

Man's Weather?

It used to be moaned that everybody talked about the weather but nobody did anything about it.

There is a growing belief among scientists these days that it is perhaps very well nobody did anything about the weather any sooner. Tinkering with the elements in recent years, it is claimed, has messed things up.

Even if one doesn't go along with this theory, a case can be made. And the argument is not based only on the imbalance of weather in the last few years. Our area's weather this year, however, would make a fair case just by itself.

But many scientists are now convinced that the world's climate is steadily and fundamentally changing. They claim to detect new patterns in the weather. Some believe a new Ice Age

may be approaching.

Other experts predict the most severe drought in the lush Farm Belt next summer since the great Dust Bowl drought of the 1930s. They base this not on a long-range climate change but on studies of 20-year solar activity cycles, which are believed to have a relationship to weather patterns.

Just how much of the weather changes can be attributed to human intervention in the forces of nature has long been a subject of lively debate. The use of air conditioning, for instance, has raised the average summer temperatures of densely-populated areas.

The widespread use of aerosol spray cans and the increase levels of carbon dioxide are suspected of adding to the amount of ultraviolet radiation reaching the earth's surface through the ozone layer above, to unknown weather consequences.

And 5 per cent of the country's

Looking Backward

In August 1947:

Dave King, South Virginia Street resident, was having a hard time proving a car which was stolen from him and found in Indiana really belonged to him. The fellow driving the car had the original bill of sale and claimed he bought it in Cadiz. Mr. King found he had only the carbon copy of the original bill of sale. To make matters more difficult one of the digits in the motor number was changed.

Bennettstown Notes—"Mercy! But the weather is hot! It is pretty, though. The recent rains have left refreshed vegetation and all the late summer flowers along the waysides are so colorful and pretty—purple pokeberry, scarlet trumpet flowers, white Queen Anne's lace, blue ragged robins, yellow honeysuckle and dozens of others."

Bobby Moseley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moseley of East 7th Street, celebrated his birthday with a picnic on Little River Wednesday. Guests were Jimmie King, Sammy Lander, William Powell Leach, Mack Leach, Albert Wilson Sisk, Ray Van Arsdale, William Boyd Major, Michael Brockman, Ed Moseley Jr., Edward Major, Louis Moseley, David Purdy, Bobby Lynn Lacy and Walker Moseley.

territory was affected last year by federal rain-making and other weather modification projects, such as fog clearing operations at airports and hail-suppressing efforts. The purpose is beneficial and the projects limited in scope, but no one is really certain what all the side-effect of such tinkering may be.

Several prestigious scientific studies in the past few years have concluded that the earth's climate seems to be cooling down. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported a drop of half a degree in average ground temperatures in the Northern Hemisphere between 1945 and 1968. A Columbia University study of satellite photos indicated a sudden large increase in Northern Hemisphere snow cover in the winter of 1971-72.

Maybe man's tinkering with the weather and the terrain have made our section of Western Kentucky more humid than it once was. If so, we wish man would stop. It's bad enough just being hot.