 The farther the sight, the nearer the rain.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *North Carolina*: Barker, 15 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67) — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 29.

6834 If sounds are heard more distinctly, and at a greater distance than usual, it is a good sign of rain.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 18 (if the noise of a steamer or railway train is heard at a great distance, rain is predicted); 19 (a good hearing day is a sign of wet); 117 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (when sound travels far at night, rain is near [*Blum's Almanac*, 1942, p. 23]) — *Missouri*: Randolph, 18 (people in some parts of Taney county, Missouri, live so far from a settlement that they do not ordinarily hear trains or motor cars or church bells; once in a while, however, they do hear these sounds, and when this happens, the people expect a good rain before many days).—Inwards, 152 (in Fortingal [Perthshire] if, in calm weather, the sound of the rapids on the Lyon is distinctly heard, and if the sound descends with the stream, rainy weather is at hand); Inwards, 141, 151.

6835 If whistles and bells sound very plainly, one may look out for rain.

Allie Ann Pearce, Colerain, Bertie county; the Green Collection; and an anonymous informant. Whistles: *General*: Knortz, 155 (if one hears a distant locomotive whistle, it will rain) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (if the sound of steam whistles are heard more plain than usual on a windless day, rain will follow [*Blum's Almanac*, 1833, p. 34; 1844, p. 3]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 26 (if you hear a train whistle miles away, etc.) — *Alabama*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1047 (a distant locomotive whistle) — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 42 (a distant locomotive

whistle) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 766 (when a far-off whistle sounds very near, etc.); No. 722 (if a train whistle is flat and coarse, etc.) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 321 (if you can hear a train whistle three miles away, it is a sign of rain [Norwegian]). Bells: *General*: Dunwoody, 106 (bells are heard at greater distances before rain) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (if bells are heard more plainly than usual on a windless day, rain will follow [*Blum's Almanac*, 1833, p. 34; 1844, p. 31]) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3656 (If loudly sounds the distant bell, / A coming rain it does foretell) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 18 (church bells may be heard at a greater distance when rain is approaching); also (a good rain before many days is expected when the faint sound of church bells is heard) — *California*: CFQ IV (1945), 27 (vibrations of tolling bells are fancied as being able to cause rain).—Inwards, 139, 151; van Gennep II, 68 (shepherds recognize that it is going to rain by the change in sound of the bells on the sheep).

6836 Heavy noises in outside air mean rain.

Elizabeth Sutton, Durham county. Cf. No. 6834, above.

6837 When chairs creak louder than usual, you may expect rain.

Anonymous. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 16 (the unusual creaking of chairs).

6838 A dry doorstep in the morning makes a wet one in the evening.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. Nos. 6814 f., above.

6839 When doors or windows begin to stick in fair weather, you may expect rain.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 195 (there will be rain, if in fair weather a door sticks to its frame and is difficult to open).—HDA VIII, 1205, s.v. "Tür."

6840 Open and shet,
 Sure sign of wet.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. For the meaning of this verse, see the Kentucky and New York entries. *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (is a sign of wet); Thomas, No. 2474 (if the clouds open before and close again, there will be rain before eleven: "Open and shet is a sign of wet") — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 28 (Sign of wet) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1029 (Sign of wet); Decrow, 318 (Open and shet, sign of more wet) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1029; No. 1030 (Sign of more wet); No. 1031 (Kind o' wet); Brooks, 309, No. 7 (Is a sign of wet) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 31 (when sunshine and clouds alternate, the saying is: "Open and shet / Sure sign of wet") — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 126 (Is a sign of wet).

6841 An opening and a shetting,
 Is a sure sign of a wetting.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

6842 If an umbrella is raised indoors, it will rain the next day.

Marjorie Rea, Craven county; and three other informants from eastern

and central counties. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 3c — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 745 (to open an umbrella in the house will bring rain) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 1188 (no time specified) — *California*: Dresslar, 63 (no time limit).—Lean 1, 394.

6843 If you hang up your coat wrong side out, it will cause rain the same day.

Thomas Smith, Zionville, Watauga county. Cf. *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1009 (if you wear any clothes wrong side out it will rain).

6844 When one's hat keeps on blowing off, it is a sign of rain. Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *Oxford*, No. 6.

6845 If all the dishes are emptied at a meal, it is going to rain. J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2607 (if you lick your plate at breakfast, there will be rain before supper) — *Ontario*: Doering, *Customs*, 151 (if all the plates at the table are emptied, etc.).

6846 If anyone brushes or sweeps up a yard very often, it is sure to rain.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county.

6847 If you see a load of barrels going by, it means rain and thunder.

J. Schaffner.

STOPPING OF RAIN, NO RAIN

6848 April showers are like woman's tears, easy to wet and easy to dry.

Green Collection. Cf. *Washington*: Tacoma, 15 (morning showers and old women's dancing do not last long).—Lean 1, 394.

6849 A sunshiny shower
 Won't last an hour.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General*: *Woman's Day*, Vol. 17, No. 10, p. 36 (a sunshiny shower never lasts an hour) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 683 (Never lasts an hour).—Lean 1, 395 (sunshine and shower, rain in an hour).

6850 A sunshiny shower
 Won't last half an hour.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (a sunshining shower won't last half an hour) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 13 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3684 (Sunshine and showers) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, Grey, No. 71 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 21 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 33 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (Just a little sunshine shower, / Only lasts a half an hour).—Inwards, 158; Lean 1, 395.

6851 If the sun sets clear on Wednesday night, there will be no rain before Sunday night.

Green Collection. Cf. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3454 (when the sun sets clear on Wednesday night, it won't rain that week). Cf. Nos. 6489 ff., above.

6852 If the sun sets red in the evening, it won't rain the next day.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county. HDA 1, 56, s.v. "Abendröte." Cf. Nos. 6144, 6346, 6350, above.

6853 When the sky is red at sunrise and gray at sunset, there will be no rain the next day; but when the morning is gray, and the evening red, there will certainly be rain the next day, as attested by the verse:

Morning red and evening gray,
Sets the traveller on his way;
Morning gray and evening red,
Brings rain upon his head.

S. G. Hawfield, Concord, Cabarrus county. References are given under No. 6449, above.

6854 If it is cloudy in the early morning, there will be no rain.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 22, 44 (If woolen fleeces spread the heavenly way, / Be sure no rain disturbs the summer day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 774 (If we have a cloudy sky, and wind from the west, do not look for rain) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114.—Inwards, 123, 135, 138, 140; HDA vi, 579, s.v. "Morgen." Cf. Nos. 6347, 6349, above.

6855 After a storm, if you can find blue sky enough to make a Dutchman's jacket, the rain is gone. Some say the garment must be an apron, or sailor's breeches.

Green Collection. Where reference is made to previous inclement weather, it is to "rain," with the exception of the first Illinois item (Allison), where a "storm" is mentioned. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (enough blue sky to make a Dutchman a jacket); 44 (enough clear sky to patch a Dutchman's breeches) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (if, after it has rained for some time, you see enough blue in the west to make a Dutchman a pair of breeches, it will soon clear off [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 392 (making a Dutchman a pair of pants) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2631 (a blue spot of sky as large as a Dutchman's trousers means that the weather will be clear) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3451 (Dutchman's breeches) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 13 (enough blue in the sky to make a Dutchman a pair of breeches) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 28 (when-ever after it has been raining you can see through the clouds enough blue sky to make a pair of Dutchman's breeches, you may know it is going to clear off) — *New York*: Boughton, 190, No. 21 (a pair of Dutchman's britches); Cutting, *Farm*, 36 (enough blue sky to make a Dutchman a pair of pants) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 34 (a patch of blue sky large enough to make a Dutchman a pair of breeches); Hyatt, No. 556 (a Dutchman a pair of britches [breeches]) — *Iowa*: Stout, No.

423 (space in the sky as large as a Dutchman's britches [Norwegian]) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 48 (a pair of Dutchman's breeches) — *Colorado*: Kimmeler, 77 (when you just don't know whether you should start off on that picnic, wait until you see enough blue in the sky to make a pair of Dutchman's breeches; then you'll know that it's going to clear up) — *California*: WF, xvii (1958), 15, s.v. "Dutchman's trousers" (a patch of blue sky after a storm, however small it may be, is said to be enough to make breeches for a Dutchman) — *Washington*: WF, xvii (1958), 184, No. 329 (if you can see enough blue sky to patch a Dutchman's breeches).—Inwards, 148; HDA I, 1375, s.v. "Blau." For other items of clothing made from the patch of blue sky, see No. 6229, above.

6856 If the quarter moon is turned up, it will not rain.

Ruth Barlowe, Ila Taylor, and an anonymous informant. Cf. No. 6857, below.

6857 A dry moon is upright, holding water in.

Mrs. Norman Herring, Tomahawk, Sampson county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 62 (if the points of the new moon are up, then, as a rule, no rain will fall that quarter of the moon) — *West Virginia*: WVF v (1954), 6, No. 2a (when the crescent moon is tipped so that it can hold water, there will be no rain) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 422 (when a new moon is hanging on tip, it won't rain for a long time, for all the water is poured out) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3675 (when the moon is lying on its back, it is full of water, but no rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1214 (if the horns of the moon are turned upwards, there will be no rain for three days [German]) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (when the crescent moon rides on its back, with the horns turned up, there will be no rain for some time. This is the moon that will "hold water," the moon a feller can "hang a powder horn on" [and not have it get wet—W.D.H.]) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 325 (if the new moon's horns point upward, it will hold water [like a bowl] and there will be little or no rain) — *Southwest*: Inwards, 93 (if the points of the new moon are up, then, as a rule, no rain will fall that quarter of the moon [Apache Indian]).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond." Cf. Nos. 6313 ff., above.

6858 Three day's rain will empty any sky.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

6859 Rain long foretold, long last;
 Short notice, soon past.

Anonymous. *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, No. 10.

6860 The large raindrops at the beginning of a storm indicate its short duration.

Green Collection; Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 475 (a rain will not continue long, if the raindrops are large); No. 476 (if raindrops are as big as quarters, it will stop raining) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 32 (large drops of rain indicate that it will not rain long).

6861 A morning rain is like the old woman's dance—soon over.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 441 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3674 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No.

1152 (morning showers and old women's dancing do not last long [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 473 (Early morning rains) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 15 (morning showers and old women's dancing do not last long).—Lean 1, 394 (morning rain and women's tears are soon over); HDA vi, 580, s.v. "Morgen." Cf. Nos. 6342, 6848, above.

6862 Rain before seven,
Clear before eleven.

An anonymous informant; an unidentified newspaper clipping; and six informants, mainly from central counties. *General*: Beckwith, *College*, No. 88; Dunwoody, 69 (If it rains before seven, / It will clear before eleven) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 381 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 58 — *Kentucky*: Price, 31 (like Dunwoody) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3449 (When it rains . . . / It will clear . . .) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 17 (verse as given; "As the old woman said, 'I never knew it to begin in the mornin' and rain all day in my life. But I've known it to begin at noon and rain all day lots of times'") — *New York*: Barnes, No. 14; Cutting, *Farm*, 35; Cutting, *Lore*, 31 — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, 1231 (German); Rupp, 244, No. 14 (German) — *Ozarks*: Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 (like Dunwoody) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 477 — *Washington*: Person, No. 339; Tacoma, 15.—HDA vi, 580, s.v. "Morgen"; ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; FFC 113, p. 55, s.v. "Rain." Cf. Nos. 6221, 6251 f., 6342, above.

6863 Rain before seven,
Fine before eleven.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. Inwards, 75, 156; Lean 1, 394; Udal, 271; ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; FFC 113, p. 55, s.v. "Rain."

6864 Rain before seven,
Quit before eleven.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county; Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 12 (rain 'fore seben [seven], quit 'fore 'leben [eleven]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 281, No. 46 — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 5 (if it rains before seven, it will quit before eleven) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 12; Miller, 66, No. 18 (Will quit) — *Prince Edward Islands, Maine*, and *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 965 (like Roberts [Kentucky, above]) — *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 211 — *Pennsylvania*: Grumbine, 284 — *Ohio*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 965 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 23 (like Roberts [Kentucky, above]) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 184 (If rain starts before seven, / It will quit before eleven—or rain all day [settler from Missouri, originally from Ohio]) — *Nebraska*: *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 — *Oregon*: CFQ v (1946), 239, No. 157 (verse; then: not true of western Oregon, where rain falls late as well as early).—ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; FFC 113, p. 55, s.v. "Rain."

6865 Rain before seven,
Stop before eleven.

Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county; and four other informants from central and western counties. *South*: Puckett, 515 (if it rains before seven, it will stop before eleven [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2475 — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 25 (if it rains . . . , it will stop . . .) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 471; Smith II, 62, No. 7 (Thunder before

seven, rain before eleven; / Rain before seven, stop before eleven).—ODEP, 531, s.v. "Rain before seven"; FFC 113, p. 55, s.v. "Rain."

6866 If you wish it to stop raining say this:

Rain, rain, go away,
Come again another day;
Little Johnny wants to play,
In the meadow on the hay.

Rain, rain, go away,
Come again another day;
Little Roy wants to play,
In the meadow on the hay.

Cornelia E. Covington (South Carolina); and six other informants from widely separated counties in North Carolina. All three references lack the last line. *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 1 (Come again some other day;) — *New York*: Millard 1, 257 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (like Wintenberg).—Addy, 118; JAFI⁸ VIII (1895), 153 (citing Aubrey, *Remaines* . . .); Lean 11, 395.

6867 To charm away the rain, children say:

Rain, rain, go away,
Little (*name of child*) wants to play.

Doris Overton, Greensboro, Guilford county. Cf. No. 6866, above.

6868

Rain, rain, go to Spain;
Rain, rain, go to Spain;
And never come back again.

Macie Morgan, Stanly county. Lean 1, 396; 11, 395.

6869 A rainbow is the sign of no more rain that day.

Louise Lucas, White Oak, Bladen county. *South*: Puckett, 515 (a rainbow seen after a rain indicates that there will be no more rain for a long time [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 52, No. 21; Thomas, No. 2615 — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 56 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3677 (no more rain that day, or out of that cloud) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 502 (it will not rain again that day). Cf. No. 6894, below.

6870 A rainbow is the sign that the rain is over.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. The rainbow as a symbol of God's covenant not again to purge the earth by flood is perhaps the basis for the common belief in the rainbow as a sign of abating rain in countries influenced by the Judaeo-Christian tradition (Genesis ix: 13-17). *South Carolina*: Bryant 1, 281, No. 42 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1031 (a rainbow after a long rainy spell is a sign the rain is over) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 72 — *Pennsylvania*: JAFI¹¹ (1889), 232, No. 7; Phillips, 162, No. 7 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 26; *Nebraska Proverbs* 1, 2 — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 44 (a rainbow in the east indicates that the rain will soon be over [Canadian Dakota Indians]). Cf. No. 6894, below.

6871 A rainbow in the afternoon means that the rain is over.

R. B. Cochrane, Buncombe county. *North Carolina*: Barker, 15 (when there is a rainbow at night, it will not rain the next day [*Blum's Almanac*, 1883, p. 34]) — *Texas*: Dobie, 97 (the rainbow is taken as a promise of no more rain); Hendricks, No. 335 (a rainbow in the east in the afternoon means the rain is finished for that day) — *Southwest*: Dunwoody, 70 (a rainbow has but a bad character: she ever commands the rain to cease [Zuñi Indian]) — *California*: Dunwoody, 71 (a rainbow in the Sierras [i.e., in the east] in the evening indicates no more rain).—Sébillot I, 347; Inwards, 159 f.; Lean I, 406.

6872 Heavy dews give no promise of rain.

Green Collection. *New York*: NYFQ x (1954), 212 (no rain that day). Cf. No. 6326, above, for further references.

6873 Dew on the grass on a summer morning means no rain that day.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3669 (if early in the morning you see dew drops on spider webs, it won't rain enough that day to break the spider webs) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 19 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 180. Cf. No. 6326, above, for further references.

6874 When the dew is on the grass,
 Rains will never come to pass.

Anonymous. In all items the reference to "rain" is in the singular. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2494 (If the dew) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 207; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 208 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 181.—HDA VIII, s.v. "Tau." Cf. No. 6325, above.

6875 If you see spider webs on trees and bushes covered with dew early in the morning, there will be no rain that day.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3679 (if you see many spider webs on the ground, it will not rain that day) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 36 (when cobwebs lie flat on the grass, no rain is to be expected) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1168 (if cobwebs on the grass are wet in the morning, there is no rain in sight [German]).

6876 If a fog comes down, there will be no rain.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3671 (if fog is falling toward the ground, there will be no rain.—Inwards, 147. Cf. Nos. 6231 ff., above.

6877 If fog falls early in the morning, it will not rain that day.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. Nos. 6232, 6254, 6359, above.

6878 If a fog goes upstream, there will be no rain.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6595, above.

6879 There is little rain in windy clouds.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Garriott, 12 (it will not rain much as long as the sky is clear before the wind) — *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 74 (wind from the southward blows clouds away; no rain [Negro]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 772 (there will be no rain if the wind is in the south and the sky is cloudy); No. 774 (if we have a cloudy sky, and wind from the west, do not look for rain).—Inwards, 124.

6880 Rain beginning with a west wind is soon over.

Green Collection. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 773 (when the wind is in the west, it will never rain).—Inwards, 106, 118; Proverbs xxv: 23 (The north wind driveth away rain).

6881 If it has been raining steadily all day, a little slack is expected about hog-feeding time.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. For the clearing off of the weather at milking time, see No. 6239, above.

6882 If chickens seek shelter when the rain begins, it will soon be over.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 35 (during a rain, if chickens run to shelter, it won't last long) — *South*: Puckett, 509 (Negro) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 969 (chickens seeking shelter during a rain) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1150 (German); Owens, 122 (when the chickens seek shelter from a storm, it will not rain long); Rupp, 247, No. 31 (German) — *Indiana*: McAtee, *Grant County*, 266 (chickens taking shelter from a rain) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 85 (when chickens seek shelter while it is raining, etc.) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (chickens seeking shelter while it is raining) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 75 (it will not rain long if chickens seek shelter).—HDA IV, 448, s.v. "Huhn"; Kamp, 65, No. 94.

6883 When the chickens pick themselves while it is raining, it is going to clear off.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2355 (when chickens fly upon something and pick their feathers, the rain is over) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3666 (when chickens jump up on the fence and start picking their feathers, you may know that the rain is over) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 88 (chickens flying upon something and picking their feathers) — *California*: Dresslar, 33 (if the chickens preen their feathers after a rain, the rain is over). Cf. No. 6242, above.

6884 If the cocks crow in the rain, it will stop raining.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 36; Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4. Cf. No. 6243 f., above.

6885 If a rooster crows during a rain, it will stop in an hour.

Martha Wall, Wallburg, Davidson county. Cf. No. 6884, above.

6886 If it is already raining, and you hear a whippoorwill singing, it will clear off and the sun will shine.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county, and Mamie Mansfield, Durham county.

6887 If a whippoorwill whistles after sundown, it won't rain that night.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3687 (when a whippoorwill sings late in the evening, you need not expect rain that night); No. 3686 (when a whippoorwill sings at night, there will be no rain for some time).

6888 If a whippoorwill hollos at night, there will be no rain.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county. Cf. No. 6887, above.

6889 When you kill a snake, be sure you leave him lying on his stomach, or it will rain.

Pearl Webb, Pineola, Avery county. For the opposite of this proposition, namely, the turning of a dead snake stomach-up, or "belly-up," as the saying goes, cf. No. 6747, above.

6890 To keep it from raining, go out with your umbrella.

Green Collection. Cf. No. 6842, above.

OTHER KINDS OF WEATHER

Floods

6891 If it thunders and rolls to the southeast, a fresh on the Roanoke is indicated within forty-eight hours.

Ralph Chesson, Washington county, and George P. Wilson, Greensboro.

6892 If the moon is three days in the sign of the fishes you may expect great floods to come.

Green Collection. *North Carolina*: Gillis, 86 (citing the present entry) — *Pennsylvania*: Owens, 121.

6893 If the new moon lies on her back, she is full of water. Look out for floods.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 60 (. . . But if she [moon] rises halved around, / Soon will tread on deluged ground).

6894 A rainbow is a token from God that we will never have another flood.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 280, No. 41 — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, Grey, No. 3 (the rainbow is a sign from God that there will not be another deluge) — *Pennsylvania*: Phillips, 162, No. 7 (the rainbow presages that no other universal deluge will ever take place).—Addy, 55; Genesis ix: 13-17. Cf. Nos. 6869 ff., above.

6895 If a cat carries her foot over her ear three times, there will be high water soon.

Green Collection. *New York*: Vance, 166 (if the cat washes both ears many times, there will be a flood).—HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze." Cf. No. 6659, above.

Storms

6896 If it is warm in January, you may look for storms.

Merle Smith, Stanly county.

6897 There's almost sure to be a storm just before or after Easter.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. *Missouri*: Randolph, 19 (Many old-timers are obsessed with the notion that there is always a big storm at Easter time. Mrs. May Kennedy McCord, of Springfield, Missouri, writes: "I have lived to be 'over twenty-one' in the Ozarks and I have never failed to see an Easter squall yet. I believe that if Easter came as late as the Fourth of July we would still have that squall. When I was a girl we used to always depend on it for our Easter picnics, and dread it").—HDA VII, 598, s.v. "Regenorakel."

6898 As the days lengthen,
 So the storms strengthen.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. Inwards, 30; HDA IV, 632, s.v. "Winter."

6899 On a stormy day, the weather between one and two o'clock is the weather for the remainder of the day.

Anonymous. Cf. Nos. 6141 f., above.

6900 When the sun sets clear on Friday, Saturday will be a stormy day.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6901, below.

6901 When the sun sets clear on Friday night, it will storm before Sunday.

Eleanor Simpson, East Durham, and Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26.

6902 If Friday's sunset's clear and bright,
 We'll have a storm by Monday night.

J. Schaffner. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 24 (prose) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 20 (prose). Cf. No. 6482, above.

6903 An eclipse portends storms.

Green Collection. HDA II, 1522, s.v. "Finsternisse."

6904 Racks across the sun before it is an hour high in the morning is a sure sign of a storm before night.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1074 (for the sun to rise and go into a cloud means a storm) — *New York*: Meeker, *Blanket*, 188 (if the sun rises and goes under a cloud when it has shone but a few minutes, it will storm before night).

- 6905 A deep, clear sky of fleckless blue,
Breeds storms within a day or two.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *New York: Cutting, Lore, 31.*

- 6906 A halo around the moon is a sign of a storm.

Lucille Massey, Durham county, and an unidentified newspaper clipping. *North Carolina: Barker, 14 (Blum's Almanac, 1922, p. 90)*; also (the number of stars within the circle shows the number of days before it will occur [*Blum's Almanac, 1883, p. 34*]) — *Virginia: WF, ix (1950), 355* (if there is a great circle around the moon, not a star within it, it will storm within twenty-four hours [Dec. 27 and 28, 1895]) — *West Virginia: Mockler, 310, No. 12* (if there is a "burr" around the moon [if its outline cannot be seen clearly], there will be a storm in less than twenty-four hours) — *Ontario: Waugh, No. 20* (the number of stars inside the ring indicates the number of days before it will rain); *Wintenberg, Waterloo, 5* (a ring around the moon) — *Illinois: Hyatt, No. 414* (a disk around the moon); *No. 411* (Ring around the moon, / Brings a storm soon) — *Oklahoma: Smith, Weather, 182* (a circle about the moon) — *Iowa: Stout, No. 522* (a ring around the moon means a storm on the ocean) — *Nebraska: Cannell, 12, No. 52* (a ring around the moon); *No. 53* (if there is a ring around the moon, it will storm within three days) — *Idaho: Lore, 199, No. 1* (circles around the moon) — *Washington: WF, xvii (1958), 185, No. 347* (Ring around the moon, / Storm before noon); *Tacoma, 17* (a circle around the moon). — Inwards, 89; Foster, 54; HDA vii, 603, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen." Cf. Nos. 6544 f., 6547 ff., above.

- 6907 There will be storms during the absence of the moon three days before and after it is new.

Green Collection.

- 6908 When stars seem heavy and bright, it indicates a storm.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *General: Bergen, Current, No. 1069* (if the stars are remarkably clear and bright, it is likely that there will be a storm the next day) — *Massachusetts: Brooks, 310, No. 13* (stars clear and bright; storm the next day). Cf. No. 6554, above.

- 6909 If the wind blows briskly from the north, and changes quickly to the northeast, a storm is apt to rise.

Anonymous. Cf. Inwards, 110.

- 6910 A storm that comes against the wind is always a thunder-storm.

Anonymous. Inwards, 168; Lean 1, 402.

- 6911 Forked lightning means the storm will soon be over.

Green Collection. Cf. *Colorado: Kimmerle, 78* (after the storm is over, you may say that the lightning really popped and cracked and just danced in the tree tops).

- 6912 A blue blaze in the fire is a sign of a storm.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Nova Scotia: Fauset, No. 112* (a blue

fire in a stove means a storm [Negro]) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, 61 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1054 (blue blazes in a coal fire) — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 319 (blue blazes in a coal fire).—HDA II, 1395, s.v. "Feuer." Cf. No. 6636, above.

6913 When you burn coconut shells, you will have a storm.

Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county.

6914 Soot burning on the back of the chimney indicates storms, and soot falling in the chimney is taken as a similar sign.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 117.—Inwards, 222; HDA, 858, s.v. "Russ." Cf. 6635, above, 7058, below.

6915 When soot burns on the bottom of pots and kettles, it is a sign of a storm.

Anonymous. *Michigan*: Chamberlain, *Superstitions*, 145.—HDA VII, 858, s.v. "Russ."

6916 Corns ache before a storm.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county. *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 60 — *Massachusetts*: Brooks, No. 6 — *New York*: Barnes, No. 63; Cutting, *Farm*, 32 — *Nebraska*: Ericson, 150, No. 14 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 ("My corns hurt; it must be going to storm").—Inwards, 217. Cf. Nos. 6207, 6414, 6641, above.

6917 When a cat lies on his head, it means a storm.

Elizabeth Sutton, Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (when cats lie on their heads with mouths turned up, expect a storm) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 29 (a cat lying on the back of its head) — *New York*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 531 (a cat lying with the back of her head turned downward); NYFQ IX (1953), 134 (if a cat lies with his head turned over, there's a storm coming) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 61 (a cat sleeping on its head).

6918 When a cat sits with its back to the fire, it is the sign of a storm.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. *General*: *Family Circle*, Jan. 1956, p. 16 — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 33 (a cat sleeping with its back to the fire); Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 67 — *Idaho*: *Lore*, 200 (a cat sitting with its tail to the fire).—Radford, 62; HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze." Cf. Nos. 6171, 6416, above, No. 7062, below.

6919 If the cats run and play, there will be a storm.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 524 (an old cat frisking about the house at night like a kitten foretells a storm) — *New York*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 524; Cutting, *Farm*, 32 (a cat's running around wildly) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 58 (when the cat runs about the house and plays, etc.). Cf. No. 6173, above.

6920 Cats carried on an ocean trip bring on storms.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county. *General*: Dunwoody, 30 (a

charm often resorted to for raising a storm is to throw a cat overboard); Knortz, 130 (if a cat eats more than usual, she will bring a storm at sea); 153 (taking cats aboard ship was to be pursued by storms) — *California*: Dresslar, 35 (if you throw a cat overboard from a ship, it will cause a storm).—Dunwoody 30 (Hungary); Knortz, 130 (British Isles and America); Radford, 62; Meeker, 287.

6921 When the cows come in from the hill at the noon hour, there is going to be a bad storm.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2383 (cows coming home in the middle of the day) — *Indiana*: Busse, 16, No. 6 (middle of the day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 162 (if cows go home in the middle of the day, there will be a severe storm); No. 161 (cows always return home before a storm).—HDA v, 768, s.v. "Kuh."

6922 Fighting hogs foretell storms.

Green Collection. *Pennsylvania*: Owens, 122 (it was the custom to keep a great number of hogs at the still-houses; these were fed on malt, and when they would fight among themselves, it foretold a storm).

6923 If you carry monkeys on an ocean trip, you will have storms.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county. *Philippines*: Meeker, 287. Cf. No. 6989, below.

6924 Before a storm sheep become frisky.

Anonymous. Inwards, 182 (all shepherds agree in saying that before a storm comes sheep become frisky, leap, and butt or "box" each other); Garriott, 23 (same as preceding item).

6925 Chickens flocking together is a sign of an impending storm.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 79 (to see a covey of chickens, especially in the morning, staying close together near a bush or under a tree as if trying to hide, means an approaching storm). Cf. Nos. 6419, 6680, above.

6926 When there are great numbers of birds flying together, a storm is near by.

Anonymous.

6927 When birds act excited, it indicates a storm.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. Cf. HDA vii, 604, s.v. "Regenvorzeichen" (rain).

6928 If seabirds fly near the land, it is a sign of a storm.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 40 (When seagulls fly to land, / A storm is at hand); also (if seagulls fly inland, expect a storm); Garriott, 24 (if sea fowls retire to shore or marshes, a storm is approaching) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1019 (when seagulls come inland there is a storm at sea) — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 32 (on Long Island

they say a storm is coming if sea gulls fly inland) — *California*: Dresslar, 29 (seagulls flying far inland; a storm at sea).—Inwards, 197; HDA vi, 596, s.v. "Möwe." Cf. Nos. 6704, 6730, above, No. 6932, below.

6929 Buzzards always fly before a storm in the direction that it is going.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. Unless otherwise stated, all references are to the buzzard's flying very high before a storm. *South*: Duncan, 235, No. 6 (buzzards [flying] 'fore a cloud, goin' uh be storm); Puckett, 510 (Negro) — *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 33 (a buzzard sailing very high) — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 57 (when a storm is coming, buzzards fly high to get above it). Cf. No. 6709, above.

6930 Wild geese passing over is a sign of a storm.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county, and Mamie Mansfield, Durham county. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 40 (when geese fly, expect storm or cold); 41 (wild geese flying over in great numbers) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 515 (if wild geese fly in zig-zag or mixed condition, there will be storms in the winter) — *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *German I*, 45 (geese flying high [German]); Wintemberg, *German II*, 89 (when geese fly high it will storm [German]); Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 4 (geese flying high) — *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26 — *Texas*: Strecker, *Birds*, 33 (restlessness of migrating geese indicates a storm).

6931 When you see a redbird, it is a sign of a storm.

Anonymous. Cf. Nos. 6296, 6727 f., above.

6932 The appearance of sea gulls indicates a storm.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county. HDA vi, 596, s.v. "Möwe." Cf. No. 6928, above.

6933 When ants go home, it indicates a storm.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 435 (when ants come out of their holes and then go back at once, it is going to storm).

6934 There is always a storm just before or after the blooming of the dogwoods.

Thomas Smith, Zionville, Watauga county.

6935 A dead calm, when sounds are louder, is an indication of a storm.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county. *General*: Babcock, 129 (A storm for every calm [citing Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*, New York: Rinehart and Co., 1948, p. 485]); Archer Taylor, SFQ xxi (1957), 87 (But this, as you sea-faring people say, was a deceitful calm, that soon ushered in a dreadful storm [citing Tobias Smollett, *The Adventures of Sir Launcelot Greaves*, 1760-61, p. 48]) — *North Carolina*: Whiting, 379, s.v. "Calm" (Always a calm before a storm) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 76 (at first there is a lull [quiet, calm] before the storm, but soon you'll realize that it's blowin' [hailin', kickin', lovin', neckin', rainin', runnin'] up a storm).—Inwards, 122; FFC 113, p. 18, s.v. "Calm."

- 6936 Sound traveling far and wide,
A stormy day will betide.

Anonymous. *West Virginia*: WVF v (1954), 6, No. 2c — *Indiana*: Richmond, *Weather*, 28.

- 6937 It is bad luck to dream of a storm.
Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county.

Winds, Cyclones

- 6938 A red sun at rising denotes wind.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 78 (if in summer the sun rises with a red sky, expect wind that day); *Woman's Day*, Vol. 17, No. 10 (July, 1954), 36 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 17 (if the sun rises red and fiery, expect wind and rain [*Blum's Almanac*, 1844, p. 3]) — *Colorado*: Kimberle, 78 (an unusually red sunrise is a sign of a windstorm).—HDA I, 56, s.v. "Abendröte"; VIII, 45, s.v. "Sonne."

- 6939 A yellow sunset presages wind.

Ted Caldwell, Chapel Hill, Orange county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (a bright yellow sunset indicates wind); 48 (light yellow sky) — *North Carolina*: Barker, 16 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1890, p. 44).—Inwards, 81; 79 (pale sunset).

- 6940 A red sky at sunset indicates windy weather.

Ella Parker, Mt. Gilead, Montgomery county, and Marie Edwards (Texas). *General*: Dunwoody, 78 (a very red sky in the east at sunset indicates stormy winds). Cf. No. 6941, below.

- 6941 When the sun sets real red, it is the sign of wind.

Autie Bell Lambert, Stanly county. Unless otherwise stated, all references are to the sun's setting "red." *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 279, No. 14 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 428 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3493 — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1001 — *Nebraska*: *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 2 — *New Mexico*: Moya, 66, No. 6 (if the sun sets behind red clouds, it is an indication that it will be windy the following day [Spanish]).—Inwards, 81 (blood red); HDA I, 55, s.v. "Abendröte."

- 6942 An eclipse portends winds.

Green Collection.

- 6943 A red sky indicates much wind.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 78 (if red extends far upwards, especially in the morning, it indicates wind).—HDA I, 56, s.v. "Abendröte."

- 6944 A mare's-tail is a sign of wind.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 15 (a cloud called a gray mare's tail forebodes wind).—Inwards, 132 f.; Lean I, 403 (Mares' tails. A peculiar modification of the cirrus, indicating wind). Cf. Nos. 6945 f., below.

6945 A mare-tailed sky, with ragged edges pointing up, forbodes wind.

Green Collection. There being no reference to fit the present entry, it is being used to document a well-known verse involving not only mares' tails, but also mackerel scales, as treated in the next entry. (These entries are additional to those given under No. 3475, above, where wind was discussed in connection with sailors.) *West Virginia*: WVF v (1954), 6, 2d (Mackerel scales and mares' tails, / Make lofty ships carry low sails) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3693 (the same, except: mare's tails). The point of the verse, of course, is that with the cloud formations being as they are, high wind is indicated, and the ships must take in sail. Webster defines a "mare's-tail" as "a spreading cirrus cloud resembling a horse's tail." "Mackerel scales" are listed as a variant of "mackerel sky," which is defined as "a sky covered with rows of clouds, alto-cumulus or cirro-cumulus, resembling the patterns on a mackerel's back."

6946 Mackerel sky,
The wind'll be high.

G. W. Allen, New York University. Cf. HDA ix, 812, s.v. "Wolke." Cf. Nos. 3475, 6945, above.

6947 A sky with herringbone clouds means wind.

Emmet Reed Albergotti (Virginia). The scales and hatching on a mackerel's back have a herringbone effect, with chevron-like stripes of alternating dark and light colors.

6948 Trace in the sky the painter's brush,
The winds around you soon will rush.

Anonymous. Inwards, 132.

6949 Hard-edged, oily looking clouds indicate wind.

Anonymous. Cf. No. 6950, below.

6950 Black clouds with light streaks indicate hard winds.

Julian P. Boyd. *General*: Dunwoody, 42 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 12 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1890, p. 44) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 78 (big black oily clouds in the southwest are a sign of windstorms).

6951 If there is a light streak across the sky, the wind will be blowing in that direction the next day.

Anonymous.

6952 The upper clouds moving in a different direction from the under clouds brings a change of wind.

Anonymous.

6953 There will be winds during the absence of the moon three days before and three days after it is new.

Green Collection. HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond."

6954 When sailors see a ring around the new moon, they think there is going to be a sou'wester.

G. B. Caldwell, Jr., Monroe, Union county. Inwards, 89; HDA vi, s.v. "Mond."

6955 Whichever way the Milky Way is pointed at night, the wind will be the next day.

Anonymous. *Arkansas*: Randolph, 30 (folk living near Fayetteville think that the set of the Milky Way shows the direction of the prevailing wind for a month in advance) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 182 f. (the direction of the wind the following day can be forecast by the direction the Milky Way extends across the sky; there are "more stars" in the direction from which the wind will blow). Cf. No. 6956, below.

6956 The way of the "milkmaid's path in the sky" will determine the way of the wind the next day.

Julian P. Boyd. *Nova Scotia*: Fauset, No. 81 (the direction of the Milk Maid's Path points to where the wind is coming from); No. 84 (Milk Maid's Path, at night with clouds, runs east and west. Clear between banks of clouds. If southern side of path is dark, look for rain. Totter north, gales of wind, enough to strip the mast of her canvas [Negro]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 370. (For further references to the "Milk Maid's Path," though not in connection with wind, see Fauset, Nos. 82 f.) Cf. No. 6955, above.

6957 The direction of a falling star determines the direction of the wind the following day.

Anonymous. *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3491 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 30 (the angle at which a star falls somehow indicates the direction of the wind which will arise next morning) — *Nebraska*: Ericson, 153, No. 4 — *Manitoba*: Wallis, 44 (if a small star is seen falling, the direction taken by it heralds a wind going in the same direction [Canadian Dakota Indians]).—Kamp, 34, No. 26; HDA viii, 474, s.v. "Sternschnuppe." Cf. No. 6958, below.

6958 Expect wind from the direction in which shooting stars are seen.

Green Collection. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1072 — *Nova Scotia*: Creighton, 103, No. 22; Fauset, No. 79 (the way the stars shoot [falling stars], the wind will be next day) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 618 — *British Columbia*: Boas, 219, No. 415 (shooting stars show the direction in which the wind will blow the following morning [Kwakiutl Indians]).—Inwards, 101; HDA viii, 474, s.v. "Sternschnuppe." Cf. No. 6957, above.

6959 Whichever way the echo of the surf sounds, is the way the wind will blow.

Anonymous.

6960 When the sea roars in the north, the wind will change to the north.

Anonymous.

6961 When the sea roars in the south, the wind will change to the south.

Anonymous.

6962 Where the wind blows from on the twentieth of March will be the direction of the prevailing winds until equinox.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 100 (whatever point of the compass the wind is on the first Thursday in March, that will be the prevailing direction of the wind for that season).—Inwards, 69. Cf. No. 6327, above.

6963 A wind on Ash Wednesday will continue in that direction all of Lent.

Green Collection. Inwards, 70; Lean 1, 377; Radford, 24; HDA 1, 621, s.v. "Aschermittwoch."

6964 A shift of wind on Saturday seldom lasts until Sunday.

Anonymous.

6965 When the wind's in the east,
It's neither good for man nor beast.

Green Collection, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 21, 85; 87 (Wind in east, neither good for man or beast); 84 (an east wind brings no good to man or beast) — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3495 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 386 — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 28 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 33 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 14 — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 12, No. 57 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 78 (It ain't fit for man or beast).—Inwards, 117; Lean 1, 399; ODEP, 712, s.v. "Wind's in the east"; FFC 113, p. 68, s.v. "When the wind is in the east."

6966 Wind from the east
Is bad for man and beast.
Wind from the west
Is softest and best.

Lucille Massey, Durham county.

6967 When the wind is in the east,
It's good for neither man nor beast;
When the wind is in the north,
Old folk should not venture forth;
When the wind is in the south,
It blows the bait in the fishes' mouth;
When the wind is in the west,
It is of all the winds the best.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. First stanza: *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 386 (Sailors don't go forth).—Inwards, 114 (You mustn't go forth). Second stanza: *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 385 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 99 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 33 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 757. Cf. No. 7752, below, *passim*.

6968 The cold wind blowing through an open door is said to be a stepmother's breath.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county.

6969 If there is lightning under the North Star, there will be north winds.

Anonymous.

6970 Lightning in the north at night is a sign of a north wind the day following.

Anonymous.

6971 When there is lightning in the northwest at night, which continues to flash for several minutes without entirely disappearing, there will be a blow from that direction or the opposite direction the following day.

Anonymous. Cf. Inwards, 104.

6972 If, while placing wood in the stove, sparks fly out, the wind will soon blow.

Anonymous. *New England: Johnson, What They Say*, 26 (when the fire sparkles and snaps, expect wind).—Inwards, 221 (coals . . . when they quickly cast off and deposit their ashes).

6973 Expect a strong wind with stormy weather when smoke from chimneys hangs near the ground.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *North Carolina: Barker*, 17 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67).

6974 Combing the hair at night makes the wind blow.

Anonymous. Cf. Radford, 230 (to cut hair during a calm at sea will provoke fierce winds).

6975 If one washes his feet and throws the water out, the wind will blow in the direction that the water is thrown.

Anonymous.

6976 If one hears a water witch during the day, there will be a hard wind.

Anonymous.

6977 Cats running and playing is a sign that windy weather is soon to follow.

W. Q. Grigg, Cleveland county. *General: Dunwoody*, 30 (when a cat happens to be more frisky than usual, sailors say that the cat has a gale of wind in her tail) — *Quebec: Marie-Ursule*, 167, No. 184 (when the cat plays a lot, it is a sign of a strong wind [French]) — *New England: Johnson, What They Say*, 24 (if you see an old cat running and playing and feeling good, it is a sign the wind is going to blow) — *Massachu-*

setts: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 532 (cats frolicking) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 61 (expect high winds and a storm when a cat is frisky and dashes about wildly). Cf. Nos. 6277, 6281, above, No. 6978, below.

6978 When the cat runs about the house, and plays, it is a sign of high winds.

Mildred Peterson, Bladen county, and Fawn Watson, Robeson county. *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 419 (when a cat runs briskly up and down the floor, the wind is going to change) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2350 — *Connecticut*: Backus, *Weather*, 26.

6979 If a cat runs up poles and jumps off, there will be a hard wind.

Anonymous. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 62 (a cat will begin to play and run up trees before a big windstorm).

6980 The cat will tell how the wind blows; she always faces into the wind when she washes her face.

J. Schaffner. Cf. *Kansas*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 513 (a cat washing her face before the fire foretells a windstorm).—Dunwoody, 30 (in some parts of England a popular name for the stormy northwest wind is "the cat's-nose").

6981 When a cat sharpens its toenails, the wind will shift.

Anonymous.

6982 If you see a cat sharpening his claws, you know that the wind the next day is going to be from the direction in which he is facing.

Julian P. Boyd.

6983 Cats carried on an ocean trip bring wind.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 508 (a black cat, kept under a pot, will detain a vessel by causing adverse winds).—Radford, 62 (for a cat to be frolicsome on board a ship presages a gale of wind in their tails and rain in their faces); HDA iv, 1111, s.v. "Katze."

6984 Cattle will move north in the afternoon, if the wind is going to change.

Anonymous.

6985 Drink cow's milk and you can see wind.

Green Collection. This is most likely an extension upon the belief that drinking the milk of a sow will confer the gift of seeing the wind. On this, cf. No. 6986 below.

6986 Hogs see the wind.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 33 (if swine be restless and grunt loudly and squeal and jerk up their ears, there will be much wind; whence the

proverb: "Pigs can see wind") — *South*: Puckett, 505 (hogs can see the wind [Negro]); also (if a person wishes to see the wind, he must drink some sow's milk [Negro]); 505 f. (if a person wishes to see the wind he should put a little of the water that runs out of the corner of a pig's eye into his own eye [Negro]) — *North Carolina*: JAFI xi (1898), 290 f., "How Come the Pigs Can See the Wind" (animal tale [Negro?]); Whiting, 479, s.v. "Sow" sb-2 (Suck a blue sow and see the wind; also various other references) — *Maryland*: Bergen, *Burial*, 24 n. 1 (Negroes on the Eastern Shore of Maryland believe that swine can see the wind and that a human may also see the wind if he will suck a sow); Whitney-Bullock, No. 1273A (pigs see the wind) — *South Carolina*: JAFI viii (1895), 252 (it was a common belief of plantation Negroes of the old régime that pigs had the gift of seeing wind, in the form of flames of fire [Negro]) — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 3398; No. 3399 (if when you kill a hog, you put water from his eye into yours, you will be able to see the wind); No. 3400 (if you drink a sow's milk, you will be able to see the wind) — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 3 (Negro) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3379 (suck an old sow, and you will have the power of seeing the wind) — *New York*: Vance, 166 (pigs) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 2086 (pigs); No. 2087 (suck a nursing sow's tit, etc.) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 30 (a boy rubbing sow's milk in his eye can see the wind). — Addy, 67; Foster, 125; Gregor, 130; Inwards, 183; 156 (1898 ed.); Radford, 189; ODEP, 500, s.v. "Pigs see wind"; HDA vii, 1483, s.v. "Schwein" (smell the wind).

6987 A dream of a white horse is a sign of a hard blow.

Anonymous. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 487 (to dream of horses is a sign of wind).

6988 Horses, cows, and pigs running, kicking, and being especially playful is a sign of wind.

Green Collection. Horses: *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 570 (horses race before a wind) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 113 (if horses snort and jump about, a "norther" is due). Cows: *New York*: Boughton, 74 (when cows run back and forth across the field with their tails out straight, there will be a windstorm) — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 178 (cattle know of the approach of a norther, and give signs of it by their restlessness and tendency to drift) — *Texas*: Dunwoody, 30 (when cattle hasten to timber, expect a "norther"). Pigs and Swine: *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3490 (when pigs won't go to sleep at night and are uneasy, it is a sign that the weather will be windy). — Inwards, 183 (swine, terrified and disturbed by wind). For pigs carrying hay, sticks, and straw in their mouths before, squealing, and otherwise carrying on, see No. 6287, above. Cf. No. 6178, above (hog).

6989 If you carry monkeys on an ocean trip, you will have wind.

L. B. Brantley, Zebulon, Wake county. *Philippines*: Meeker, 287 (carrying monkeys upon a voyage will cause a storm). Cf. No. 6923, above.

6990 When ducks fly around and light, they will stop with their backs to the point from which the wind will blow on the following day.

Charles R. Bagley, Moyock, Currituck county. Cf. Inwards, 187.

6991 If geese seem restless in the pond, it is a sign of hard winds.

Anonymous. Cf. Sébillot I, 142, 365.

6992 The flying of tame geese is a sign of hard winds.

Anonymous. Cf. *New York*: Travis (geese [wild] flying high) — *Texas*: Strecker, *Birds*, 33 (the honk of the wild goose leader indicates that he is warning his flock to fly before an approaching "Norther").

6993 The wind is going to blow when buzzards fly high.

Anonymous. *Texas*: Strecker, *Birds*, 33 (several turkey buzzards circling at great height predict the coming of a "Norther").—Cf. HDA I, 1716, s.v. "Bussard" (England: rain and storm).

6994 Killdeers flying over, singing, is a sign of wind.

Green Collection. Cf. *Maryland*: JAFI IV (1891), 171 (the cry of the killdeer plover is said to call up the wind) — *Texas*: Strecker, *Birds*, 33 (the "quaily" of the field plover is uttered only when the birds are racing before a "Norther"). Cf. No. 6293, above.

6995 Owls hooting in a tree foretell a north wind.

Anonymous. *Texas*: Dobie, 93 (owls are said to be particularly weather wise in the fall of the year, when they are regarded by some people as almost infallible in prophesying wet northers even several days ahead) — *Northern Plains*: Wilson, *Gourd*, 163 (the Mandan-Hidatsa impersonate the owl, weather prophet, in a gourd rattle used during the Bear Ceremony; this rattle, covered with an owl skin, was shaken while a song was sung "to force the wind to blow" [citing, Martha Warren Beckwith, *Mandan-Hidatsa Myths*, MAFS, XXXII, 1938, p. 259]). Cf. Nos. 6294 f., 6719, above.

6996 If the robins fly low,
 The wind will blow.

Anonymous. Cf. Nos. 6297, 6729, above.

6997 If swallows stay at home, and fly up and down, or very low, expect wind soon.

Anonymous. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 14 (when birds of long flight [swallows or others] hang about home and fly low, wind may be expected) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 27 (when chimney swallows flock out in great numbers, and dart about high in the air, diving and whirling in great excitement, there is soon to be a high wind).—Inwards, 186.

6998 If wasps come out and fly into the house, the wind will come from the north.

Anonymous.

6999 Blackberry blossoms bring an east wind.

Mrs. Maude Minish Sutton, Lenoir, Caldwell county.

7000 When a distant object appears very near, high wind is to follow.

R. B. Edwards, Belhaven, Beaufort county.

7001 When the wind blows leaves and dust into little whirlwinds, if you get a rusty nail and drive it into the ground with a hammer, you are sure to have good luck. (However, it is impossible to do so, because the whirlwind is forever moving on.)

Louise Bennett, Middleburg, Vance county. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 33 (There is an old story to the effect that when a farmer sees a cyclone coming he should run into a field and stick his knife into the ground, with the edge of the blade toward the approaching cloud. The knife is supposed to "split the wind," so that his dwelling and barn will be spared. This notion is widely known in the Ozarks, and it is said that it is still practiced in Carroll county, Arkansas. I know a lot of backwoods people in Carroll county but have never found a man who would admit having done such a thing himself. Several of them have told me, however, that such "foolishment" is common among their neighbors). —HDA I, 745, s.v. "Axt, Beil." The connection of this item with witchcraft and devil lore can be seen by comparing Nos. 5602, 5770, above. For a good survey of travel in a whirlwind, and the use of sharp instruments to harm the creature traveling, see Archer Taylor, *The Black Ox*, FFC 70 (Helsinki, 1927); for spitting into a whirlwind, see Seligmann II, 209; for the sticking of a knife into the mast to bring wind, see No. 3472, above. Cf. the Florida item cited in No. 7002, below.

7002 When the sea has a heavy swell, a cyclone is pending.

Anonymous. JAFI LII (1939), 123 (Sponge fishermen at Tarpon Springs [Florida], on seeing the funnel of a cyclone, carve a cross on the ship's mast and stick a knife into it. This saves them from the fury of the storm. The person performing the charm is committing a sin, but there is no hesitation in resorting to this charm when in danger).

Lightning, Thunder

7003 Sudden heat brings thunder.

Unidentified newspaper clipping. *New York*: Boughton, 190, No. 27. —Inwards, 168.

7004 An extremely hot day is usually followed by a thunderstorm.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 118 (thunderstorms almost always occur when the weather is hot for the season). —Cockayne III, 281; Inwards, 167 f.

7005 A storm that comes against the wind is always a thunderstorm.

An anonymous informant and an unidentified newspaper clipping. Inwards, 110, 168; Lean I, 402. Cf. No. 6910, above.

7006 If cattle flock to their home in the summer, it is sign of bad thunderstorm.

Julian P. Boyd. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 79 (if cattle run around, expect thunder); also (if cattle run around and collect together in meadows, expect thunder).

7007 Never be near a dog during a thunderstorm, as he is a conductor of lightning.

Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county. *South*: Puckett, 48 (a dog coming into the house during a storm will "draw lightning" [Negro]) — *North Carolina*: Mooney, 100 (dogs draw lightning, and one must drive the dog out of the house during a thunderstorm); Walker, 8, No. 6 (dogs attract lightning and should not be allowed in the house during electrical storms) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 (dogs are always put out of the house during a storm because "dogs' tails draw lightning") — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 71 f. (backwoods families try to drive the hounds away from their cabins during a thunderstorm, in the belief that "a dog's tail draws lightning").

7008 The hair of a dog draws lightning.

Furman Bridgers, Wilson, Wilson county. All references are to dogs' drawing lightning, without mention of the dog's hair. *South Carolina*: Bryant II, 147, No. 66 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3390 — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 148, No. 6 (to prevent lightning from striking the house, drive wet dogs out) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1262 — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, Grey, No. 52.

7009 A horse or mule draws lightning.

Green Collection. *South*: Puckett, 48 (it is dangerous to be around a wet horse during an electrical storm, because it draws lightning [Negro]) — *South Carolina*: Bryant II, 147, No. 66 — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 12 (the eyes of horses and mules draw lightning; Negroes will not stay in the field and work these animals during a thunderstorm) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, Grey, No. 52 — *Indiana*: Busse, 14, No. 10. — Moya, 116; HDA VI, 1631, s.v. "Pferd."

7010 If you kill a toad-frog, thunder will be sure to strike you.
O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county.

7011 The first thunderstorm in March wakes up the alligators.
Julian P. Boyd.

7012 The first thunder in spring awakens the snakes.

Louise Lucas, White Oak, Bladen county. *Tennessee*: Page, 53 (the first thunder in February always wakes up the snakes). Cf. No. 7290, below.

7013 If a 'possum (terrapien) bites one, he will not turn "aloose" till it thunders.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county. All references are to the terrapien. *South*: Davis, 245, No. 3 (a "cooter" [terrapien] will hold on until it hears thunder [Negro]); Puckett, 45 (when a terrapien grabs you, he will never let go until it thunders [Negro]) — *Georgia*:

Steiner, No. 120 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 (if a terrapin latches onto you, etc.).

7014 If a turtle lays hold of one's toe, it will not let go until thunder is heard.

Louise Lucas, White Oak, Bladen county. In only the first Kentucky reference is mention made of a bite on one's toe. *Cumberland Mountains*: Shearin, 319 (if a turtle or a "water-dog," a species of fresh-water newt, lays hold of one's toe, it will not release it until thunder is heard) — *South Carolina*: Bryant I, 282, No. 72 (a turtle biting one) — *Kentucky*: Price, 33 (a turtle catching your toes); Thomas, No. 3763 (a turtle biting) — *Tennessee*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1032 (a turtle biting you); Frazier, 48, No. 32 (a turtle biting you); Miller, 69, No. 38 (a turtle biting a person) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3758 (a turtle won't let go a hold until it thunders) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1478 (a turtle biting you) — *Maine*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1032 (a turtle biting you); Speck, *Penobscot*, 276 (if a turtle bites a person he will not let go until the thunder sounds again [informant heard belief expressed in Indian language when he was a boy (Indian)]) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 632 (a turtle biting one) — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 213 (a turtle will not loose its hold until it hears thunder) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 52 (a turtle biting); Hyatt, No. 1642 (a turtle biting your finger); Smith II, 63, No. 31 (a turtle snapping at you) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 253 (there is an old saying that once a turtle bites a man, it never lets go until a clap of thunder is heard, but I don't think anybody really believes such an obvious falsehood) — *Texas*: WF, xv (1956), 60, No. 7 (a turtle biting you); Hendricks, No. 36 (a turtle biting someone); Turner, 172 (a turtle biting a person) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 616 (a turtle biting you any place) — *Western Plains*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 632 (a turtle biting one [Omaha Indians]) — *New Mexico*: Baylor, 148, No. 70 (a turtle taking hold of your finger [Spanish]) — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 (a turtle grabbing a hold of you).

7015 If a snapping turtle bites you, he will not let go till it thunders.

Green Collection; Ella Smith, Yadkin county; Edith Walker, Watauga county. *General*: Bergen-Newell, 152 — *California*: Dresslar, 49.

7016 A crawfish will hold on until it thunders.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *South*: Davis, 245, No. 3 (Negro); Puckett, 45 (Negro) — *Kentucky*: Price, 33 (if a crawfish catches your toes, it will hold on till it thunders); Thomas, No. 3678 (same as the preceding item) — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 204 (don't ever let a crawfish get hold of you because they won't turn loose till it thunders) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 1302 (a crawfish pinching one of your toes, etc.); Wheeler, 68.

7017 Beech trees are never struck by lightning.

Anonymous. *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Waterloo*, 3 (the author quotes the well-known German verse: Vor den Eichen sollst du weichen, / Vor den Fichten sollst du flüchten, / Doch die Buchen sollst du suchen [freely translated: 'avoid the oak; flee the spruce; seek the beech']) — *Pennsylvania*: Ericson, *Tarboro*, 121 (the beech tree is a protector against lightning [Coatesville (Pa.) *Advocate*]).—Inwards, 211; Lean II, 416; HDA I, 1692 f.; Sébillot, Vol. 3, 381.

7018 If during a shower of rain, the lightning sets anything on fire, the same shower of rain will not put the fire out, but if the shower halts, and another shower starts, it will put the fire out.

Julian P. Boyd.

7019 Be sure to put out fire so it will not attract lightning.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. There are contrary views on this matter; hence the foreign references are given with supporting text. *Ozarks*: Randolph, 71 (it is said that lightning strikes a cookstove, but has never been known to strike one with a fire in it).—HDA III, 824, s.v. "Gewitter" (in Bohemia and Brandenburg people believe that a fire in a hearth must be put out when there is a thunderstorm; otherwise the fire will attract lightning); Lean II, 416 (lightning does not strike a house in which a fire is burning on the hearth [citing Thorpe, *Northern Mythology* III, 183]).

7020 There is a belief that every flash of lightning is accompanied by a thunderbolt, something similar to a madstone. It is said that if you can find one of these, thunderbolts you can put it away in your house and lightning will never strike your house. One old horse doctor had one of these magic things, which he kept in a trunk in his home. It was claimed that his stone would remain perfectly calm until a thunderstorm would begin to make; then it would begin to howl and mourn and stir about in a most restless manner, but lightning never struck near the old man's house.

Green Collection. *Ontario*: Wintemberg, *German* I, 45; Wintemberg, *German* II, 92; Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 3 (a survival of the mediæval belief that stone axes and celts were thunderbolts is still current among Germans in some parts of Ontario. They are called *g'witter-schtee*, and sometimes *g'witter-* or *dunner-keidel*, literally meaning 'lightning-stone' and 'lightning-' or 'thunder-wedge'; the latter name refers to the general form of these implements. They are supposed to be the cause of the splintered condition of a tree struck by lightning. Several years ago a cow belonging to a man in Waterloo county was struck by lightning, and the man dug a hole in the ground where the animal was killed to see if he could find the thunderbolt. Another belief these people have is that if one of these stones has a string tied around it and it is then put in the grate of a stove, it will prevent lightning from striking the house. It is also claimed that one of these stones may be tied to a string and the string set on fire, and the stone will not fall to the ground, although the cord may be charred and easily broken) — *Maine*: JAFI II (1889), 230 f. (thunder spirits are supposed to shoot bolts down to earth; to find one of these bolts is considered by the Passamaquoddies as the greatest of good luck; when they find a tree demolished by lightning, they always dig among the roots for one [Indian]); Speck, 20 (to find a "thunder stone" used by the thunders as missiles [flint or meteoritic stones] or to dig one out of the ground was thought to bring very good luck [Penobscot Indian]) — *New York*: JAFI IV (1891), 167 (some people regarded celts, or deer-skinners, as thunderbolts [Indian]) — *Pennsylvania*: Brendle-Unger, 29 (he is as slow as a *schneck ruwer en brochfeld* [snail crossing a fallow field] and is a fitting person to search for the *dunnerschtee*, thunderstone, which is to be found at the place where lightning struck the ground seven years before [German]); Brinton, 180

(the stone arrowheads left by the aboriginal population were sometimes pointed out as "thunderbolts," formed or deposited where the lightning struck the ground) — *New Mexico*: Espinosa, 414 (thunderbolts never harm small children; in times of storm people take children into their arms for protection [Spanish]) — *West Indies*: JAFI xxviii (1915), 78 (celts drop from the skies during thunderstorms); 79 (celts are produced by thunderstorms, dropping from the sky and penetrating the earth to a depth of seven feet); also (celts reappear on the surface of the earth after seven years, a period of time which never varies); 80 (to determine if a stone is a "proper thunderbolt," tie a thread firmly around the middle of the celt, then suspend it over a lighted candle or the fire; if the thread does not burn or break, the thunderbolt is genuine [all entries Negro]).—Radford, 239; Gallop, 59; Kamp, 36, No. 39; HDA I, 1024 ff., s.v. "Belemnit"; II, 325 ff., s.v. "Donnerkeil"; Feilberg III, 1122, s.v. "vættelys."

7021 If you work on Ascension Day, lightning will strike the place where you work.

Green Collection. *Ontario*: Knortz, 98; Wintemberg, *German* I, 46; Wintemberg, *German* II, 92; Wintemberg, *Waterloo*, 3 (If you do any work on Ascension Day, lightning will always surround your home. An Alsatian woman once made an apron on that day, after which lightning always seemed to hover around her house. She mentioned this to a friend, who told her that on the approach of a thunder shower she was to hang this apron on a stake in the garden. She did so and the lightning struck it and burned it to a crisp [German]) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1288 (lightning will strike anything on which you worked on Ascension Day [German]). For lightning striking in connection with sewing on Ascension Day, see No. 3281 f., above.—HDA III, 826, s.v. "Gewitter."

7022 If you talk or move about when it is thundering and lightning, you will be hurt.

Esther F. Royster, Henderson, Vance county. HDA III, 823, s.v. "Gewitter."

7023 If you pray when there is a flash of lightning, your house will not be struck.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *Ontario*: Doering-Doering, 66 — *New Mexico*: Espinosa, 414 (New Mexican people pray to avoid being struck by lightning [Spanish]).—HDA I, 1416, s.v. "Blitz"; III, 828 f., s.v. "Gewitter."

7024 Lightning never strikes twice in the same place.

The Misses Holeman, Durham county. *North Carolina*: Whiting, 437, s.v. "Lightning"—6 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 1258 — *South Carolina*: Bradley, 83; Bryant I, 281, No. 59 — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 47 — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 37 (old people believed that lightning would not strike in the same place twice) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3395 (therefore it is safe to stand under a tree that has once been struck by lightning) — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1048 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Beliefs*, No. 188; HF vi (1947), 72, No. 10 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 527; Hyatt, No. 358; Smith II, 63, No. 32 — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114; Hendricks, No. 332 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 (all people seem to agree that lightning does strike, but never twice in the same spot).—Inwards, 171; Radford, 163.

7025 A looking glass is turned to the wall during a thunderstorm to avoid drawing the lightning.

Green Collection. *New Brunswick*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1408 (the looking-glass is often turned with the face to the wall, or taken out of the room during a thunderstorm, because "quicksilver is so bad to draw lightning") — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 326 (mirrors attract lightning; so cover them during thunderstorms).—HDA ix, Suppl. 571, s.v. "Spiegel."

7026 If one will get on a feather bed during a thunderstorm, lightning will not strike him.

Mary O. Pruette, Charlotte. *North Carolina*: Brewster, *Customs*, 249; Mooney, 100 (feathers draw the lightning, and one must keep away from them during a thunderstorm [contrary view]) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 42 (if you sit on a feather bed during an electrical storm, etc.); Thomas, No. 2691 (sitting on a feather bed) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 37 (old people believed lightning would not strike within the vicinity of the feathers) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3394 (lie down on the bed during a lightning storm, especially a feather bed; the clinching argument about the effectiveness of this insulation is always the question: "You never saw a chicken struck by lightning, did you?") — *Louisiana*: Roberts, No. 1049 (sitting on a feather bed) — *Massachusetts* and *Ohio*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 1098 (lying on a feather bed) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 341 (sit on a feather bed, etc.); No. 342 ("What my mother would do when she would see a big storm coming up that was taking up trees by the roots, she would make us children all sit on feather pillows so the lightning would not hit us"); Wheeler, 68 — *Texas*: Davidson, No. 63 (feather pillows will protect you from lightning) — *Iowa*: Stout, No. 549 (lightning will not strike one if he is sleeping in a feather bed (Scotch-English)).—HDA ii, 1282, s.v. "Feder."

7027 A flint carried in the pocket will prevent one from being struck by lightning.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. No. 7020, above.—HDA ii, 1437, s.v. "Feuerstein"; Wilson, *Amulet*, 145, No. 1.

Hail, Snow

7028 There will be as many snows during the winter as the number of days in the month in which the first snow fell.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county. Cf. *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 9 (whatever day the first snow of the year comes on, there will be that many snows that year); 70, No. 68 (when the first snow comes, count the age of the moon; if it is five days old, there will be that many snows).—HDA vii, 1274 f., s.v. "Schnee."

7029 If there are white and dark streaks under a rain cloud, there is hail.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. *General*: Dunwoody, 43 (dusky or tarnish-silver colored clouds indicate hail).—Inwards, 127.

7030 Yellow under a thundercloud denotes hail.

Elsie Doxey, Currituck county. All references are to green clouds as indicators of hail. *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 85; *Nebraska Proverbs* I, 1 — *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 72.

7031 If there is snow before Thanksgiving, there will not be many snows during the year.

Anonymous. Cf. *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 72 (it always snows on Thanksgiving).

7032 Feathery clouds mean snow.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 44 (if, in winter, the clouds appear fleecy, with a very blue sky, expect snow).

7033 When the clouds look snowy or white in winter, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). *General*: Dunwoody, 47 (if on a fair day in winter a white bank of clouds arises in the south, expect snow).—Inwards, 114, 136; Kamp, 36, No. 43.

7034 Cumulus clouds, clustered together, light and curled, presage heavy winter snow.

J. Frederick Doering, Durham. *Ontario*: Doering-Doering I, 61 (when cumulus clouds are clustered together and are particularly bright and fluffy, heavy snows will occur the following winter) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1192 (cumulus clouds on Jacob's day [July 25] foretell deep snow in winter [German]).—Inwards, 138.

7035 A halo predicts sleet or snow, and the open side of the halo shows which direction it will come from.

Green Collection. All references are to snow, and to a lunar halo. *General*: *Woman's Day*, Vol. 17 (July, 1954), p. 36 — *Maryland*: Whitney, 196 (when there's a halo around the moon, it will snow in as many days as there are stars visible within the halo) — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 31 (two rings around the moon mean snow in forty-eight hours); Thomas, No. 2583 (the presence of two rings around the full moon brings snow within twenty-four hours) — *Tennessee*: TFSB xvii (1951), 63 (a circle around the moon means snow [an idea worked into a poem, "Falling Weather," by Emma Bell Miles]) — *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 995 (a disk or ring around the moon) — *Pennsylvania*: Fogel, No. 1248 (a disc around the moon [German]) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 419 (it will snow in twenty-four hours, if there are two circles around a full moon) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 15 (a ring around the moon); Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 (a white circle about the moon tells of snow) — *Texas*: Bogusch, 114 (if the moon has a large ring at night, etc.) — *Washington*: Person, No. 347 (Ring around the moon, / Snow comes soon); Tacoma, 21 (ring around the moon); also (disc).—HDA vi, 519, s.v. "Mond" (frost).

7036 When stars flicker in a dark background, snow follows soon.

Anonymous. *General*: Dunwoody, 73; 74 (excessive twinkling of stars

indicates very heavy snow); Garriott, 28; also (excessive twinkling of stars, as in the preceding Dunwoody item) — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 19 (the excessive twinkling of stars means snow).—Inwards, 98.

7037 A sundog is sign of snow.

Eunice Smith, Pantego, Beaufort county. *Maine*: Speck, 33 (sundogs are a sign of snow in winter [Penobscot Indian]).

7038 There will be snow during the winter for every fog in August, the size of the snow depending on the density of the fog.

William B. Covington, Scotland county; three other informants from central counties; and one anonymous informant. In none of the following references is there mention of the density of the fog, but, unless otherwise stated, merely of the number of fogs. *General*: Dunwoody, 52 (So many fogs in August we see, / So many snows that year will be) — *Virginia*: Dober, 16 — *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 28 (there will be as many snows during winter as there are foggy mornings in August); Thomas, No. 2447 (as many foggy mornings in August) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 205; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 206; Frazier, 38, No. 6 (heavy fogs in August mean heavy snows in winter); McGlasson, 26, No. 19 (the number of foggy mornings in August); Miller, 67, No. 30 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3720 (for every foggy morning in August) — *New York*: Boughton, 189, No. 4 (the number of heavy fogs in August foretells the number of heavy snows during the following winter); Cutting, *Farm*, 42 (the number of heavy fogs in August is a sign of number of heavy snows in winter) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 243 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 23 — *Oklahoma*: Smith, *Weather*, 177 (the number of heavy fogs in August foretells the number of heavy snows). Cf. No. 6074, above, No. 7077, below.

7039 There will be as many snows during the coming winter as there are fogs the first twelve days of August.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. Cf. No. 7038, above.

7040 As many dews as you see in August will be the number of snows you will see during the winter.

Rosa Efird, Stanly county, and Edna Whitley.

7041 When the air stings, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

7042 If it clouds on a white frost, it is a sign that it will snow.

Green Collection, and Julian P. Boyd. *Tennessee*: Guerin, 54 (when it "clouds up on a frost" it will snow for sure).—Inwards, 163.

7043 If it thunders in winter, there'll be snowstorms in nine (ten) days.

Mrs. Nilla Lancaster, Goldsboro, Wayne county; Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, Halifax county; and five other informants from widely separated localities. *North Carolina*: Barker, 18 (thunder and lightning during

Christmas week signify much snow for the remainder of the winter [*Blum's Almanac*, 1943, p. 56]. — *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2409 (if it thunders in February, there will be snow in May) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 67, No. 41 (snow in nine days) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 706 (thunder in February is the sign of snow in May) — *Kansas*: Dunwoody, 79 (thunder during Christmas week indicates that there will be much snow during the winter). Cf. Nos. 6055, 6269 ff., 6411 f., above, and Nos. 7080 f., below.—Inwards, 69; HDA II, 322, s.v. "Donner."

7044 When some of the snow from a snowstorm remains on the ground a long time, it is waiting for more.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county; Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county; Edith Walker, Watauga county. *New England*: Backus I, 501 (when the first snow which falls remains on the ground until the next snow, there will be no more bare ground that winter).

7045 A lingering snow,
 Waits to catch more.

Green Collection.

7046 Large snowflakes at the beginning of a storm indicate its short duration.

Green Collection. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 31 (when it begins to snow, notice the size of the flakes; if they are large, the storm will soon be over) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 581 (large snowflakes are a sign that the snow will not last long) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 82 (large flakes; it is going to stop snowing).

7047 Fire burning a blue haze indicates snow.

Anonymous. HDA II, 1395, s.v. "Feuer."

7048 When the fire is “cracking snow,” it is the sign of snow.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county, and W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county. All references are to "crackling," not "cracking." *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2509 (the crackling of the fire with a fluffy sound as if snow were falling into it indicates the coming of snow) — *Tennessee*: Frazier, 38, No. 8 (when the five crackles so that it sounds like the crunching of snow underfoot, it is a sign of snow) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3717 (to hear a crackling in the fire is a sign of snow soon) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 220 (if a fire crackles gently like the falling of hard granular snow, you will soon see a snowstorm of this type). Cf. No. 7050, below.

7049 A wood fire in the fireplace sometimes gives out a crunching sound, a purring noise in the hot ashes or coals on the hearth. Then the old folks say, "It is treading snow" and one looks for stormy weather.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 109 (when the fire crackles lightly, it is said to be "treading snow") — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 491 (if a fire makes a dull crunching sound, it is "treading snow," and snow will come in a day or two) — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 1055 (when wood on a fire makes a peculiar hissing noise, it is said "to tread snow," and there will soon be a storm); Brooks, No. 10

(same as preceding item) — *Arkansas*: Randolph, 25 (deer hunters think that if an autumn campfire spits and sputters more than usual, it means that a snowstorm is not far off; the firewood, they say, is "stompin' snow") — *Texas*: Hendricks, No. 320 (when wood on the fire makes a peculiar hissing noise, it is said to "tread snow," and there will be a storm). Cf. Nos. 7055 f., below.—Inwards, 221.

7050 When the fire "pops snow," that is, makes a sound like the crunching of snow under one's feet, it is a sure sign it will snow soon.

R. T. Dunstan, Greensboro; and five other informants from central and western counties, mainly. In none of the following references is the popping of the snow likened to the crunching of snow underfoot. *General*: Dunwoody, 75 — *Kentucky*: Fowler, No. 1562a (a fire popping and cracking) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 192 (a wood fire popping and sputtering); Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 193 (same as preceding item); Miller, 66, No. 4; Rickard, 8 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 15 (firewood popping and sputtering); Smith II, 62, No. 13 — *Missouri*: Randolph, 25 ("If your wood fries an' sings an' pops an' cracks, it's a sure sign that snow is a-comin'"). See No. 7048, above.—Inwards, 221.

7051 The fire popping out beyond the hearth is a sign of snow.
Mamie Mansfield, Durham county.

7052 It's a sign of bad weather, usually snow, if the fire sizzles as though water has been dropped on it.

Edith Walker, Watauga county. *Maryland*: Whitney, 196 (when fire fizzes, it is blowing for a snow).

7053 Spitting fire is a sign of an early snow.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. No time element is mentioned in any of the following references. *Kentucky*: Roberts, *Floyd County*, 53, No. 29; Thomas, No. 2508 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3719 — *Indiana*: Busse, 17, No. 33 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 219 (a spitting fire is a sign of snowy weather).

7054 During the winter when the fire makes a sputtering noise, there is going to be a snowstorm soon.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *General*: Dunwoody, 119 (woodfire coals frequently snuffing during the winter months foretell snow) — *Tennessee*: Farr, *Riddles*, No. 192; Farr, *Superstitions*, No. 193 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 15.

7055 If the fire makes a soft treading sound, snow will soon fall.

Jessie Hauser, Pfafftown, Forsyth county. *Kentucky*: Carter, *Mountain*, 17 (when a wood fire sputters and purrs, it is tramping snow, and one may expect a heavy snow by next morning) — *Georgia*: Steiner, No. 58 (to hear a fire make a noise like a woman walking in snow is a sign of snow) — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 17 (when the fire sounds like someone walking in the snow, there will be snow soon). Cf. No. 7049, above.

7056 When the fire "treads snow," it is a sign of snowfall.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county, and an anonymous informant. *South*: Evans, 16 (Negro); Puckett, 513 (Negro). Cf. Nos. 7049, 7055, above.

7057 When the fire gives a whistling sound, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

7058 Soot falling is a sign of snow.

Lida Page, Nelson, Durham county. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 594 (soot falling to the ground in winter foretells snow). Cf. Nos. 6635, 6914, above.

7059 If candles, lamps, or fires snap and flicker, snow is at hand.

Green Collection.

7060 When rheumatism is better, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. *Colorado*: Kimmerle, 77 ("My rheumatism is acting up again; it must be going to snow" [contrary idea]).

7061 When animals are playful, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. No. 6277, above.

7062 If a cat lies down with its back to the fire, snow will follow.

Green Collection, and Eleanor Simpson, East Durham. *Tennessee*: Rogers, *Animal*, No. 26. Cf. Nos. 6171, 6416 f., 6918, above.—Inwards, 179; HDA IV, 1108, s.v. "Katze;" Sébillot II, 106, No. 186.

7063 When a duck goes along, picks up straw, and throws it over its back, snow will fall.

Anonymous.

7064 When wild birds fly south, it will snow.

Zebulon Teeter (Florida).

7065 When snowbirds come near your doors for feed, it is a sign of snow.

Lucille Cheek, Chatham county; Elizabeth Janet Cromartie, Garland, Sampson county; Zebulon Teeter (Florida). Cf. *New Hampshire*: McAtee, *Birds*, 176 (the snow bunting forecasts snow) — *New York*: Barnes, No. 13 (if snow-birds in the winter fly low and look white, they mean more snow) — *Illinois*: Wheeler, 58 (snow is said to be coming when snow-birds are seen hopping about).

7066 Snowbirds feeding in the road is a sign of snow.

Carl G. Knox, Leland, Brunswick county. Cf. No. 7065, above.

7067 The infallible sign of the great white visitor (snow) is when the sparrows swarm about the house to feed.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. HDA VIII, 251, s.v. "Sperling."

(This observation seems too common to have been noted in the literature.)

7068 Dry leaves rattling in the trees mean snow.

Green Collection. *General*: Dunwoody, 75.—Inwards, 209.

Frost, Ice

7069 If a killing frost is coming, it is usually expected in the last quarter of the moon.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county. Cf. No. 7070, below.

7070 Moonlight nights have the heaviest frosts.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county. *General*: Dunwoody, 54 (the hardest frosts) — *West Virginia*: Mockler, 311, No. 16 — *North Carolina*: Barker, 13 (*Blum's Almanac*, 1923, p. 67) — *Michigan*: WF XIII (1954), 283 (citing the Santa Monica *Evening Outlook*, Feb. 18, 1954).—Inwards, 88.

7071

Clear moon,
Frost soon.

B. U. Brooks, Jr., Durham county, and an anonymous informant. *General*: Dunwoody, 21 — *West Virginia*: Mockler, 311, No. 15 — *New York*: Cutting, *Farm*, 37 — *Wyoming*: Walton, *Weather*, No. 18.—Inwards, 88; Lean 1, 386.

7072 A still winter's night with clear sky and twinkling stars is a sign of heavy frost.

Anonymous. Cf. *Newfoundland*: Bergen, *Current*, No. 988 (if the stars are large and bright, it portends frost in winter) — *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Grey*, No. 81 (stars shining clear and bright in the fall) — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 65 (a clear winter sky means frost); Hyatt, No. 619 (large bright stars in winter mean frost the next morning) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 21 (same as the preceding Illinois item). Cf. Nos. 6264 f., above.—Kamp, 34, No. 27.

7073 A very hard freeze never occurs on dark nights.

Anonymous.

7074 If water freezes before Christmas hard enough to bear a duck, it will not do so after Christmas.

Anonymous. Cf. *North Carolina*: Barker, 14 (if ice will bear a man before Christmas, it will not bear a mouse after Christmas [*Blum's Almanac*, 1948, p. 56]). Cf. No. 6105 above.—Lean 1, 382 (if the ice will bear a goose before Christmas, it will not bear a duck after); also (if there is ice that will bear a duck before Martlemas [Martinmas, Nov. 11], there will be none that will bear a goose all the winter); also (if the ice bears a man before Christmas, it will not bear a mouse after); also (If ducks do slide at Hollandtide [All Saints, Nov. 1], / at Christmas they will swim).

7075 The number of white frosts in February indicates the number of frosts there will be in the following May.

Lucille Massey, Durham county. Cf. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2416 (if it freezes on February 22, there will be forty more freezes) — *Ontario*: Waugh, No. 27; Wintenberg, *Waterloo*, 5 — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 251 (same as the preceding item).

7076 Following numerous fogs, a real "foot-and-finger" freezing may be expected.

Unidentified newspaper clipping.

7077 Fog in March; frost in May.

Eva Furr, Stanly county, and Merle Smith, Stanly county. *Ontario*: Wintenberg, *Waterloo*, 5 (for every fog in March there will be a frost in May). Cf. Nos. 6074, 7038, above.—Inwards, 46; Udal, 265.

7078 Three white frosts all in a row
Ends either in frost or snow.

Green Collection.

7079 There are six months between frosts.

Green Collection.

7080 If it thunders in February, there will be frost in May.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2410 (if it thunders on a certain day in February, there will be frost on that day in May); No. 2412 (if it thunders on the last day of February, there will be frost on the last day of May) — *Tennessee*: McGlasson, 26, No. 13; Frazier, 37, No. 1; Burton, 4; Redfield, No. 452 (if it thunders in February there will be a frost that time in May) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3713 (thunder in February, frost in April); No. 3714 (for every time it thunders in February, it will frost on the same date in April) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 708 (the day upon which it thunders in February will be the date of a frost in May); No. 710 (if on the last day of February you hear thunder, you will see a frost on the last day of May); No. 707; No. 709 (thunder on the 6th of February signifies a frost on the 6th of May) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 23 (I have known old-timers in Carroll county, Arkansas, and in Taney county, Missouri, who believe that thunder in February always means frost on the corresponding date in May; that is, if it thunders on February 12, there'll be a frost on May 12, and so on); Wilson, *Folk Beliefs*, 160 — *Texas*: Turner, 171. Cf. Nos. 6055, 6269 f., 7043, above.—HDA II, 322, s.v. "Donner."

7081 As many times as it thunders [in February] there will be just so many frosts in May.

Mrs. Gertrude Allen Vaught, Alexander county. *Kentucky*: Thomas, No. 2411; Stewart, 16 — *Tennessee*: Redfield, No. 451; Page, 53 (for every thunder in February there will be a frost in October); Miller, 66, No. 15 — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3712 (when you hear thunder in February, there will be frost in April the same number of times it thunders) — *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 711 — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 23 (some

people contend that there are always as many frosts in May as there are thunderclaps in February, but do not insist that the dates must correspond exactly).

7082 After the first dove calls in the spring, there will be no more killing frosts.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county. Cf. *Illinois*: Hyatt, No. 744 (after a turtledove has called in the spring, there will be no more frost).

7083 The first whippoorwill heard in the fall measures ninety days until frost.

R. B. Cochrane, Buncombe county.

7084 Country folk are certain that when the bellow of the first green frog is heard, the frost is at last out of the ground.

Burns. *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 18 (when you hear the first frogs in the spring, you may know the frost is out of the ground) — *Washington*: Tacoma, 20 (same as the preceding item).

7085 The first time you hear a chatter fly, it will be only three months until frost.

Virginia Bowers, Stanly county.

7086 If a dry fly hollos in July, frost will be ninety days off.

Eleanor Simpson, Durham.

7087 In July the weather wise kept their ears open for the voice of the first frost fly. For ninety days from that night the first frost will come.

O. W. Blacknall, Kittrell, Vance county.

7088 There will be a frost three months from the time of the first July fly.

Zilpah Frisbie, Marion, McDowell county, and Mamie Mansfield, Durham county.

7089 There will be frost in three months from the time of the first horsefly.

Kate S. Russell, Roxboro, Person county.

7090 Six weeks after you hear the katydid, look out for frost.

Green Collection; W. J. Hickman, Hudson, Caldwell county; Burns. *General*: Dunwoody, 54 — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 504 — *Kentucky*: Carter, *Mountain*, 14 (katydids beginning to call) — *Tennessee*: Carter, 2 (katydids beginning to call) — *New England*: Johnson, *What They Say*, 17 — *Massachusetts*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 617 (it is just six weeks from the first day on which the katydid sings to the first frost) — *New York*: Barnes, No. 17; Cutting, *Farm*, 39 — *Indiana*: Brewster, *Specimens*, 367 (the katydid's cry); Richmond, *Weather*, No.

19 — *Illinois*: Bergen, *Animal*, No. 617; Hyatt, No. 328 (to hear a katydid singing in August is a sign that there will be frost within six weeks) — *Ozarks*: Randolph, 22 (In some parts of Arkansas and Missouri the farmers expect the first frost exactly six weeks after the katydids' singing begins. There is a very general notion that katydids sing to bring on cold weather in the fall. A writer in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* [Aug. 25, 1936] says that the katydids "can sing for frost, and get it in about two weeks," but the old-timers say that it can't possibly be done in less than six weeks) — *Nebraska*: Cannell, 13, No. 89 (the katydid first singing) — *Colorado*: Kimmmerle, 71 (Listen for katydids; when you hear them, its only six weeks till the first killing frost) — *California*: Dresslar, 51 — *Washington*: Tacoma, 20.

709I Three months from the time the first katydid chirps it will frost.

Maybelle Poovey, High Point, Guilford county; and four other informants from eastern and central counties. *General*: Dunwoody, 57 (katydids crying [South]) — *Maryland*: Whitney-Bullock, No. 503 — *Kentucky*: Price, 30; Thomas, No. 2557 (ninety days, or three months, after the first katydid is heard, there will be frost) — *Tennessee*: Miller, 66, No. 16 (katy-dids starting "hollerin'"); Page, 53 (katydid singing); Redfield, No. 414 (after the first katydid "hollers"); Rogers, *Animal*, No. 16 (exactly ninety days until frost) — *Alabama*: Browne, No. 3707 — *Mississippi*: Hudson, 147, No. 18 — *Illinois*: Allison, No. 57 (ninety days until frost) — *Wisconsin*: Brown, *Insects*, 7 (frost after ninety days) — *Missouri*: McKinney, 105 (three months after the first katydid is heard the first frost is expected [author heard many Ozark wives tell husbands that in three months he would have to get up first in the morning to build the fire]); Randolph, 22 (Mr. Elbert Short, of Crane, Missouri, says that it was always three months to the old folks in his neighborhood. Whatever the period, nearly all Ozarkers feel that there must be something in the katydid-frost theory. I know many hillfolk who listen for the katydids and arrange their agricultural schedules accordingly, and I have interviewed very few old-timers who did not believe in this sign to a certain extent).

7092 The first katydid you hear in July, on the same day of the month in September you will have frost.

Julia E. Self (Florida).

7093

Many hips and haws ;

Many frosts and snaws.

Green Collection. Cf. *General*: Dunwoody, 89 (A haw year, / A snow year).—Inwards, 214 (as in the present entry); 212 (When the hawthorne has too many hawes / We shall have many snows); 28 (A haw year, / A snow year).