

GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY

Chairman: ROBERT KARPINSKI, Indiana State Teachers College

Professor G. T. Wickwire, Hanover College, was elected chairman of the section for 1942.

ABSTRACTS

The origin of the Belton Fault Complex, Belton Area, Cass County, Missouri. JOSEPH R. CLAIR, DePauw University.—This paper dealt with the description and origin of a complexly faulted area, a short distance south of Kansas City, Missouri. (Published with the permission of Dr. H. A. Buehler, State Geologist, Missouri Geological Survey and Water Resources.)

The areal distribution and agricultural significance of hail storms in Nebraska. G. DAVID KOCH, Indiana State Teachers College.—Data in the files of the United States Weather Bureau office at Lincoln, Nebraska, were used in obtaining partial answers to the following questions: (1) Are certain sections of the state of Nebraska particularly subject to hail? (2) How frequently may severe storms be expected? (3) Which months of the growing season are most subject to storms? (4) How much damage is caused by hail each year? (5) What is the average areal extent of individual hailstorms? The data covered the 17 year period from 1924-1940. A total of 989 storms were reported or an average of 58 per year. The evidence did not substantiate the contention that hail falls more frequently in certain parts of the state. For the 17 year period 121 storms were reported in April, 209 in May, 274 in June, 169 in July, 148 in August, and 68 in September. Reports indicate that the damage to farm crops exceeds one million dollars annually. Storms averaged 4.7 miles in width and 12 miles in length, while the largest on record traveled 92 miles and covered a width of 12 miles at the widest point. For the month of August the average area covered was 75 square miles, the largest average for any month. The smallest average was 36 square miles for the month of September.