

succeeding generations back through all the years into the dim mists of antiquity and the worst part of it all is that, while most of us know in our hearts that these things are not so, we have to pretend to believe them for fear that we may otherwise be looked upon as being morally depraved or mentally deficient.

And the weather — oh! how the weather has suffered through invidious comparisons with the weather of other years. How mild and moist and slushy are the winters, how infantile the snow-storms, and how thin the ice nowadays as compared to the days when dad was a boy, and how much worse the weather was in the boyhood days of dad's dad—and so on, ad infinitum.

They tell us that the gulf stream has moved in to the twelve mile limit and that the winters are getting milder in consequence, that the sun spots, the war, prohibition, and other things, are all affecting our climate. And the stories that are told and implicitly believed by some people as to the mildness of our

winters might be enough to drive some of us out of the lucrative business of heating and piping and force us to open an ice cream parlor or start an ice route.

As a matter of fact, I believe that even now a great many ice men are wasting their talents in the heating business. They would have a better understanding of "overhead" if they could see it trickling down the street. It trickles the same in our business, but a lot of them never discover it until they are "all wet."

Unfortunately, most of those who broadcast the news of the terrible weather conditions that they had to contend with in their youth are lacking in powers of observation, in judgment, in understanding, in acumen, in perspicacity, or in plain ordinary truthfulness, because the records of the Weather Bureau prove conclusively that they do not know what they are talking about and, if you delve into sources of information that go far beyond the records of the weather bureau, even back to the revolutionary period, you will find that nature has been



POLICEMEN RUBBING SNOW ON FROZEN EARS DURING THE STORM OF MONDAY—DRAWN BY F. V. DUMOND  
From Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper of March 24, 1888.