

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of March, 1923. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 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.						
1	30-110	62.8	51.5	57.1	130.0	47.5	472	3	S.	..	..
2	30-134	62.1	46.1	54.1	128.0	34.5	197	7	N.E.	..	..
3	30-115	69.6	54.2	61.9	136.0	44.7	123	8	N.E.	Trace	..	
4	30-276	69.3	56.0	62.6	143.0	51.2	191	9	S.	..	..
5	30-372	64.8	53.5	59.1	117.0	47.5	262	1	S.	..	..
6	30-190	65.0	42.3	53.6	129.0	29.5	165	6	N.	1	..	
7	30-152	65.4	55.6	60.5	134.0	46.1	232	10	S.	..	..
8	30-267	63.8	53.5	58.6	124.0	51.3	377	6	S.S.E.	..	..
9	30-269	60.3	51.0	55.6	119.0	49.2	332	9	S.	..	..
10	30-140	65.5	43.3	54.4	132.0	31.8	116	6	N.W.	20	..	
11	30-115	67.0	57.4	62.2	131.0	54.5	335	4	N.W.	..	..
12	30-098	67.0	58.3	62.6	133.0	52.0	222	8	N.W.	..	..
13	29-891	65.9	60.3	63.1	132.0	58.7	399	9	N.W.	..	..
14	29-667	68.8	63.0	65.9	127.0	60.2	522	7	N.W.	112	..	
15	29-665	69.5	47.5	58.5	126.0	46.1	350	10	S.	Trace	..	
16	29-615	64.1	49.8	56.9	125.0	46.1	365	0	WSW	..	..
17	29-409	65.1	56.6	60.8	123.0	53.5	460	6	N.W.	..	..
18	29-589	66.1	54.7	60.4	124.0	47.9	371	0	WNW	..	..
19	29-800	65.8	45.3	55.5	120.0	34.1	219	3	N.E.	..	..
20	29-972	64.0	48.6	56.3	124.0	37.0	95	9	S.S.W.	..	..
21	30-040	63.7	51.2	57.4	119.0	39.7	115	5	N.E.	..	..
22	29-894	65.4	56.8	61.1	133.0	51.8	217	9	N.	23	..	
23	29-779	67.3	58.2	62.7	126.0	54.5	190	10	N.	7	..	
24	29-858	65.0	57.6	61.3	123.0	53.0	359	7	N.N.W.	..	..
25	30-064	67.8	55.0	61.4	124.0	44.0	251	7	S.	..	..
26	29-963	67.0	50.4	58.7	130.0	39.0	141	4	N.	12	..	
27	29-809	65.3	57.7	61.5	134.0	52.2	385	1	N.N.W.	..	..
28	29-967	66.7	49.1	57.9	134.0	36.7	133	2	N.N.E.	..	..
29	29-939	65.8	57.4	61.6	132.0	52.8	306	5	N.N.W.	..	..
30	30-005	69.3	56.4	62.8	120.0	50.0	192	10	S.E.	5	..	
31	29-680	68.8	56.8	62.8	127.0	39.0	290	10	N.N.E.	20	..	
*	29-963	65.9	53.4	59.6	127.7	46.3	270.4	6.2	..	..	200
†	30-029	66.9	54.2	60.5	117.4	47.5	242	5.3	..	..	323

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
9	4	..	1	9	..	2	6	..

NOTE.—A cloudy month, with moderate to strong Northerly and Southerly winds prevailing. Precipitation was 62 per cent. below the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine 174 hours 44 minutes, 45 per cent. of the possible, and one sunless day. Mean earth temperature at 1 ft. was 62.1°, and 62.5° at 3 ft. Frost occurred on two mornings. Mean dew-point, 49.5°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.355 in.; mean relative humidity, 70 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

March, 1923.

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 Points or more).
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
Ff.	NORTH ISLAND.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	Dys.
125	AUCKLAND ..	62.3	68.5	56.1	176	8
131	RUAKURA FARM, HAMILTON EAST	59.2	71.4	47.0	253	9
46	TE AROHA .. W. B. Monro	60.9	69.5	52.4	266	5
340	WAIHI .. W. O'Connell	60.7	71.2	50.2	205	10
100	TAURANGA .. C. F. Sims.	60.7	70.2	51.3	282	9
925	ROTORUA .. C. J. Butcher	58.7	69.4	48.1	259	10
60	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. E. Penno	58.6	65.5	51.7	429	13
250	MOUMAHAKI .. G. H. Dolby	58.4	69.1	47.6	131	7
2080	TAIHAPE .. J. G. McFarlane	53.7	61.9	45.6	152	12
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. A. R. Fannin	57.7	67.2	48.3	203	11
5	OROUA DOWNS .. J. A. Colquhoun	57.8	66.4	49.2	252	10
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA .. H. D. Stride	57.3	65.1	49.5	168	10
377	MASTERTON .. J. E. Sharp	57.9	68.5	47.3	64	10
186	GREYTOWN .. R. Brown	57.8	67.8	47.8	222	6
10	WELLINGTON .. W. Allan	59.6	65.9	53.4	200	8
87	SOUTH ISLAND. BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	57.5	65.9	49.1	355	10
34	NELSON .. Wm. C. Davies	57.9	66.4	49.5	324	9
1220	HANMER SPRINGS .. W. G. Morrison	53.8	65.4	42.2	351	8
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	56.2	64.7	47.6	41	6
42	LINCOLN .. M. J. Scott	56.1	67.0	45.2	45	10
1220	KISSELTON .. F. Freeman	55.1	67.2	43.1	114	4
349	RAKAIA .. Miss A. Hardy	57.5	67.7	47.3	62	4
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	56.3	66.1	46.5	98	7
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	54.7	64.1	45.4	69	7
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	55.0	62.8	47.3	346	16
245	GOBE .. A. T. Newman	..	..	..	..	..
12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	54.5	61.9	47.1	919	22
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	..	..	..	..	..

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1923.

The early part of March was anticyclonic in character, fair weather prevailing generally until the 13th. The remainder of the month, except for short fair-weather intervals, was unsettled under the influence of various depressions passing in the South. Of the latter the most notable, an intense and extensive one ruling between the 14th and 19th, was responsible for strong west to south-west winds and rain in many parts. On the 16th the barometer fell as low as 28.95 inches at the Bluff.

The total rainfall was above the average in the northern and southern portions of the South Island and also at scattered stations on the West Coast; elsewhere it was mostly below, the largest deficiencies occurring in the East Coast districts.

D. C. BATES, Director.