

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of December, 1920. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in Inches to Lat. 45°.	From Self-regulating Instruments, for Twenty-four Hours previously.						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.	Solar Radiation.	Terrestrial Radiation.	Veloc. Wind, in Miles.			
1	29.857	62.9	49.0	55.9	131.0	41.3	85	4	N.N.W	..
2	29.571	60.0	52.8	56.4	131.0	47.0	426	7	N.N.W	..
3	29.653	62.0	53.4	57.7	141.0	45.0	343	3	N.	..
4	29.900	64.5	46.0	55.2	129.0	33.8	186	3	N.N.W	..
5	29.889	64.8	55.0	59.9	125.0	49.8	376	1	N.W.	..
6	29.790	65.8	56.0	60.9	131.0	51.6	405	9	N.W.	16
7	29.631	61.5	56.7	59.1	112.0	55.8	360	10	N.W.	12
8	29.610	64.3	59.8	62.0	151.0	58.9	531	10	N.W.	..
9	29.942	65.9	54.1	60.0	141.0	51.6	289	10	S.	..
10	29.921	64.8	52.1	58.4	138.0	42.0	185	10	N.N.W	..
11	29.722	61.4	53.3	57.3	126.0	48.0	206	5	N.N.W	2
12	29.968	67.5	58.1	57.8	137.0	45.5	319	3	S.	..
13	30.290	60.7	50.0	55.3	134.0	46.4	435	5	S.	..
14	30.009	66.0	55.0	60.5	127.0	51.3	226	9	N.W.	..
15	29.944	64.7	51.3	58.0	140.0	48.5	294	9	S.	..
16	30.014	60.6	51.3	55.9	127.0	48.8	348	9	E.N.E.	..
17	30.015	69.0	47.0	58.0	152.0	37.0	147	0	N.E.	..
18	29.913	74.7	60.1	67.4	145.0	52.3	123	7	N.W.	8
19	29.936	72.1	58.0	65.0	144.0	56.0	450	7	N.W.	..
20	29.961	66.3	59.0	62.6	139.0	54.5	383	3	N.W.	..
21	30.035	69.7	55.9	62.8	134.0	52.0	339	4	N.	..
22	29.840	70.9	57.1	64.0	135.0	51.0	304	6	N.W.	3
23	29.780	63.6	56.6	60.1	136.0	55.0	493	9	S.	..
24	29.905	63.3	45.1	54.2	136.0	36.0	228	2	N.E.	..
25	29.757	66.5	56.8	61.6	130.0	51.0	352	1	N.N.W	..
26	29.817	68.8	61.9	65.3	132.0	58.5	430	5	N.N.W	..
27	29.762	71.8	59.8	65.8	140.0	58.0	483	10	N.W.	126
28	29.751	68.2	55.4	61.8	143.0	55.0	251	10	S.	..
29	29.818	68.5	49.7	59.1	136.0	44.5	159	10	E.N.E.	..
30	29.853	69.5	59.3	64.4	144.0	52.0	215	1	N.W.	..
31	29.809	70.6	60.2	65.4	133.0	59.0	300	4	N.	..
*	29.860	66.2	54.4	60.3	135.5	49.6	312	6.0	..	167
†	29.863	66.9	53.8	60.3	124.6	46.9	277	..	..	321

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
10	2	2	..	6	..	..	11	..	..

NOTE.—A fine summer month, with moderate to strong N. and N.W. winds prevailing, and precipitation 48 per cent. below the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine 218 hours 56 minutes, and two sunless days, giving an average of 7 hours 4 minutes per diem. Mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 64.8°, and 60.9° at 3 ft.; mean dew-point, 51.1°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.375 in.; and mean relative humidity, 72 per cent. of saturation.

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1920.

The aggregate rainfall for December was above the mean in the western half of the South Island and in the Taranaki and Auckland districts of the North Island, while in all the East Coast districts a considerable deficiency occurred.

Strong northerly and westerly winds and changeable conditions were experienced during the first half of the month, when westerly low-pressure areas dominated.

Between the 15th and 17th high easterly winds and stormy weather prevailed in the Auckland Peninsula, while a cyclone centre passed northwards of New Zealand.

Good general rains fell on the 27th, which were especially welcome to the East Coast districts, coming after a period of warm, dry, and windy conditions.

The weather on the whole was fair, but vegetation required more rainfall in districts with an easterly aspect. Temperatures were invariably high during the last week.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

December, 1920.

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 (½ Point or more).
		Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.	Deg.	Deg.		
Ft. 125	NORTH ISLAND. AUCKLAND .. F. A. F. Burnett	Deg. 62.9	Deg. 68.6	Deg. 57.2	Points. 317	Dys. 12	
46	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	59.9	69.5	50.4	382	14	
925	ROTORUA .. G. J. O'Brien	62.0	72.3	51.8	279	10	
340	WAIHI .. C. F. Sims	64.2	74.3	54.2	949	13	
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	62.1	72.6	51.6	208	7	
160	NEW PLYMOUTH ..	..	..	..	..	..
250	MOUMAHAKI .. J. G. McFarlane	59.4	67.7	51.1	137	9	
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	57.1	66.4	47.9	179	7	
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. A. Colquhoun	58.8	67.7	50.0	123	8	
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA J. Beverley	58.8	66.0	51.7	268	10	
186	GREYTOWN .. J. P. Eccleton	61.5	73.5	49.5	201	4	
377	MASTERTON .. R. Brown	61.3	72.9	49.8	132	5	
70	GREENMEADOWS, NAPIER T. B. McBreen	65.4	75.5	55.3	139	5	
..	TRENTHAM MILITARY HOSPITAL	57.4	63.8	51.1	236	5	
10	WELLINGTON ..	60.3	66.2	54.4	167	6	
..	SOUTH ISLAND. BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	62.2	73.6	50.8	213	5	
34	NELSON .. Wm. C. Davies	61.5	71.1	51.9	220	7	
1220	HANMER SPA .. L. Bayfield	60.0	71.0	49.0	160	3	
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	59.9	70.0	49.8	145	7	
42	LINCOLN* .. L. J. Wild	59.2	71.4	47.1	179	3	
1220	KIRSELTON .. A. R. Blackwood	58.6	70.0	47.3	165	4	
..	RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy	60.7	72.6	48.8	140	3	
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	60.8	73.1	48.6	139	4	
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	58.8	69.2	48.5	196	5	
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	57.4	65.9	48.9	186	13	
245	GORE .. A. T. Newman	54.5	64.4	44.6	206	15	
12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	56.0	62.3	49.7	1086	13	
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	54.7	63.1	46.3	384	20	

* Temperatures, mean for 20 days only.

D. C. BATES, Director