

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of December, 1916. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 8 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in inches to Lat. 49°.	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.	Fah.						
1	30-346	65.8	44.2	55.0	126.0	33.8	74	0	N.W.	..	..		
2	30-430	65.7	49.9	57.8	126.0	40.5	101	1	S.S.E.	..	..		
3	30-504	68.5	51.0	59.7	128.5	40.0	158	3	S.	..	..		
4	30-455	67.2	48.6	57.9	130.0	38.2	131	7	N.	..	..		
5	30-300	70.3	59.3	64.8	145.0	55.2	187	9	N.	..	..		
6	30-029	67.9	60.4	64.1	153.0	58.1	374	7	NNW	..	..		
7	29-779	67.1	61.2	64.1	141.0	60.0	536	8	N.W.	..	..		
8	29-911	69.0	60.0	64.5	137.0	51.4	380	1	S.	..	..		
9	30-189	71.9	50.3	61.1	131.0	35.3	109	0	Calm	..	..		
10	30-055	71.0	59.5	65.2	138.0	51.0	186	0	N.	..	..		
11	29-941	70.0	61.1	65.5	136.0	59.0	310	9	N.W.	..	..		
12	29-910	69.3	61.5	61.9	145.0	42.7	164	10	S.S.E.	..	..		
13	29-894	65.1	56.2	60.6	114.0	52.2	204	10	Calm	..	..		
14	29-906	69.1	53.1	61.1	137.0	40.0	114	9	N.	..	..		
15	29-003	71.5	63.0	67.2	158.0	61.7	408	5	NNW	..	..		
16	30-159	70.2	58.6	64.4	151.0	54.5	389	10	S.	Trace	..		
17	30-072	66.5	57.0	61.7	133.0	50.0	154	9	N.	..	..		
18	30-015	69.7	59.9	64.8	126.0	56.2	206	1	N.W.	..	..		
19	29-931	74.6	62.0	68.3	133.0	59.9	221	2	N.	..	..		
20	30-034	70.2	58.2	64.2	141.0	55.0	303	10	S.	..	..		
21	30-077	72.9	56.3	64.6	139.0	47.2	174	10	S.	..	..		
22	30-125	69.7	60.1	64.9	119.0	58.2	331	10	S.E.	..	..		
23	29-997	75.7	54.7	65.2	150.0	43.8	111	0	Calm	..	..		
24	29-944	79.5	64.5	72.0	143.5	61.5	199	3	N.W.	Trace	..		
25	30-059	78.0	60.0	69.0	142.0	58.0	259	10	S.	..	..		
26	29-999	70.5	57.0	63.7	138.0	54.0	258	9	Calm	Trace	..		
27	30-109	74.3	56.6	65.4	145.0	54.2	292	4	S.	..	..		
28	30-117	65.5	55.4	60.5	140.0	52.5	404	9	S.E.	..	..		
29	30-185	67.8	53.3	60.5	138.0	48.0	246	6	S.	..	..		
30	30-062	70.4	47.8	59.1	139.0	34.0	166	0	N.	..	..		
31	29-945	75.0	56.5	65.7	140.0	50.0	167	0	NNW	..	..		
*	30-077	70.3	56.4	63.3	137.5	50.2	236	5.5	..	..	Nil		
†	29-863	66.9	53.8	60.3	124.6	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.
10	..	..	2	10	..	..	5	4

NOTE.—A fine summer month, with barometric pressure and temperature considerably above the mean of previous years, while precipitation was nil. Total bright sunshine, 268 hours 53 minutes, giving an average of 8 hours 40 minutes per diem. Earth-temperature during the month rose 11.2° at 1 ft. and 7.1° at 3 ft., while the mean temperature at the former was 68.5° and 65.2° at the latter depth. Mean dew-point, 53.6°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.412 in.; and mean relative humidity, 71 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

December, 1916.

Altitude above Sea-level.	Name of Station and Observer.	Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (4 Points or more).
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
<b>NORTH ISLAND.</b>						
Ft. 125	AUCKLAND .. F. A. F. Burnett	Deg. 66.0	Deg. 71.9	Deg. 60.0	Points. 859	Dys. 10
46	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	.. 65.9	76.4	55.5	527	12
925	ROTORUA .. S. R. Edwards	.. 64.0	72.6	55.5	630	12
340	WAIHI .. P. A. Clifford	.. 64.7	76.0	53.5	915	10
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	.. 63.4	72.0	54.9	645	12
160	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. W. Smith	.. 64.1	72.7	55.5	115	8
250	MOUMAHAKI .. T. W. Lonsdale	.. 61.4	71.5	51.3	49	3
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	.. 59.7	68.2	51.2	341	8
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. E. Vernon	.. 63.1	72.7	53.6	47	3
186	GREYTOWN .. W. C. Davies	.. 63.5	76.9	50.1	18	1
377	MASTERTON .. Wm. Hood	.. 63.3	76.3	50.4	33	3
70	GREENMEADOWS, NA-PIER .. W. B. Buckley	.. 67.4	76.2	58.6	233	8
10	WELLINGTON ..	.. 63.3	70.3	56.4	Nil	..
<b>SOUTH ISLAND.</b>						
34	NELSON .. J. R. Dart	.. 66.1	76.4	55.9	3	1
1220	HANMER SPA .. J. W. McKinna	.. 63.1	75.1	51.1	90	1
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	.. 64.1	74.0	54.3	65	2
42	LINCOLN .. L. J. Wild	.. ..	..	..	..	..
..	RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy	.. 63.4	75.8	51.0	37	5
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	.. 62.2	71.7	52.8	29	4
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	.. 61.4	71.5	51.4	72	7
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	.. 60.4	69.2	51.7	182	7
245	GORE .. H. Dolamore	.. 60.0	72.6	47.5	87	7
12	HOKITIKA* .. F. T. Sandford	.. 59.7	67.7	51.8	204	4
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	.. 58.3	67.9	48.8	136	8
* Hokitika, Nov., 1916 ..		57.5	64.0	50.9	1311	21

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1916.

An excessive rainfall was experienced during December in the northernmost districts, while all other parts of the Dominion had a total fall less than the average, and quite a number of stations in the vicinity of Cook Strait recorded a total absence of rainfall.

Anticyclonic conditions were the most prevalent, accounting for a considerable amount of fair and bright weather.

A fast-moving and rather intense disturbance passed in the south on the 15th, but was responsible for rain only in the West Coast and southernmost districts of the South Island and heavy westerly gales in parts southward of Cook Strait.

Between the 20th and 23rd a subtropical depression was in evidence in the north, and during this period heavy rain fell in the Auckland Province. Auckland City reported 4.51 inches on the 20th.

D. C. BATES, Director.