

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
WEATHER BUREAU  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

File No. 922

January 28, 1952

C-2.13

MEMORANDUM

TO: Section Centers, Hydroclimatic Inspectors, Field Aides,  
WRPCs, River District Offices, and Area Engineers.  
(With copies to Regional Offices for information.)

FROM: Climatological Services Division

SUBJECT: Climatological Service Memorandum No. 26.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. HAND NUMBERING STAMPS FOR FORMS 1006 AND 1009 (REFERENCE: CSM NO. 21, ITEM 1): Hand numbering stamps have been sent to Section Centers and other offices requesting them. One Center points out that it would be much easier to stamp Forms 1006 and 1009 in the lower right hand corner instead of in the upper left as suggested in the referenced CSM item. We agree. Therefore, the number may be placed in either upper corner or in the lower right corner. All forms from a section should be stamped in the same location. Since the stamps furnished have 8 digits we suggest that the state number be separated from the other five digits by a dash, as 22-13324.
2. PUBLICATION OF DAILY PRECIPITATION DATA FROM "RECORDER-ONLY" STATIONS: Some requests have been received, here and at WRPCs, that daily precipitation totals be published in Climatological Data from stations equipped only with recorder gages. In some cases Section Centers have indicated that they could make the daily amounts available from the charts.

We can not authorize the WRPC to publish weighing rain gage data since it is impossible to do this on a national scale and any attempt to publish in part will inevitably lead to requests for additional assistance that cannot be provided. (An exception to this has been made where funds have been transferred to us for special publication, but these cases are handled separately.)

We are, of course, not satisfied with existing arrangements for handling and publishing weighing gage records and we shall continue our efforts to secure sufficient funds to resume publication. When this can be accomplished is entirely uncertain.

3. CLIMATOLOGICAL SUBSTATIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED NEAR STATE LINES: Climatological substations established near a state line may also serve the climatological needs of the adjacent Section Center. When such recommendations have been made, it has been

necessary to write to the Section Director of the nearby state for his comments.

In a recent recommendation from a Section Director, submitted for a climatological substation near a State border, the comments of the Section Director of the adjacent State were first obtained and were sent along in support of the proposal. This practice should be adopted by all Section Directors submitting proposals for substations likely to be of interest to other supervising offices. Such comments would strengthen the original proposal and shorten the time for review and decision in the Central Office.

4. STATE CLIMATOLOGICAL DIVISIONS: Each Section Center is asked to send us one small Climatological Data base map on which existing climatological divisions have been marked.
5. RECORDING RAIN GAGE RECORDS: This is to remind Section Centers that recorder charts from substations should be carefully inspected to see that the headings are completely and legibly entered and to make sure the gage is functioning properly. This is important since the charts are no longer evaluated.
6. MONTHLY PRECIPITATION TOTALS ON FORMS 1006 AND 1009: Some Section Centers obtain total monthly precipitation for local use from Forms 1006 and 1009 for all or part of their substations. These totals may be used for Preliminary Precipitation Summaries or for other purposes. Section Centers which do obtain these totals are asked to enter them on Forms 1006 or 1009 sent to the WRPC since every such entry will assist in the preliminary edit at WRPCs. Centers not needing these totals need not work them up for this purpose.
7. FORMS 1049, 1084, 1085 AND 1089: River District Offices are requested to advise the Hydrologic Services Division whether or not WB Form 1049, Record of River Stages, is being used in their River Districts and if so whether its use could be discontinued. If there is no great demand for this form it will be discontinued.

WB Form 1089, River Rainfall Report card form, was adopted several years ago in numerous River Districts on an experimental basis. It is proposed to discontinue WB Forms 1084 and 1085 and adopt WB Form 1089 for use throughout the country. River Districts or other offices that are using WB Forms 1084 and 1085 are requested to report that fact to the Hydrologic Services Division together with comments on the above proposal.

#### GENERAL

8. FURNISHING COPIES OF "THE COOPERATIVE WEATHER OBSERVER" TO NEW OBSERVERS: The following is taken from a letter received from a Section Director:

"I should like to make the suggestion that it would be appropriate to furnish a copy of the COOPERATIVE WEATHER OBSERVER to newly appointed observers. I am sure that they would have a much better conception of the background and history of the climatological service with the aid of this volume, particularly Chapter 1. I am sure that in most cases the list of old timers in the volume would include friends or acquaintances of the new observer. This should help cement new observers more closely to the Bureau in the early stages of their cooperative service."

We approve fully of the above suggestion.

9. DELETION OF TEMPERATURE RECORDS: The following letter has been received from the Meteorologist in Charge at a WRPC:

"The necessity of making what we consider to be an excessive number of adjustments to temperature records from climatological substations has given us much concern for some time. We are keenly conscious of the fact that every temperature adjustment constitutes - to some extent, at least, - manufacturing a record.

"In every state or section there are a few forms where so many adjustments are necessary that we are convinced the entire record is of little or no value and should be deleted in its entirety. We are quite aware that such action is harsh indeed, but perhaps it will lead either to an improvement in the quality of the records or the appointment of a more reliable observer.

"We suggest that in any case where adjustments appear necessary to either the maximum, minimum, or observed temperature, on ten or more days, the entire record be termed unreliable and deleted. While some of the temperatures might be acceptable, carelessness of this kind casts a shadow over the entire record. Also, we can ill afford the time necessary to give these forms the detailed perusal that would be required to separate the wheat from the chaff."

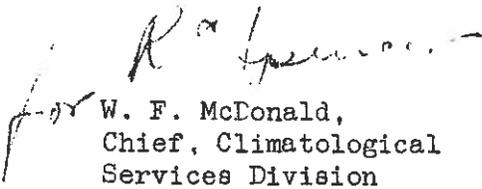
Section Center comment on this proposal is invited.

10. SECTION CENTER FILE OF CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA SEPARATES: There has been considerable discussion recently on ways and means of relieving the Section Centers of some of their filing problems associated with the requirement for maintaining large volumes of records and publications. The suggestion has been made

that the National Weather Records Center at Asheville, N. C. become the depository for surplus Climatological Data separates, with the number filed at Section Centers reduced to those for current use and distribution. We shall appreciate having an expression of field opinion on the practicability of such an arrangement, and, if favorable, some indication of the minimum number of separates that will be required currently and the period for which back issues should be maintained in your own office files.

Should this plan be adopted, it will be so in expectation that requests for extensive files of Climatological Data, or for issues more than a few years old, will be channeled to Asheville for supply. directly to the requester.

11. MAP BACK ON COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS: The December 21, 1951 Daily Weather Map back was devoted to cooperative observers. Copies of this map have been sent from the Central Office to the observers described in the text. We do not plan to make a general distribution of this map to all cooperative observers, since practically all of the material on the map back has recently been furnished observers in the Cooperative Weather Observer bulletin.

  
W. F. McDonald,  
Chief, Climatological  
Services Division