

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of March, 1924. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in Inches to Lat. 19°.	From Self-registering 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	30-184	Fah. 71.5	Fah. 55.5	Fah. 63.5	Fah. 131.0	Fah. 48.1	95	9	S.E.	..
2	30-196	76.2	53.0	64.6	135.0	44.0	54	1	N.W.	..
3	30-209	73.5	62.4	67.9	138.0	58.1	204	9	N.W.	..
4	30-224	73.8	65.1	69.4	140.0	62.1	238	9	N.E.	13
5	30-201	71.9	59.6	65.7	126.0	55.9	82	10	N.E.	18
6	30-087	72.2	61.8	67.0	118.0	61.2	59	10	E.S.E.	207
7	30-049	66.9	56.6	61.7	112.0	52.1	123	1	N.E.	11
8	29-850	74.1	65.1	69.6	141.0	63.9	273	6	N.W.	Trace
9	29-631	70.5	67.0	68.7	128.0	64.6	474	10	N.N.W.	16
10	29-733	72.8	57.0	64.9	137.0	55.5	303	10	S.E.	22
11	29-640	60.1	57.0	58.5	95.0	55.8	521	10	S.S.E.	Trace
12	29-850	60.8	51.4	56.1	95.0	47.0	745	9	S.S.E.	8
13	29-780	58.9	56.8	57.8	116.0	48.8	615	10	S.S.E.	120
14	29-770	56.4	51.7	54.0	77.0	49.8	438	10	S.E.	21
15	29-840	60.0	55.2	57.6	79.0	54.0	124	10	S.E.	2
16	30-116	60.3	54.9	57.6	93.0	53.5	283	10	S.	..
17	30-256	62.4	52.3	57.3	†	47.0	313	2	S.E.	..
18	30-281	66.7	47.9	57.3	†	39.1	89	..	S.E.	..
19	30-245	68.9	50.1	59.5	†	44.0	123	9	N.N.W.	..
20	30-265	69.5	61.2	65.3	76.0	58.6	289	10	N.W.	21
21	30-205	67.2	60.1	63.6	67.0	58.1	294	10	N.N.W.	..
22	30-114	66.9	59.8	63.3	80.0	53.6	271	4	N.W.	..
23	30-542	69.5	55.0	62.2	98.0	52.0	232	1	S.	..
24	30-437	66.1	54.4	60.2	94.0	53.0	205	..	E.S.E.	..
25	30-384	65.7	46.1	55.9	86.0	36.6	83	1	E.N.E.	..
26	30-372	68.8	47.0	57.9	87.0	37.9	47	..	E.N.E.	..
27	30-244	70.8	47.7	59.2	96.0	39.1	36	7	N.E.	..
28	30-214	73.4	58.0	65.7	80.0	43.2	43	1	N.E.	3
29	30-305	66.4	57.5	61.9	67.0	54.9	227	10	S.S.E.	13
30	30-201	73.2	59.5	66.3	100.0	56.0	127	..	S.E.	..
31	30-145	76.4	56.2	66.3	79.0	48.0	46	8	N.E.	..
*	30-115	68.1	56.2	62.1	102.5	51.5	229	6.3	..	475
†	29-980	69.3	55.7	62.5	124.8	49.0	239	5.2	..	323

* Means, &c. † Means previous years. ‡ Solar thermometer broken by boys throwing stones; mean for twenty-eight days only.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
3	6	4	7	6	5	..

NOTE.—The weather during the month was cloudy and unsettled, with precipitation 47 per cent. above the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine 146 hours 27 minutes, 38 per cent. of the possible, and nine sunless days. Mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 64.2°, and 65.1° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 53.8°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.415 in.; and mean relative humidity, 75 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.
MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.
March, 1924.

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. 152	NORTH ISLAND. AUCKLAND ..	Deg. 67.2	Deg. 73.1	Deg. 61.3	Points. 363	16
131	RUAKURA FARM. HAMILTON EAST W. B. Monro	65.1	77.2	53.0	677	11
46	TE AROHA .. C. E. Christensen	67.0	77.2	56.8	695	10
340	WAIHI .. C. F. Sims.	64.7	75.2	54.3	1089	18
100	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	64.7	72.8	56.7	701	15
925	ROTORUA .. W. E. Penno	63.6	72.3	55.0	247	15
60	NEW PLYMOUTH .. G. H. Dolby	64.3	70.5	58.1	656	13
250	MOUMAHAKI .. J. G. McFarlane	62.4	69.9	55.0	340	10
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	59.2	66.5	51.9	735	14
100	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. A. Colquhoun	63.4	71.5	55.4	124	11
5	OROUA DOWNS .. R. A. Reid	61.3	70.5	52.1	191	9
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA J. E. Sharp	61.5	69.4	53.7	192	10
5	NAPIER .. Chas. L. Thomas	64.2	70.5	58.0	1080	11
377	MASTERTON .. R. Brown	61.7	69.3	54.2	336	15
186	GREYTOWN .. W. Allan	60.9	69.5	52.4	357	13
10	WELLINGTON ..	62.1	68.1	56.2	475	13
87	SOUTH ISLAND. BRIGHTWATER .. Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	62.5	71.0	54.1	530	11
34	NELSON .. H. Harrison	62.7	70.0	55.5	720	12
1220	HANMER SPRINGS .. W. G. Morrison	56.7	65.8	47.6	523	14
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	59.0	65.5	52.6	156	12
42	LINCOLN .. M. J. Scott	58.9	68.0	49.8	280	9
1220	KISSELTON .. F. Freeman	57.9	68.5	47.3	131	7
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	57.8	64.7	51.0	142	12
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	57.4	64.8	50.1	130	14
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	57.8	64.0	51.7	113	9
245	GORE .. A. T. Newman	56.6	68.6	44.7	111	9
12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	61.8	69.4	54.2	630	14
12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	55.5	65.9	45.1	97	14
LATE RETURNS.						
245	GORE—					
	January, 1923 ..	60.4	71.2	49.6	342	16
	February, " ..	53.3	63.3	43.3	552	22
	March, " ..	52.7	64.2	41.3	450	17
	April, " ..	48.3	58.0	38.7	383	13
	August, " ..	40.1	49.6	30.7	285	13
	September, " ..	48.2	58.8	37.7	105	11
	October, " ..	51.0	62.5	39.6	191	15

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1924.

Warmth and humidity, as in the previous month, characterized the weather during March, particularly in the North, Owing to the effects of several ex-tropical disturbances, nearly all parts of the North Island and the north-east districts of the South Island experienced an excessive rainfall, while in Westland, South Canterbury, and Otago, in the South Island, the total was below the average, and in the latter districts drought conditions prevailed during the last half of the month.

The most notable disturbance was a cyclone which passed over the northern districts between the 9th and 12th. It accounted for south-east gales and rain generally. On the 11th very heavy rain and floods were experienced in the Hawke's Bay and northern districts, and serious losses of stock and damage to roads and bridges resulted.

During the month, in most parts of the Dominion, conditions were favourable to remarkably good growth of vegetation.
D. C. BATES, Director.