

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of May, 1918. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 8 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in inches to sea level.	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.						
1	29.702	60.2	48.1	54.2	110.0	35.6	149	3	S.	..	
2	30.074	59.4	49.7	54.5	117.0	46.3	470	9	S.	3	
3	30.041	54.3	47.9	51.1	95.0	41.3	280	0	Calm	..	
4	29.843	57.0	42.0	49.5	114.0	31.9	143	2	N.	..	
5	29.780	60.9	45.8	53.3	116.0	34.4	244	7	S.E.	7	
6	30.076	62.6	44.0	53.3	115.0	33.0	175	3	S.	..	
7	30.164	54.9	43.9	49.4	106.0	33.0	148	8	S.E.	..	
8	30.237	59.9	49.0	54.4	116.0	34.9	156	0	N.	..	
9	30.222	62.5	55.5	59.0	122.0	49.5	220	4	N.	..	
10	30.245	60.7	40.9	50.8	110.0	30.2	39	6	Calm	..	
11	30.119	59.7	50.1	54.9	122.0	48.6	109	9	Calm	Trace	
12	30.234	64.0	45.1	54.5	114.0	34.9	65	9	Calm	..	
13	30.403	60.3	49.4	54.8	112.0	38.4	33	9	N.E.	..	
14	30.487	61.2	41.9	51.5	111.0	30.7	17	0	Calm	..	
15	30.460	60.4	48.2	54.3	119.0	36.4	43	2	N.E.	Trace	
16	30.380	57.7	51.6	54.6	109.0	47.5	267	9	S.E.	..	
17	30.189	56.9	44.3	50.6	82.0	30.3	125	0	Calm	..	
18	29.959	61.9	41.9	51.9	118.0	29.9	62	1	N.	6	
19	29.654	60.0	55.1	57.5	114.0	49.5	271	10	NNW	4	
20	29.711	61.5	43.7	52.6	117.0	30.5	157	3	N.W.	99	
21	29.482	60.7	54.3	57.5	113.0	52.3	439	9	N.W.	60	
22	29.165	60.0	53.2	56.6	96.0	51.3	383	4	N.W.	53	
23	29.262	61.2	53.8	57.5	118.0	50.1	351	10	N.W.	96	
24	29.224	59.7	51.6	55.6	88.0	48.2	397	7	N.W.	72	
25	29.382	58.9	52.3	55.6	95.0	43.0	446	6	N.W.	3	
26	29.599	56.2	51.3	53.7	107.0	42.0	316	1	NNW	..	
27	29.701	58.8	55.2	57.0	109.0	49.8	361	2	N.W.	..	
28	29.948	60.1	38.7	49.4	112.0	27.4	79	3	S.E.	..	
29	30.080	56.6	49.2	52.9	109.0	43.0	250	10	S.	11	
30	30.276	56.0	51.2	53.6	97.0	47.7	338	7	S.	..	
31	30.255	56.8	42.6	49.7	104.0	29.6	139	6	N.W.	..	
*	29.947	59.4	48.1	53.7	109.3	39.9	215	5.1	..	414	
†	29.965	58.3	47.3	52.8	95.2	39.9	218	..	..	495

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
6	2	..	4	5	..	..	8	6

NOTE.—Precipitation during the month was greatest between the 18th and 25th, the weather during the rest of the month being bright and sunny, with moderate to strong N. and N.W. winds prevailing. Total bright sunshine, 165 hours 47 minutes and two sunless days. Frost was recorded on the grass on eight mornings. Thunder and lightning on 23rd and 24th, and hail on the 23rd. Mean earth temperature at 1 ft. was 53.9°, and 56.5° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 47°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.323 in.; and mean relative humidity, 78 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE. MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

May, 1918.

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 (3 Point or more)
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
Ft.	NORTH ISLAND.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	Dys.
125	AUCKLAND .. F. A. F. Burnett	56.9	62.9	51.0	257	20
46	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	51.9	62.5	41.3	286	13
925	ROTORUA .. W. Penno	50.3	58.5	42.1	190	9
340	WAIHI .. P. A. Clifford	53.0	63.2	42.9	313	15
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	53.1	63.7	42.5	96	7
160	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. W. Smith	57.6	64.4	50.8	495	19
250	MOUMAHAKI .. T. W. Lonsdale	51.5	60.1	42.9	438	15
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	47.2	53.3	41.1	365	12
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. E. Vernon	51.7	59.6	43.9	420	12
186	GREYTOWN .. W. C. Davies	49.3	58.8	39.9	475	10
377	MASTERTON .. Wm. Hood	50.5	61.4	39.6	364	14
70	GREENMEADOWS, NAPIER .. T. B. McBreen	54.2	62.2	46.3	62	7
..	TRENTHAM MILITARY CAMP .. Lieut.-Col. Leahy	50.7	59.9	41.5	383	14
10	WELLINGTON .. SOUTH ISLAND.	53.7	59.4	48.1	414	11
..	BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	49.7	60.3	39.2	201	8
34	NELSON .. J. R. Dart	50.8	59.6	42.0	144	10
1220	HANMER SPA .. Miss M. Stewart	45.7	55.5	36.0	334	10
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	48.1	56.2	40.0	159	17
42	LINCOLN .. L. J. Wild	49.5	58.2	40.7	149	12
1220	KISSELTON .. A. R. Blackwood	46.2	57.2	35.3	314	8
..	RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy	47.9	57.4	38.5	87	8
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	48.5	57.6	39.5	30	6
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	47.4	56.2	38.6	65	7
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	..	..	..	..	..
245	GORE .. H. Dolamore	44.3	52.8	35.8	268	15
12	HOKITIKA .. W. H. Fleming	48.2	55.9	40.6	969	18
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	45.6	53.4	37.9	577	20

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1918.

During the first half of May anticyclonic pressure ruled, with fair weather generally. From the 16th until the 29th an intense and extensive westerly area of low pressure held sway. The latter accounted for unsettled conditions, and between the 20th and 26th high and boisterous north-west winds were experienced, with rain in most parts of the Dominion.

On the 23rd and 24th thunderstorms occurred in the neighbourhood of Cook Strait, and this time heavy rain fell in the Wairarapa district, causing floods in some of the low-lying country, especially about Masterton.

During the 28th and 29th a depression passing off East Cape accounted for strong south-east winds and heavy showers along the east coast of the North Island.

In nearly all parts of the Dominion the total rainfall for the month was considerably less than the average.

D. C. BATES, Director.