

The hot spell was followed by a period of southerly winds which gradually increased in force and brought lower and lower temperatures. An anticyclone was centred over the Tasman Sea, while pressure fell very low to the eastward. On the afternoon of the 23rd Chatham Island reported a barometer reading of 28.78 inches. The southerly winds began to reach gale force in places on the 22nd, but did not attain their full strength until the night of the 24th and the morning of the 25th. Most districts then experienced gales, but from Cook Strait southwards on the east coast, they were exceptionally severe. The high winds, accompanied by high tides and a heavy swell caused unusually rough conditions. Shipping was delayed and some vessels reported damage. Some of the eastern suburbs of Christchurch were flooded, and the Wellington to Petone railway was again undermined in places. Snow fell on the high country on the 23rd and 24th, and severe hailstorms were remarkably widespread. By the 25th the weather was extremely cold, some stations even recording frost.

From the 26th conditions gradually returned to normal.

The month has been remarkable for disturbed conditions in the Tropics. In the interior and north of Australia, pressures were most unusually low, monsoonal conditions being strongly developed.

Between the 18th and the 23rd the low-pressure conditions extended across the Pacific to beyond Samoa. At least two cyclonic centres developed, one near the New Hebrides, which ultimately passed close to Suva where the barometer fell to below 28 inches, and the other near Samoa. It is probable that there were two separate centres in the latter. Fortunately the damage done was not severe.

EDWARD KIDSON, Director.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM CHIEF STATIONS.

January, 1929.

Altitude above Sea-level.	Name of Station and Observer.	Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (½ Point or more).	Altitude above Sea-level.	Name of Station and Observer.	Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (½ Point or more).
			Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.						Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.		
Ft. 225	NORTH ISLAND. WAIPOUA, DONNELLY'S CROSSING E. Newton	Deg. 62.4	Deg. 71.2	Deg. 53.6	Points. 170	10	Ft. 186	NORTH ISLAND.— <i>ctd.</i> GREYTOWN .. W. Allan	Deg. 64.0	Deg. 75.0	Deg. 53.1	Points. 220	12
65	RIVERHEAD .. W. J. McKibbin	..	73.4	*	157	11	415	WELLINGTON ..	60.5	66.1	55.0	215	13
152	AUCKLAND .. H. M. Vincent	67.1	74.3	60.0	138	11		SOUTH ISLAND.					
131	RUAKURA FARM, HAMILTON EAST A. Stuart	63.9	75.3	52.6	138	12	34	NELSON .. O. B. Pemberton	63.6	72.4	54.8	101	6
..	CAMBRIDGE .. H. Sturgeon	64.4	75.8	53.1	195	12	743	BALMORAL, CULVERDEN D. D. Dunn	61.4	71.6	51.2	254	13
211	MATAMATA .. W. Halligan	64.5	76.8	52.2	206	9	1220	HANMER SPRINGS .. W. Montgomery	59.8	70.7	48.9	343	13
46	TE AROHA .. C. E. Christensen	67.6	79.8	55.5	263	10	25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	61.4	70.0	52.8	407	11
340	WAIHI .. F. Haszard	65.4	74.0	56.8	169	9	42	LINCOLN .. D. J. Sidey	61.0	70.7	51.3	234	11
100	TAURANGA .. Miss K. Butcher	64.6	77.3	52.0	118	10	1220	LAKE COLERIDGE .. H. E. M. Hart	64.4	76.2	52.6	79	6
925	ROTORUA .. G. R. Ewing	63.9	74.1	53.7	35	7	1200	"RUDSTONE," METHVEN James Carr	58.2	67.6	48.8	342	11
1000	ROTORUA NURSERY, WHAKAREWAREWA W. T. Morrison	63.7	77.0	50.4	38	6	323	ASHBURNTON .. H. P. Clayton	..	*	50.1	202	12
60	NEW PLYMOUTH .. G. H. Dolby	62.6	69.4	55.9	164	11	1000	FAIRLIE .. J. Fraser	58.7	72.0	45.4	174	11
2125	KAROI .. H. E. Fache	56.6	67.4	45.9	376	12	2510	THE HERMITAGE, MOUNT COOK C. C. Woolley	..	..	..	..	..
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	58.6	66.8	50.4	438	15	2350	LAKE TEKAPO .. R. R. Beauchamp	56.0	67.7	44.3	197	6
100	PALMERSTON NORTH J. A. Colquhoun	63.0	71.4	54.7	322	12	56	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	60.5	69.6	51.4	134	13
..	MASSEY AGRI. COL., PALMERSTON N. I. P. E. Sulser	62.4	70.1	54.8	257	15	200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	59.2	68.4	50.0	272	16
8	TANGIMOANA .. E. Belworthy	63.1	72.3	53.9	235	14	1550	SANATORIUM, WAIPIATA Dr. A. Kidd	57.7	69.1	46.3	233	15
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA J. E. Sharp	62.4	70.1	54.8	234	18	1000	OPHIR .. Rev. A. Don	60.7	72.9	48.5	196	11
5	NAPIER .. R. Thomas	66.0	73.7	58.3	85	8	..	MANORBURN DAM .. J. C. Buchanan	53.0	62.8	43.2	267	9
45	HASTINGS .. H. N. Fowler	64.1	75.1	53.1	72	6	520	ALEXANDRA .. Geo. Smith	63.6	72.9	54.3	156	9
384	MANGAMUTU, PAHIATUA A. W. Hamilton	32.4	71.4	53.4	306	11	300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	59.3	67.9	50.8	441	17
377	MASTERTON .. R. Brown	63.5	74.3	52.8	248	9	245	GORE .. A. T. Newman	..	..	..	..	..
							12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	60.1	67.2	53.0	906	18
							12	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	58.7	66.6	50.8	552	21

* Thermometer out of order.