

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of March, 1921. 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. | | | |
| 1 | 30.151 | Fah. 73.0 | Fah. 58.2 | Fah. 65.6 | Fah. 131.0 | 58.7 | 260 | 10 S.S.E. | 7 |
| 2 | 29.967 | 71.2 | 61.4 | 66.3 | 121.0 | 62.0 | 167 | 10 N.W. | 7 |
| 3 | 29.923 | 67.8 | 61.9 | 64.8 | 123.0 | 60.7 | 356 | 10 N.W. | 9 |
| 4 | 30.151 | 64.4 | 58.8 | 61.6 | 99.0 | 58.8 | 248 | 10 E. | Trace |
| 5 | 30.196 | 68.8 | 58.8 | 63.8 | 126.0 | 57.0 | 83 | 7 E. | .. |
| 6 | 29.980 | 72.5 | 64.0 | 68.2 | 137.0 | 60.9 | 308 | 10 N.N.W. | 4 |
| 7 | 29.651 | 70.0 | 64.6 | 67.3 | 127.0 | 63.9 | 484 | 10 N.W. | .. |
| 8 | 30.140 | 71.9 | 53.7 | 62.8 | 143.0 | 47.0 | 359 | 10 S. | .. |
| 9 | 30.188 | 61.0 | 42.8 | 51.9 | 122.0 | 30.4 | 168 | 1 S.E. | .. |
| 10 | 29.992 | 68.8 | 57.9 | 63.3 | 127.0 | 54.3 | 247 | 5 N.W. | .. |
| 11 | 30.100 | 70.7 | 43.0 | 56.8 | 133.0 | 31.8 | 181 | 7 N.W. | .. |
| 12 | 29.967 | 64.9 | 56.0 | 60.4 | 122.0 | 48.0 | 290 | 8 N.E. | .. |
| 13 | 30.098 | 71.3 | 48.8 | 60.0 | 129.0 | 39.5 | 129 | 0 N.N.E. | .. |
| 14 | 30.155 | 69.6 | 53.0 | 61.3 | 130.0 | 43.3 | 168 | 5 Calm | .. |
| 15 | 30.217 | 71.1 | 48.1 | 59.6 | 124.0 | 37.4 | 143 | 0 Calm | .. |
| 16 | 30.094 | 76.9 | 47.9 | 62.4 | 127.0 | 37.3 | 48 | 3 S.E. | .. |
| 17 | 29.766 | 71.1 | 59.9 | 65.5 | 127.0 | 57.0 | 267 | 4 N.N.W. | 1 |
| 18 | 29.917 | 66.0 | 53.9 | 59.9 | 128.0 | 51.2 | 427 | 2 Calm | .. |
| 19 | 29.773 | 67.9 | 57.9 | 62.9 | 130.0 | 55.7 | 280 | 4 N.W. | 3 |
| 20 | 29.615 | 64.0 | 53.8 | 58.9 | 131.0 | 45.5 | 376 | 1 N.W. | 1 |
| 21 | 29.635 | 63.2 | 45.4 | 54.3 | 132.0 | 35.1 | 256 | 3 S. | .. |
| 22 | 29.542 | 60.6 | 45.2 | 52.9 | 114.0 | 35.0 | 266 | 4 N.W. | 10 |
| 23 | 29.712 | 61.8 | 45.0 | 53.4 | 126.0 | 35.3 | 362 | 1 N.W. | Trace |
| 24 | 29.498 | 66.9 | 57.2 | 62.0 | 133.0 | 55.9 | 466 | 3 W.N.W. | .. |
| 25 | 29.924 | 69.2 | 50.8 | 60.0 | 126.0 | 43.9 | 218 | 9 Calm | .. |
| 26 | 29.831 | 65.9 | 51.5 | 58.7 | 130.0 | 45.9 | 267 | 8 N. | 76 |
| 27 | 29.671 | 63.9 | 59.0 | 61.4 | 122.0 | 56.5 | 515 | 1 N.W. | .. |
| 28 | 29.954 | 66.0 | 52.4 | 59.2 | 133.0 | 42.8 | 319 | 2 S. | 10 |
| 29 | 30.216 | 68.2 | 47.8 | 58.0 | 125.0 | 41.0 | 182 | 10 S. | 1 |
| 30 | 30.331 | 59.0 | 47.7 | 53.3 | 111.0 | 39.5 | 132 | 5 S.S.E. | .. |
| 31 | 30.498 | 66.2 | 43.3 | 54.7 | 128.0 | 32.7 | 46 | 0 S.E. | .. |
| * | 29.963 | 67.5 | 53.2 | 60.3 | 126.4 | 47.2 | 259 | 5.3 | .. |
| † | 30.029 | 66.8 | 54.2 | 60.5 | 117.1 | 47.1 | 238 | .. | 329 |

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

| N. | N.E. | E. | S.E. | S. | S.W. | W. | N.W. | Calm. |
|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|-------|
| 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | .. | 1 | 10 | 4 |

NOTE.—A fine autumn month, with rainfall 61 per cent. below the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine, 198 hours 59 minutes, and two sunless days, giving an average of 6 hours 25 minutes per diem. Mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 63.5°, and 63.7° 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.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.
MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.
March, 1921.

| 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 Point or more). |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Mean Max. Temp. | Mean Min. Temp. | | |
| Ft. 125 | NORTH ISLAND. AUCKLAND .. F. A. F. Burnett | Deg. 64.2 | Deg. 70.3 | Deg. 58.2 | Points. 137 | Dys. 12 |
| 46 | TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr | 64.5 | 73.8 | 55.3 | 150 | 12 |
| 925 | ROTORUA .. G. J. O'Brien | 59.8 | 70.7 | 49.0 | 114 | 6 |
| 340 | WAIHI .. C. F. Sims | 61.6 | 72.6 | 50.6 | 150 | 13 |
| .. | TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher | 60.6 | 72.1 | 49.2 | 55 | 7 |
| .. | NEW PLYMOUTH .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 250 | MOUMAHAKI .. J. G. McFarlane | 60.8 | 71.2 | 50.4 | 186 | 9 |
| 2080 | TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin | 55.6 | 64.1 | 47.2 | 175 | 12 |
| 100 | PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. A. Colquhoun | 56.6 | 64.0 | 49.2 | 239 | 14 |
| 119 | CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA .. J. Beverley | 58.5 | 66.3 | 50.7 | 193 | 15 |
| 186 | GREYTOWN .. J. P. Eccleton | 59.4 | 70.3 | 48.5 | 158 | 7 |
| 377 | MASTERTON .. R. Brown | 59.9 | 72.4 | 47.5 | 55 | 8 |
| 70 | GREENMEADOWS, NAPIER .. | 63.4 | 73.8 | 53.0 | 8 | 1 |
| .. | TRENTHAM MILITARY HOSPITAL .. | 53.3 | 61.9 | 48.7 | 284 | 8 |
| 10 | WELLINGTON .. | 60.3 | 67.5 | 53.2 | 129 | 11 |
| .. | SOUTH ISLAND. BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne | 59.4 | 70.3 | 48.7 | 102 | 6 |
| 34 | NELSON .. Wm. C. Davies | 59.0 | 68.1 | 50.0 | 92 | 7 |
| 1220 | HANMER SPRINGS .. W. G. Morrison | 56.4 | 68.4 | 44.5 | 106 | 9 |
| 25 | CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey | 57.5 | 66.4 | 48.6 | 122 | 5 |
| 42 | LINCOLN .. Wm. C. Purdie | 58.1 | 69.5 | 46.6 | 109 | 6 |
| 1220 | KISSLTON .. A. R. Blackwood | 57.5 | 70.0 | 45.0 | 145 | 5 |
| .. | RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy | 56.5 | 68.9 | 44.2 | 99 | 4 |
| 130 | TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain | 57.5 | 69.2 | 45.9 | 107 | 5 |
| 200 | WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst | 55.7 | 66.3 | 45.2 | 162 | 12 |
| 300 | DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock | 55.6 | 64.2 | 47.1 | 311 | 17 |
| 245 | GORE .. A. T. Newman | 53.4 | 64.0 | 42.8 | 510 | 19 |
| 12 | HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney | 55.7 | 62.3 | 49.1 | 878 | 21 |
| 12 | INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie | 56.0 | 62.4 | 49.7 | 539 | 21 |
| .. | LINCOLN, Jan., 1921 | 60.8 | 71.3 | 50.4 | 375 | 13 |
| .. | " Feb., 1921 | 60.3 | 70.2 | 50.5 | 111 | 8 |

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1921.

The dry weather which characterized the previous month was generally maintained throughout March, the only portions of the Dominion recording above the average rainfall being the southernmost district of the South Island and parts of Westland. The greatest shortage again occurred in the East Coast districts of the North Island, where a few stations reported a total absence of rain.

Fair weather ruled during the first half of the month, except between the 6th and 8th, when a westerly low-pressure area, in conjunction with a depression in the North, brought unsettled conditions and rain in many parts.

The last half of the month was dominated by frequent disturbances passing in the South, and strong and squally north-west to south-west winds prevailed with changeable weather.

Between the 20th and 27th conditions were particularly boisterous and wet in districts with a westerly aspect and in Otago. During this period some severe thunderstorms occurred in various parts of the Dominion, and on the 20th the Observer at Waimate reported a heavy fall of hail, with hailstones up to 3/4 in. in diameter.

D. C. BATES, Director.