

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of December, 1921. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected 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	29.842	65.8	53.6	59.7	136.0	47.5	270	10	S.	..	..		
2	29.781	64.7	43.3	54.0	138.0	32.5	168	0	N.	..	..		
3	29.627	68.0	53.0	60.5	141.0	45.5	205	1	N.	..	..		
4	30.076	70.0	50.0	60.0	139.0	49.0	309	9	S.	..	..		
5	30.063	64.8	42.5	53.6	138.0	30.5	138	2	N.W.	..	..		
6	29.973	66.6	57.3	61.9	132.0	52.0	237	10	N.	19	..		
7	29.807	66.0	58.9	62.4	99.0	56.0	317	10	N.	41	..		
8	30.007	65.0	57.3	61.1	121.0	52.7	327	4	S.	..	..		
9	29.921	74.0	53.3	63.6	137.0	45.5	121	8	N.	52	..		
10	29.843	79.6	59.9	69.7	145.0	57.6	273	10	N.	1	..		
11	29.836	65.4	57.5	61.4	122.0	54.5	364	0	N.	..	..		
12	29.728	67.0	57.1	62.0	130.0	52.9	374	7	N.N.W.	184	..		
13	29.760	65.3	48.5	56.9	139.0	47.0	422	10	S.	1	..		
14	30.014	60.7	42.2	51.4	118.0	34.0	206	6	N.	..	..		
15	30.093	64.6	56.0	60.3	136.0	52.0	307	9	N.N.W.	6	..		
16	29.936	63.0	56.2	59.6	136.0	52.5	402	9	N.W.	1	..		
17	29.791	64.5	59.7	62.1	138.0	52.5	607	10	N.W.	Trace	..		
18	29.777	64.0	57.5	60.7	112.0	53.5	518	8	N.N.W.	..	..		
19	29.756	66.8	55.2	61.0	124.0	51.1	323	4	N.	12	..		
20	29.963	66.3	48.5	57.4	129.0	45.3	334	1	S.	..	..		
21	29.917	65.1	51.8	58.4	134.0	47.2	173	2	N.W.	..	..		
22	29.688	63.0	55.0	59.0	129.0	50.0	427	1	N.W.	..	..		
23	30.184	66.2	51.3	58.7	127.0	47.0	319	9	S.E.	..	..		
24	30.288	62.8	43.2	53.0	132.0	32.0	199	2	N.E.	..	..		
25	30.196	69.0	57.5	63.2	130.0	52.5	253	8	N.W.	6	..		
26	29.951	66.6	58.5	62.5	134.0	56.5	442	10	N.	86	..		
27	30.089	63.0	57.5	60.2	113.0	56.0	290	10	N.	5	..		
28	29.951	64.0	57.3	60.6	131.0	53.5	426	10	N.W.	9	..		
29	30.284	64.3	51.9	58.1	119.0	46.0	303	0	S.	..	..		
30	30.145	67.2	44.1	55.6	127.0	32.2	158	8	N.W.	149	..		
31	29.914	68.0	54.3	61.1	142.0	50.2	254	10	S.	95	..		
*	29.942	66.2	53.2	59.7	129.9	48.0	305.3	6.4	..	..	667		
†	29.869	66.9	53.8	60.3	124.6	46.9	277	5.2	..	..	319		

\* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
14	1	..	1	7	..	..	8	..	..

NOTE.—The month has been cloudy and wet, with moderate to strong northerly winds prevailing, while precipitation was 109 per cent. above the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine 204 hours 10 minutes, 44 per cent. of the possible, and six sunless days. Frost was recorded on the grass on two mornings. Mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 63.5°; and 61.1° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 50.5°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.367 in.; and mean relative humidity, 72 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

December, 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. 63.1	Deg. 68.4	Deg. 57.9	Points. 398	Dys. 13
131	RUAKURA FARM, HAMILTON EAST W. B. Monro	61.8	72.2	51.4	485	16
46	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	62.7	72.6	52.8	426	18
340	WAIHI .. C. F. Sims	63.0	72.3	53.8	480	17
100	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	60.1	69.2	51.0	487	21
925	ROTORUA .. W. E. Penno	60.5	69.1	52.0	1600	19
..	NEW PLYMOUTH .. J. Simpson	60.3	66.1	54.6	864	17
250	MOUMAHAKI .. J. G. McFarlane	56.2	65.2	47.2	185	11
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	56.5	64.1	48.9	406	14
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. A. Colquhoun	60.7	69.0	52.4	611	15
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA J. Beverley	58.5	65.2	51.8	842	18
70	GREENMEADOWS, NA- PIER	64.2	72.4	56.0	172	12
377	MASTERTON .. R. Brown	60.3	71.3	49.4	571	9
186	GREYTOWN .. J. P. Eccleton	60.3	69.9	50.7	873	11
..	TRENTHAM MILITARY HOSPITAL	..	..	..	..	..
10	WELLINGTON ..	59.7	66.2	53.2	667	15
..	SOUTH ISLAND. BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	59.4	69.0	49.9	376	11
34	NELSON .. Wm. C. Davies	59.7	67.7	51.8	431	11
1220	HANMER SPRINGS .. W. G. Morrison	57.0	68.3	45.7	259	8
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	59.3	68.4	50.3	23	6
42	LINCOLN .. Wm. C. Purdie	58.1	69.1	47.1	87	7
1220	KISSELTON .. A. R. Blackwood	57.4	68.2	46.7	111	5
..	RAKAI .. Miss A. Hardy	58.6	70.9	46.4	101	5
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	57.5	66.9	48.1	118	13
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	55.7	64.7	46.7	157	17
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	54.7	63.0	46.5	328	13
245	GORE .. A. T. Newman	53.1	63.5	42.8	454	17
12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	55.9	62.7	49.1	1352	23
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	53.2	61.3	45.1	573	22

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1921.

December was remarkable for very changeable weather. Except on east coast of both Islands, where rainfall was deficient, showery conditions with occasional heavy rain accounted for an aggregate precipitation generally much above normal. The greatest difference above occurred about Cook Strait, when some places experienced over double the average; while the greatest deficiency was in Canterbury, Christchurch reporting the driest December for the past twenty years.

Atmospheric pressure was very unstable, high and low alternating with unusual frequency. There were, however, few disturbances of any marked intensity. The most notable one in this respect was a westerly area of low pressure which passed in the south on the 17th. It brought boisterous westerly winds, especially in and southwards of Cook Strait, and heavy rain in districts with a westerly aspect.

A secondary "low" passing through Cook Strait on the night of the 12th was responsible for a severe southerly gale in districts surrounding the Strait.

In most parts of the Dominion an abundant growth in vegetation took place during the month.

D. C. BATES, Director.