

WEATHER BUREAU TO BE READY IN ANOTHER MONTH

It is hardly likely that the local weather station, to be established in the Berks County Trust building, will be ready to take observations and receive telegraphic reports before about the middle of November.

Forecaster C. J. Doherty stated on Thursday that few of the supplies for the station have been received up to this time, although most of them have been completed and are now being tested in Washington.

Mr. Doherty has been spending considerable time during the fine autumn days in studying conditions in the mountains and country surrounding the city. When the weather station is opened he says that a close watch will be kept upon conditions following a rapid melting of the snow in the mountains and heavy rains, and the office will be able to forecast some time in advance just what the flood or freshet conditions will be.

One of Fifty Stations.

The equipment for the local station will approximate a cost of \$10,000, and the expense of maintenance will be about \$10,000 annually.

Reading's station, of which there are only 50 of a similar high class in the country, will be the same as those in New York, Chicago and Philadelphia.

The machinery will be of the kind now in use in the modern stations located all over the country. Reading will be one of three new stations to be established within a year. There are about 200 in the service, but only 50 of these will have the service Reading and vicinity will receive.

The local branch will be in charge of C. J. Doherty, recently located at Savannah, Georgia. He comes here with a wide experience and is well equipped for his new field of duties.

Assistant Observer.

The assistant observer will be Frank T. Cole, a former York man, who comes here from the Lexington, Kentucky, Weather Bureau office. He has been at Lexington for the past two years, having gone there in September, 1910, from Washington, where he had been temporarily assigned upon being appointed assistant observer on May 1, 1910.

High School Boy to Assist.

Charles O. Shich, 116 South Eighth street, aged 17 years, has been appointed student assistant observer, upon the recommendation of Principal Birch, of the Boys' High School, where the young man is a student. This will constitute the force for the present.

Sunshine to Be Registered.

The instruments which will record the various weather observations will be stationed on the roof of the building. An anemometer will record the velocity of the wind. A sunshine recorder will register the sunshine for every minute. There will be a rain gauge to record the beginning, amount and rapidity of rainfall. A wind vane will show the direction of the wind. All these instruments will be connected with a recorder in the office by cable, so that every reading and observation may be taken right in the office without going on the roof.

There will be a thermometer on the roof. A telethermograph which is a self-recording thermometer by means of electricity will show the temperature down in the office.

There will be maximum and minimum thermometers and wet and dry bulbs showing the dew point and humidity in the air.

The office will have two mercury barometers to be measured to the one-thousandth part of an inch; also an aneroid barometer.

There will be a complete set of instruments in the office similar to the apparatus on the roof for exhibition and explanation to visitors; and also to replace the instruments on the roof should any of them become out of order or while they are being cleaned.

Telegraph Reports.

There will be telegraph reports on observations to be taken at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m. and at other times when necessary. They will be received from 100 stations and placed on the forecast map. These will be prepared to show at a glance to the forecaster the prevailing conditions over the country at large at 9.30 a. m. and 9.30 p. m.

"From these telegraphic reports the local forecast for Reading and vicinity will be made and this will be distributed as widely as possible in this section," declared Mr. Doherty.

"Arrangements will be made with local telephone companies and newspapers to give the forecasts wide publicity.

"Daily forecast cards, about 500 in number will be printed at the weather bureau office here and distributed by mail, these to be mailed before 11 a. m., to rural postmasters and business men in the city upon request who will display them for the benefit of the public."