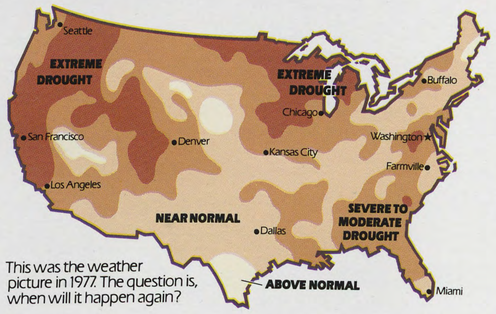
WE INTERRUPT THIS MAGAZINE FOR A SPECIAL WEATHER REPORT.

It seems that mother nature has been in a grim mood lately. We've had bone chilling winters, followed by spring floods and drought-stricken summers.

And all this erratic behavior has upset the overall balance of things.

For example, just look at what's been happening in the United States.



This was the weather picture in 1977. The question is, when will it happen again?

During the 1977 growing season, some areas looked like the "Dust Bowl" days of the 1930's. Farm ponds, reservoirs and rivers dried up. And before it was all over, big portions of 35 states were placed on the Federal Government's emergency drought list.

Naturally, this abnormal weather took a heavy toll on the 1977 tobacco crop. Total production took a sharp downturn. Prices took a sharp upturn, even though some experts say the quality was the worst in memory.

Maybe this year will be better. We hope so. But the point to remember is this; a bad crop year brings out the best in Monk.

We're major suppliers of leaf tobaccos from the U.S., Korea, Brazil, Italy, Guatemala and other countries. This world-wide purchasing and processing capability gives you valuable protection against regional variations in the weather. Because our skilled buyers can provide you the best of the crop at the best price from all over the world.

But don't wait until another bad crop comes along before talking with us. After all, if we can do a good job for you in the bad years, just think of the great job we can do for you in the good years.

A.C. Monk & Company, Farmville, North Carolina, USA. **MONK**