

meters during about one third of the time. The percentage of favorable days increases materially at greater altitudes, especially along the northern route. The percentage of favorable days for the westward trip "is so small as to make trans-Atlantic flight in this direction impracticable until the cruising radius of aircraft is increased to such an extent that they are relatively independent of weather conditions."

As to the season, there is little choice. The prevailing westerly winds are stronger in winter than in summer, but there are more storms in the colder months. The greater prevalence of fog in summer is a disadvantage at that season which about offsets the greater amount of cloudiness in winter. The fogs of Newfoundland are generally of but slight vertical extent, and as they do not extend far inland they ought not to interfere with a landing if such is attempted some distance from the coast. The most important thing of all is the need of a comprehensive campaign to secure meteorological and aerological observations over the North Atlantic.

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### QUOTATIONS

#### BRITISH SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

THE speakers at the opening of the British Scientific Products Exhibition emphasized different aspects of the same truths. When the war came, England was deprived of many scientific products which she had been content to receive from Germany. English scientific men and inventors had long been in the forefront of discovery, but English manufacturers had taken little advantage of their achievements. We had not the industrial processes for making high explosives from coal-tar nor the methods of making optical glass for gun-sights. In a thousand ways, great and small, we were unready for the ordeal. The unlimited valor of our fighting men and the unswerving resolution of the people alone carried us over the dead point. The exhibition of British scientific products, made in Britain, for the first time during the

war, shows the splendid progeny of the *liaison de convenance* hurriedly arranged between science and industry. It is to be hoped that it will lead to a more permanent union.

The war is over, and there is more than a fear that the soporific effect of the cry "Business as usual" may again be felt. Business will not be as usual. The old British way of being content with large-scale manufacture of the "good enough," of seeking the easy market and the repeat order, is gone for ever. Even the best is not good enough, for there is always a better. As Lord Moulton said, Divine discontent must have its place in our industries. The manufacturer must keep in touch with the inventor and the scientific student. The men of the laboratory must keep aware of the industrial processes to which they can so largely contribute. The seller of British goods must have a better weapon than blandishment; he must be able to explain why his goods are the best, and to stimulate the imagination of his customers by the assurance of better. Lord Crewe rightly laid stress on the part of education in the new orientation of our scientific and industrial effort. He referred with legitimate pride to the associations of manufacturers and investigators that are being organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. But there is still a long way to go. In one sense, the lean years that lie ahead of us are less favorable to continued effort, although they require it even more urgently. During the war an imperative stimulus quickened our common purpose. Money flowed like water for the experiments of the laboratory and the workshop, and the operations of war supplied the swiftest and surest test of efficiency. We must lose none of the organizing and self-sacrificing spirit that we gained when our need seemed greatest.—The London Times.

#### SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

*The Turtles of New England.* By HAROLD L. BABCOCK, M.D. Mem. Boston Soc. Natural History, VIII., No. 3, 4to, pp. 325 to 431, plates 17 to 32, April, 1919.