

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the Month of December, 1913. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 8 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in Inches to Lat. 45°	From Self-registering Instruments, for Twenty-four Hours previously.					Solar Radiation.	Terrestrial Radiation.	Veloc. Wind in Miles.	Amount of Cloud, 0 to 10.	Direction of Wind.	Rainfall, in Points (100 to 1 Inch).
		Max. Temp. in Shade.	Min. Temp. in Shade.	Mean. Temp. in Shade.	Fah.	Fah.						
1	29.161	64.2	50.6	57.4	129.6	44.2	348	3	N.	156		
2	29.243	60.6	46.0	53.3	125.6	45.2	289	10	S.E.	45		
3	29.509	53.6	45.2	49.4	94.6	33.2	285	7	S.	1		
4	29.753	57.8	50.2	54.0	119.2	48.2	302	8	S.	..		
5	29.972	59.8	48.2	54.0	131.6	42.2	264	6	S.	..		
6	29.909	63.6	44.0	53.8	124.8	32.0	158	6	N.	1		
7	29.843	66.2	48.4	57.3	131.2	36.2	148	5	E.	54		
8	29.779	72.2	53.2	62.7	130.6	52.6	278	10	S.	66		
9	29.919	56.2	53.8	55.0	71.6	52.6	538	10	S.E.	6		
10	29.849	59.8	54.6	57.2	87.8	54.6	426	10	S.	21		
11	29.609	66.6	58.0	62.3	113.6	54.4	212	10	N.E.	31		
12	29.461	69.6	53.4	61.5	130.6	43.2	70	8	N.	5		
13	29.351	68.8	56.4	62.6	141.6	54.6	254	8	N.W.	..		
14	29.370	66.4	54.6	60.5	132.6	50.4	468	8	N.W.	43		
15	29.529	62.2	52.6	57.4	134.2	44.6	314	10	S.	10		
16	29.481	61.6	51.6	56.6	133.6	43.6	224	10	N.	204		
17	29.599	64.2	50.6	57.4	118.0	49.2	318	10	S.	1		
18	29.889	60.6	44.4	52.5	136.4	33.2	176	4	N.W.	38		
19	29.770	64.2	55.8	60.0	131.2	52.6	382	8	N.	1		
20	29.618	60.6	53.4	57.0	129.6	45.2	418	8	N.	63		
21	29.851	65.2	49.0	57.1	145.2	47.2	446	8	S.	2		
22	29.669	63.8	52.6	58.2	134.6	45.6	129	8	S.	..		
23	29.941	63.2	48.0	55.6	124.2	36.6	221	5	N.	..		
24	30.099	65.6	55.2	60.4	128.2	44.6	208	8	N.W.	..		
25	30.173	71.2	58.6	64.9	130.0	53.2	218	8	N.	..		
26	30.109	72.4	57.2	64.8	140.2	54.8	136	5	N.	3		
27	30.011	75.0	59.6	67.3	132.4	58.2	267	10	N.	..		
28	29.950	68.8	61.2	65.0	139.6	58.0	400	8	N.	..		
29	30.112	68.6	59.2	63.9	135.2	53.6	377	4	N.	..		
30	30.101	76.4	52.4	64.4	134.6	36.6	153	4	N.	..		
31	30.199	78.8	55.6	67.2	133.6	51.2	300	3	S.	..		
*	29.768	65.4	52.7	59.0	126.6	46.8	282	7.4	..	751		
†	29.863	66.9	53.8	60.3	124.3	46.9	277	..	..	333		

\* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.							
13		1		1		2		10		..		..		4		..

NOTE.—The weather from the 1st to the 21st was extremely unsettled, but the latter portion of the month was bright and sunny. The rainfall was over double the average of previous years, while barometric pressure and temperatures were below. Total bright sunshine, 218 h. 10 m., and four sunless days. The mean earth temperature at 1 ft. was 61.7°, and 60.9° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 51.2°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.377 in.; and mean relative humidity, 75 per cent. of saturation.

SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER.

Between the 1st and the 22nd of the month the distribution of atmospheric pressure was such as to cause extremely unsettled weather and an abundance of rainfall. In nearly every instance the disturbance was a cyclonic type, the most intense being the one whose centre passed through Cook Strait on the evening of the 16th, with a barometric reading of 28.98 inches at Wellington. This cyclone moved very rapidly, and in this respect was in marked contrast to one prevailing between the 9th and the 14th. Of the latter, following is given approximately of the position of its centre on the different days while it was under review:—

Day and Date.	Approximate Position of Centre.
Monday, 8th December .. .. .	500 miles N.W. of Cape Maria van Diemen.
Tuesday, 9th .. .. .	200 " W.N.W. "
Wednesday, 10th .. .. .	280 " N.W. " Egmont.
Thursday, 11th .. .. .	160 " W.N.W. of Farewell Spit.
Friday, 12th .. .. .	Off the west coast of the South Island.
Saturday, 13th .. .. .	" east coast of Otago.
Monday, 15th .. .. .	650 miles E.S.E. of New Zealand.

On the afternoon of the 20th the winds blew strongly from the south with heavy passing showers in the east coast districts, but this southerly was of short duration and the weather afterwards gradually improved, fair and warm conditions setting in and continuing to the end of the month.

Precipitation was below normal in the western and south-western districts of the South Island, but nearly all other parts of the country experienced an abnormally wet December.

D. C. BATES, Director.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.  
MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.  
December, 1913.

Ft.	Name of Station and Observer.	Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (4 Point or more).
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
20	NORTH ISLAND. DARGAVILLE .. Dr. H. M. Levinge	Deg. 64.0	Deg. 68.7	Deg. 59.4	Points. 310	Dys. 16
125	AUCKLAND .. T. F. Cheeseman	60.2	66.3	54.2	280	16
..	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	59.7	72.6	46.8	579	16
925	ROTORUA .. J. F. Robieson	57.5	66.5	48.6	407	14
370	WAIHI .. H. B. Devereux	59.6	67.5	51.8	744	21
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	60.0	69.4	50.7	415	14
63	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. D. Fletcher	61.3	70.6	52.1	365	17
250	MOUMAHAKI .. A. S. Huntington	58.2	65.1	51.4	834	16
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	53.7	62.0	45.4	557	18
..	PALMERSTON NORTH J. E. Vernon	57.9	66.6	49.2	758	15
186	GREYTOWN .. W. C. Davies	58.7	68.2	49.3	520	15
377	MASTERTON .. Wm. Hood	57.5	68.5	46.6	497	16
..	GISBORNE .. C. H. Ferris	60.5	70.3	50.8	233	12
14	GREENMEADOWS, NAPIER Very Rev. Dean Smyth	61.5	70.7	52.3	351	9
10	WELLINGTON .. F. W. Simms	59.0	65.4	52.7	751	19
34	SOUTH ISLAND. NELSON .. Rev. J. P. Kempthorne	Deg. 60.6	Deg. 69.9	Deg. 51.4	Points. 456	Dys. 17
1218	HANMER SPA .. Dr. J. C. Duncan	55.1	64.7	45.5	461	14
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	56.8	64.9	48.8	557	14
42	LINCOLN .. G. Gray	58.1	66.6	49.6	494	16
349	RAKAIA .. G. S. Hardy	..	..	..	..	..
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	57.2	64.9	49.6	282	14
90	WAIMATE .. G. V. Cochrane	..	..	..	..	..
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	55.0	61.4	48.7	482	18
350	GORE .. Captain A. A. Scott	55.9	65.3	46.5	672	17
12	HOKITIKA .. F. T. Sandford	56.9	63.6	50.2	427	17
18	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	54.7	63.2	46.2	294	17