**Small Group Discussion Questions\_\_\_\_ FYS 178**

1, 3 Sep 2020 (Wk #4) Society, Technology & Weather

Questions for **Chapter 3** of “Appropriating the Weather…”

[1] What was the title of VB’s Carnegie project? What is “hydrography”? Since both geophysical disciplines of hydrography and meteorology benefited from VB’s general circulation theorem, why did VB pursue meteorology rather than hydrography? What was VB’s objective in the Carnegie project?

[2] VB foresaw that the Carnegie project would result in the publication of a multi-volume set having what title? Each of the volumes would address the four sub-problems of the Carnegie project. List each of the four sub-problems and briefly define the two sub-problems described in Chapter 3.

[3] Describe the practical challenges discovered by VB and his assistants as they started the project for the first volume (p. 62, 63).

[4] Describe the practical challenges discovered by VB and his assistants as they started the project for the second volume (p. 64, 65).

[5] What were some of the issues around 1909 that (a) threatened and (b) held promise for VB’s new career in meteorology (p. 65-68)?

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Questions for **Chapter 3** of “Appropriating the Weather…” (cont.)

[6] Issues that threatened VB’s new career were listed in Question [5]. Did VB wait passively for events to unfold in the emerging discipline of aerology? If not, what were some practical steps he took to build a stable (and potentially successful) career in meteorology?

[7] Was VB’s talk encouraging reform in aerological observations met with unanimous acceptance by the aerology community at the sixth meeting of the International Commission for Scientific Aeronautics? What were some of the difficulties with VB’s proposals gaining wide acceptance by the aerology community?

[8] How did VB appeal to Norwegian nationalism in 1909 to help further his career in meteorology?

[9] VB needed to become more of an insider within aerology to exert some influence on the field. List the three steps he needed to take to succeed at this (p. 70) and give some practical examples of actions VB took to directly participate in aerology.

[10] In VB’s campaign for “absolute units”, he followed a four-pronged plan (p. 72-78) List the four strategies of his plan. How successful was his campaign? How did the aerology community react to VB’s quest for absolute units in Vienna (1912) and Rome (1913)?