There's No Global Warming, Because There's No Global Climate

We publish here an exchange on this subject which took place in the French-language science magazine Fusion. *A French farmer takes issue with an article by climatologist Marcel Leroux, "Global Warming: a Scientific Fraud"* (Fusion *No. 95, March-April 2003), and Dr. Leroux replies in the Feb.-March 2005 issue of* Fusion *(No. 103).*

Leroux is Professor of Climatology at Jean Moulin University in France, and the director of the Laboratory of Climatology, Risk, and Environment. His book, Global Warming: Myth or Reality? The Erring Ways of Climatology, *was published this year by Springer-Praxis (Springeronline.com).*

Translated by Christine Craig.

The Farmer's Objection

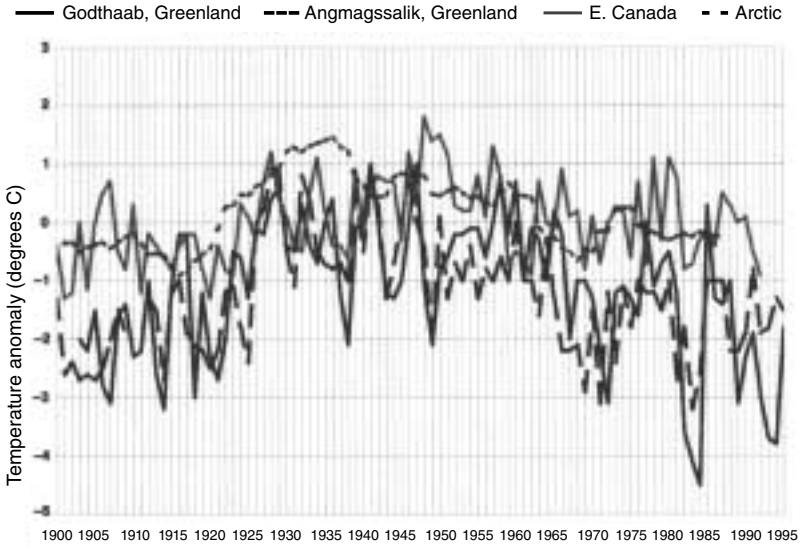
Allow me to express my reservations about the thesis of Marcel Leroux, which challenges global warming. Numerous observations of the changes in flowering habits of certain plants, and in reproduction in certain animals, indicate clearly that the climate is getting warmer. I refer you to the report of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, which is about to be published on this subject, and which proves that the temperature of the tundra in Alaska has increased an average of 2°C to 4°C in the last five years.

—OM
(farmer from l'Aube)

Marcel Leroux Responds

One perverse aspect of the scenario put forth by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and their media hitmen, is to make believe that climate behaves in the same fashion everywhere, over the whole surface of the Earth, and especially, that it is largely warming throughout, their mantra being: *the climate is heating up.* Yet, they know very well that there is not one "global" climate, but a large variety of climates, depending on latitude, geographic conditions, and atmospheric dynamics. Therefore, the climatic differences are considerable between Montreal and Lyon, situated about 45 degrees North Latitude, and between New York and Naples at around 40 degrees N.

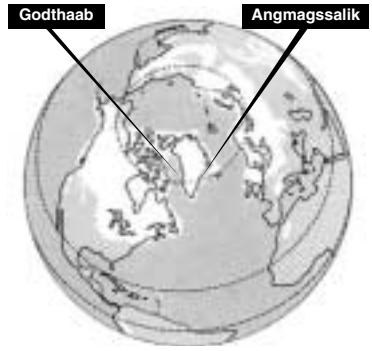
For similar reasons, it is foolish to say—or believe—that the climate is heating up everywhere: Some regions are getting warmer, but others are just as



MEAN TEMPERATURES IN GREENLAND AND NORTHEAST CANADA HAVE BEEN FALLING DRASTICALLY FOR 50 YEARS

While some parts of the globe have warmed, northeastern Canada and western Greenland (where the North American Ice Age glaciation originated) have been cooling considerably since 1960.

The figure shows the evolution of temperatures in four regions: the mean temperature anomaly in the Arctic Atlantic from 1900 to 1987 (Arctic); the Eastern Canada mean (E. Canada) from 1900 to 1992; at Godthaab (64.26° N, 51.7° W, alt. 20 meters) and at Angmagssalik (65.6° N, 37.6° W, alt. 35 meters) in Greenland, from 1900 to 1995.



In the last glaciation, which ended only about 10,000 years ago, the Greenland ice sheet extended as far south as New York and Chicago. A new glaciation is expected sometime soon.

Sources for data: Arctic, after J.C. Rogers, 1989, "Seasonal Temperature Variability over the North Atlantic Arctic," *Proc. 13th Annual Climate Diagnostics Workshop*, NOAA-NWS, pp. 170-78; Eastern Canada, after M.R. Morgan, et al., 1993, "Temperature Trends at Coastal Stations in Eastern Canada," *Clim. Bull.*, Vol. 27, No. 3, Envi. Canada, pp. 135-53; Greenland, after John Daly, 2000, "Still Waiting for Greenhouse: What the Stations Say," www.vision.net.au/daly.

surely cooling down. For example, in the vast atmospheric domain of the North Atlantic, in which we include the area lying between the Rocky Mountains and Western Europe, the American Northeast is getting colder, at the same time that the northwestern Atlantic is heating up.

The explanation is very simple, but requires a little effort to understand.

Cold and hot don't come out of nowhere. Without getting into radiative effects, we hold to the model that cold comes from the poles, while warm air comes from the subtropical and even tropical regions. Each day, to some extent, a mass of cold air (more so in winter than summer, and with greater force) leaves the Arctic, thrown out by centrifugal force. This mobile mass of cold air is called a Mobile Polar Anticyclone (MPA).

Above the area affected by this, the MPA preferentially passes first over Canada, then over the United States, and spreads finally into the North Atlantic. In the course of its progress toward the east, and toward the south, the MPA encounters and lifts the less-cold, or warmer air (because it is lighter), and forces it to flow back toward the north (to fill the void left by its passing), forming an unstable cyclonic circulation which generates our precipitation.

This air, which moves back toward the pole, brings warmth with it. Its most usual trajectory is found to be toward the east of the Atlantic, that is to say, Western Europe (*cf.* M. Leroux, 2001, Dunod). The results are simple: To the west (Canada, USA) it is cold; to the east (Western Europe), it is warm, relatively speaking.

Canada Cools, Norway Warms

Thirty years ago (that is to say, after the climatic cycle of 1970), the area west of Arctic-Greenland began to cool down, according to the clear evidence of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) of Nov. 8, 2004. The MPA, which forms precisely above that part of the Arctic, thus leaves there both colder and with more power: Winter after winter, Canada hits new records of cold and ice storms.

Between the Rockies and the Appalachians (in the Great Plains) the MPA blows strongly in the direction of the Gulf of Mexico. At the same time, the borders of the northern seas, around Norway and the Barents, heat up. Here we see increased precipitation (from the transport of the collected water vapor), and a greater number of storms. The amount of warming is directly related to the amount of initial cooling, because it is that which puts the warm air into motion.

Why Alaska Is Warmer

These changes are observable in each of the six systems of atmospheric circulation.

For example, in Alaska, where the situation is comparable to that of the Norwegian Sea, the cooling is observed over Eastern Siberia (*cf.* ACIA), and the MPA that empties into the North Pacific stimulates powerful warm air uplift in the area of North America west of the Rockies. Here the powerfully uplifted land strongly channels the force of the warm air from the south, northward toward Alaska and the Bering Sea. The warming is significant, and it is the southern coast of Alaska, at the foot of the strong continental uplift, which receives the strongest increase, because of the concentrating effect from the land relief, of temperature and latent heat.

But let me reiterate: Without initial cooling, regional warming would not be possible.

Over Eurasia, one can observe the same dichotomy. From Scandinavia to Central Europe, and reaching even to the eastern Mediterranean, the temperature falls because of the passage of the reinforced MPA. In return, the Ukraine and southern Russia heat up because of the intensification of the warm air uplift. France, situated on the eastern side of the North Atlantic atmospheric system, exhibits net warming near the Atlantic coast, with increased rainfall. But this tendency is distinctly less as one moves east (a changing of the circulation system), and ends by showing a small cooling in the east of the country.

In conclusion, it does not suffice to get worked up over the "good" information of the IPCC. The tundra of Alaska experiences warming; that is well known. But one cannot forget to take into account that the region north of Florida is losing, little by little, its tropical flora, because of more and more frequent and severe storms which strike from the Gulf of Mexico. One must consider how all the parts of the climate fit together and interact, because the climate evolves steadily, but with diverse manifestations.