

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of January, 1917. 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.	Fah.						
1	30.041	73.5	59.0	66.2	140.0	56.0	301	10	S.S.E	..	..	..
2	29.895	73.9	59.4	66.6	142.0	55.1	239	8	E.N.E	..	..	..
3	29.686	77.2	63.1	70.2	150.0	60.5	197	7	E.N.E	6	..	..
4	29.429	78.0	60.2	69.1	151.0	59.0	267	10	S.	..	..	..
5	29.548	70.3	54.1	62.2	142.0	44.2	171	6	NNW	..	..	..
6	29.655	76.4	63.2	69.8	140.0	54.9	250	6	S.	..	..	..
7	29.897	70.8	54.0	62.4	140.5	42.0	224	0	S.	..	..	..
8	29.667	72.4	53.1	62.7	135.0	40.3	146	1	NNW	103	..	..
9	29.526	71.7	51.7	61.7	150.0	49.5	484	10	S.	40	..	..
10	29.711	62.1	55.2	58.6	129.0	53.2	467	9	S.S.E	..	..	..
11	29.842	66.6	50.7	58.6	135.0	43.2	147	1	S.E.	..	..	..
12	29.963	69.5	50.0	59.8	131.0	40.4	164	0	Calm	..	..	..
13	29.947	74.0	55.9	64.9	133.0	46.1	130	10	N.	..	..	..
14	29.766	69.0	63.0	66.0	140.0	61.0	538	10	N.W.	5	..	..
15	29.586	67.9	61.9	64.9	127.0	59.3	575	4	N.W.	7	..	..
16	29.871	71.9	50.1	61.0	137.0	46.1	274	1	N.W.	..	..	..
17	29.727	67.3	59.9	63.6	132.0	59.1	403	1	N.W.	..	..	..
18	30.101	73.8	54.7	64.2	143.0	50.2	271	1	S.E.	..	..	..
19	30.197	68.2	49.7	58.9	129.0	38.7	140	1	N.W.	..	..	..
20	30.163	69.1	60.0	64.5	133.0	56.7	344	7	N.W.	..	..	..
21	30.087	67.0	60.5	63.7	143.0	57.5	537	4	N.W.	..	..	..
22	30.072	68.9	58.3	63.6	139.0	52.3	268	4	N.E.	..	..	..
23	30.015	74.9	61.7	68.3	141.0	57.9	206	0	N.	1	..	..
24	29.940	73.9	65.0	69.4	139.0	63.2	347	9	N.W.	14	..	..
25	30.068	73.3	61.0	67.1	149.0	59.6	314	10	S.	..	..	..
26	30.073	72.5	57.6	65.0	125.0	51.0	108	8	N.W.	..	..	..
27	30.238	78.9	60.2	69.5	149.0	59.0	211	10	S.	..	..	..
28	30.214	77.0	56.0	66.5	140.0	45.0	121	3	Calm	..	..	..
29	30.147	78.7	61.9	70.3	140.0	50.3	112	4	NNW	..	..	..
30	30.130	80.0	53.0	71.5	143.0	53.4	199	1	NNE	..	..	..
31	30.044	81.5	60.7	71.1	150.0	53.5	69	10	N.E.	..	..	..
*	29.911	72.6	57.9	65.2	139.3	52.2	265	5.3	..	..	176	..
†	29.899	69.4	55.5	62.4	126.1	48.6	256	..	..	..	340	..

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
6	2	2	2	8	..	..	9	2

NOTE.—A fine sunny month, with temperatures well above the average, and rainfall 48 per cent. below the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine, 267 hours 9 minutes, giving an average of 8 hours 37 minutes per diem, and no sunless days. Heavy thunderstorm on the night of the 8th, and distant thunder and lightning on the 9th. The mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 70.5° and 68.3° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 54.5°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.425 in.; and mean relative humidity, 68 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

January, 1917.

Ft.	Name of Station and Observer.	Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (½ Point or more).
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
125	NORTH ISLAND. AUCKLAND .. F. A. F. Burnett	Deg. 67.4	Deg. 73.4	Deg. 61.5	Points. 348	Dys. 13
46	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	.. 66.5	.. 76.8	.. 56.3	708	17
925	ROTORUA .. S. R. Edwards	.. 64.5	.. 73.1	.. 55.9	339	13
340	WAIHI .. P. A. Clifford	.. 66.7	.. 76.0	.. 57.5	651	20
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	.. 65.3	.. 74.7	.. 55.9	519	14
160	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. W. Smith	.. 67.2	.. 76.7	.. 57.7	80	11
250	MOUMAHAKI .. T. W. Lonsdale	.. 64.0	.. 75.6	.. 52.4	88	4
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fanning	.. 60.5	.. 69.3	.. 51.8	158	8
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. E. Vernon	.. 64.9	.. 76.0	.. 53.8	115	5
186	GREYTOWN .. W. C. Davies	.. 66.8	.. 79.9	.. 53.8	226	7
377	MASTERTON .. Wm. Hood	.. 65.9	.. 79.3	.. 52.5	180	8
70	GREENMEADOWS, NA-PIER W. B. Buckley	68.0	76.5	59.5	524	7
10	WELLINGTON ..	65.2	72.6	57.9	176	7
34	SOUTH ISLAND. NELSON .. J. R. Dart	Deg. 67.9	Deg. 79.0	Deg. 56.9	Points. 9	Dys. 1
1220	HANMER SPA .. J. W. McKinnra	.. 63.6	.. 75.7	.. 51.6	..	..
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	.. 63.9	.. 72.1	.. 55.7	194	6
42	LINCOLN .. L. J. Wild	..	..	..	In complete.	..
..	RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy	.. 66.2	.. 77.6	.. 54.8	206	3
130	TIMARU .. C. B. Cretaker of Domain	.. 64.6	.. 74.6	.. 54.7	208	4
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	.. 62.8	.. 72.2	.. 53.5	256	5
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	.. 62.5	.. 71.1	.. 53.9	312	10
245	GORE .. H. Dolamore	.. 63.4	.. 76.1	.. 50.8	189	13
12	HOKITIKA* .. F. T. Sandford	.. 61.8	.. 69.5	.. 54.2	222	11
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	.. 60.9	.. 70.8	.. 51.1	303	18

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

The North Auckland district and the east coast of the North Island experienced a rainfall in excess of the average for the month; but in almost every other part of the Dominion the total was below.

The chief cause of the abundant falls in the North were two subtropical depressions, one which passed off East Cape about the 3rd and 4th, and a prolonged one which ruled in the North from the 27th to the close of the month.

A small "low" off the east coast of the North Island caused severe thunderstorms in the vicinity of Cook Strait on the night of the 8th.

On the 21st some local thunderstorms, accompanied with heavy downpours in the Tokomaru Bay district, caused serious floods in many of the rivers and creeks. The rainfall in many cases was phenomenal, and hitherto unprecedented in New Zealand.

The only other disturbance of note was a moderate westerly low-pressure area ruling between the 13th and 17th, which brought some rain, more especially in the western districts.

The weather on the whole was fine and seasonable, with occasionally very high temperatures ruling, particularly during the last week, when a persistent high-pressure system was centred in the region of the Chatham Islands.

D. C. BATES, Director.