**Small Group Discussion Questions FYS 178**

22 and 24 Sep 2020 (Wk#7) Society, Technology & Weather

Questions for **Chapter 5** of “Appropriating the Weather…”

[1] Funds from private sources to establish a university in West Norway (Bergen) “came easily” around 1916. What Norwegian industry became wealthy in 1916 from which originated many of the private source donations? What global event provided the wealth for participants in this particular industry and why did they become rich?

[2] What was the name of Vilhelm’s mother? Why did she worry about her son living in Leipzig in 1916, 1917? Why would World War I make living in Leipzig an uncertain proposition? In what ways does war impact the citizens of a nation at war?

[3] What were some of the challenges facing Vilhelm’s meteorological institute at Leipzig in 1916, 1917 (bottom of p. 99 & top of p. 100)? Why was Vilhelm reluctant to leave the Leipzig institute? What steps did he take to insure that the Leipzig institute would not disappear were he to leave Germany?

[4] Of the countries; Germany, England, and France, which recognized the importance of meteorology in warfare before World War I? How did this country exploit the meteorological knowledge of Vilhelm’s Leipzig institute before the war?

[5] German weather services were organized by the military to assist in planning. Describe several specific types of military operations that utilized these services in their planning.

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Questions for **Chapter 5** of “Appropriating the Weather…” (cont.)

[6] When did Vilhelm and his family return to Norway (from Leipzig)? Having failed to get his career going in Norway twice before, “to avoid the pitfalls of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and attain his goal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Bjerknes required a vital \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” {fill in the blanks.} List several steps taken by VB (bottom of p. 101 & top of p. 102) to create a vital \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Norway.

[7] What factors served to strain Norway’s neutrality during World War I? How did this strain impact Norway’s defense budget? How would a Norwegian field weather service aid with the defense of Norway?

[8] What short-term benefits did VB stand to make related to his Carnegie project by the establishment of a Norwegian field weather service? What long-term benefits did VB stand to make related to his career in meteorology by the establishment of a Norwegian field weather service?

[9] Estimates by the Norwegian government of a severe shortage within a year in the fall 1917 precipitated emergency actions. What was in short supply at this time in Norway? How did the shortage get to be severe? What were some practical steps taken to allow Norwegian weather services to address the severe shortage?

[10] In April 1918, VB sent a formal proposal for the establishment of a Norwegian national weather service to the government. How would the weather service pay for itself, according to VB? How did the concept of “selvforsyningsbegeistring” help or harm the persuasiveness of VB’s proposal?