

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations at Kelburn, Wellington, for the Month of January, 1929. Observations taken at 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 415 ft.

Date.	Pressure, in Inches, at Sea-level and Standard Gravity.	Temperature (°F.) from Observations at 9 a.m.							Wind.			Rainfall, in Points (100 Points = 1 Inch)	Bright Sunshine: Hours and Tenths.	Weather (Symbols) at 9 a.m.
		In Screen.					Minimum on Grass.	Solar Radiation: Maximum.	Beaufort Scale.		Anemometer.			
		At 9 a.m.			Maxim.	Minim.			Direction.	Force.				
		Dry.	Wet.	Humidity.							Dry.			
1	29-742	60.3	60.0	98	63.8	58.0	57.0	126.8	NW	6	309	27	1.1	or
2	29-806	56.9	52.1	70	65.2	50.2	46.2	139.2	S	2	229	..	6.9	o
3	29-650	65.2	60.4	74	71.1	54.0	48.1	138.8	NNW	3	119	14	10.7	b
4	29-928	55.1	53.6	90	60.2	51.0	49.8	131.0	SE	3	203	Trace	8.5	o
5	29-753	59.8	56.5	80	62.6	49.9	44.4	123.8	NW	4	170	2	4.9	o
6	29-847	61.2	54.5	63	62.8	55.6	49.9	138.8	SE	4	236	..	10.4	bc
7	29-657	58.2	55.4	82	64.2	52.8	48.0	136.1	NW	2	139	1	7.6	o
8	29-840	58.1	55.0	81	62.0	51.1	49.1	134.0	SSE	3	180	..	11.1	c
9	29-826	61.4	55.7	68	64.0	50.9	43.1	133.9	NW	6	179	..	5.2	c
10	29-846	63.3	62.0	93	64.2	58.5	57.2	105.9	NW	4	512	2	..	o
11	29-794	63.1	62.9	99	65.5	61.1	60.9	120.0	NW	7	615	om
12	29-901	65.5	59.7	69	69.6	59.0	56.0	135.7	NNE	1	446	1	9.3	c
13	30-011	62.2	60.0	87	65.9	57.0	53.0	135.7	SSE	1	134	9	..	o
14	29-818	65.7	63.0	86	69.1	56.4	53.2	139.9	NW	2	81	7	1.9	o
15	29-757	66.5	63.5	84	69.3	60.7	59.6	134.1	NW	1	432	..	11.2	o
16	29-986	68.4	62.2	68	72.9	58.0	56.1	141.5	NNW	2	191	..	11.9	cz
17	30-003	68.1	64.4	79	74.1	58.8	52.1	134.9	N	2	137	..	11.8	bez
18	29-988	69.6	65.1	78	73.0	63.9	62.1	137.7	NW	4	287	Trace	11.4	bc
19	30-032	67.0	66.0	95	70.8	63.5	63.1	133.4	NNW	4	365	6	0.9	o
20	29-926	67.6	66.9	97	68.6	65.0	64.3	138.0	N	6	156	Trace	3.4	od
21	29-916	57.9	51.7	63	62.5	54.8	53.2	134.7	SSE	5	375	..	7.6	o
22	29-500	62.6	58.0	74	66.0	49.0	43.5	136.0	NNW	5	199	..	6.9	bez
23	29-153	59.4	49.2	42	65.1	52.1	48.0	134.9	W	3	421	27	9.9	b
24	29-274	53.0	47.5	64	56.6	45.1	43.9	117.0	SSW	5	238	86	4.8	o
25	29-556	48.7	48.3	97	56.5	45.4	44.2	128.7	SW	8	362	27	3.7	or
26	29-962	55.8	49.3	58	61.6	47.0	44.0	127.0	SE	3	387	..	13.3	bez
27	30-066	60.7	57.2	81	68.0	50.0	45.0	133.1	NW	3	81	..	10.3	bc
28	30-047	62.2	55.1	61	65.6	56.6	53.0	131.0	NW	5	269	..	8.7	c
29	30-006	65.3	63.0	88	66.8	59.8	57.1	129.0	NNW	3	402	6	4.4	c
30	30-146	58.0	57.1	95	66.9	55.8	55.3	133.0	SE	2	114	..	7.7	o
31	30-074	66.4	59.2	63	74.8	53.4	46.2	142.0	E	1	71	..	13.6	bz
Means, &c.	29-833	61.7	57.9	78	66.1	55.0	51.8	132.4	..	3.5	259	215	219.1	..

Mean earth temperature at 1 ft., 65.8°; and at 3 ft., 63.8°. Number of rain days, 13.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

Gale (force 8 or more)	Forces 4 to 7	Calm.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.
1	14	..	5	1/2	1	5 1/2	3	1 1/2	1	13 1/2

NOTE.—On the whole a cool, dry summer month, with cloudiness above the normal. Total bright sunshine, 219.1 hours, 48 per cent. of the possible, and three sunless days. Precipitation at Karori Reservoir, near Kelburn, was 35 per cent. below the average. Mean dew-point, 54.8°; and mean vapour pressure, 0.429 in.

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1929.

January was a month of contrasts, a hot spell in the third week being followed by a cold snap of almost wintry severity. Rainfall was considerably below the average in the North Island and the western districts of the South Island, but in Canterbury and Otago an excess was generally recorded. Once more, there was an unusual frequency of thunderstorms, many of which were severe. In some cases these storms were accompanied by downpours resembling miniature cloud-bursts. Some remarkable hailstorms also occurred, considerable damage being done in a number of instances.

The storm systems were mainly centred far south, and of only moderate intensity. In consequence, the prevailing weather was of the westerly type, and the storms affected principally the South Island. High-pressure centres continued to follow unusually far northward tracks for the season of the year, but were seldom of any great intensity.

The deficiency of rainfall, following on the heavy rains of December, was not sufficient in the North Island to affect pastures adversely, and feed is everywhere abundant. The rankness of the growth has, in places, adversely affected the raising of fat lambs, but stock is, on the whole, in good condition. The hot, dry weather preceding the 20th was a boon to harvesters and haymakers, and satisfactory results are generally reported. Some crops have been flattened by wind, hail, or rain, but fungus diseases have made much less headway than was feared. Fruit-growers do not, on the whole, appear to be experiencing quite so good a season as other agriculturalists.

A very severe hailstorm, in which stones up to two inches in diameter were seen to fall, visited Otago on the 7th during the passage of a low-pressure wave. A number of crops were totally destroyed and other damage was done.

On the 8th January a deep depression was centred south of Tasmania, the Hobart barometer reading 28.96 inches. North-westerly gales were experienced in and south of Cook Strait on this day and the next.

On the 10th a terrific thunderstorm, accompanied by torrential rain, occurred near the Hermitage, some miles of road being washed out.

The week ending on the 19th was very hot, many places in the South Island recording over 90° F. In the North, though temperatures were not so high, the great humidity rendered conditions no less oppressive. Hawke's Bay, however, appears to have escaped much of the severity of this heat wave.