

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FROM SHIPS

FOREWORD

The resolution No. 15, adopted at the Conference of Directors of Far Eastern Weather Services, held in Hongkong in 1930, recommends that the Far Eastern Weather Services should publish, according to a uniform plan, the observations received from ships by wireless telegraphy. The immediate usefulness of the observations reported by radio-telegraphy from ships is to complete and confirm the weather map of the day, to serve as index of the intensity of the monsoon and to assist in ascertaining the center of cyclones. It is believed that these observations, after having served this useful purpose, still retain sufficient value to warrant their publication, for the benefit of students of tropical cyclones and retrospective synoptic charts of the globe. Considerable time and funds can be saved, without any detriment to science, if the publication of wireless weather messages be limited by three conditions. First, no meteorological messages are to be published, when they emanate from ships quite close to land stations. It is difficult to see what useful object is served, for instance, by publishing wireless messages from ten ships anchored in Manila Bay, when for all practical purposes the observations of the land observatory are sufficient. The same remark should apply to most of the