

The first very general rain occurred on the 22nd, when the centre of a depression crossed the southern portion of the South Island. Following it a trough of low pressure moved northwards over the Dominion, strong westerly winds prevailing to the north of it and south-easterlies to the south. The weather remained unsettled until the 24th. There were heavy falls on the 22nd from the Wellington Province southwards, while in the far South the 21st was also very wet. Slight flooding was experienced in Southland.

Unsettled conditions developed again on the 27th and continued until the end of the month. The storm system responsible was a complex one, but the most important feature was an extensive cyclonic depression which approached the northern portion of the North Island from the north-west on the 30th. North-easterly gales were experienced from the Bay of Plenty northward. Except in the western and southern areas of the South Island, heavy rain was general. This was especially the case in the Auckland Province, where considerable flooding occurred, particularly North Auckland. Much of the North Island received more than the average month's rainfall in the last three days. Warm and sultry weather prevailed in most places throughout this period.

EDWARD KIDSON, Director.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

SUMMARY OF THE RECORDS OF TEMPERATURE, RAINFALL, AND SUNSHINE FOR DECEMBER, 1936.

Station.	Height of Station above M.S.L.	Air Temperatures in Degrees (Fahrenheit).						Rainfall in Inches.					Bright Sunshine (Hours).			
		Means of		Mean of A and B.	Difference from Normal.	Absolute Maximum and Minimum.				Total Fall.	No. of Wet Days.	Difference from Normal.		Most in a Day.		
		A Max.	B Min.			Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	Date.					Amount.	Date.	
		°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	In.	In.	In.						
Te Pahi, Te Hapua ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waipoua State Forest ..	225	68.0	52.2	60.1	(-0.2)	77.0	28	43.0	9	5.33	14	..	1.97	30	142.2	..
Riverhead ..	105	67.6	50.5	59.0	(-0.3)	76.0	25	37.0	8	4.85	11	..	1.62	30	..	..
Auckland ..	160	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waikato ..	404	69.7	52.8	61.2	-0.9	74.0	22,26	38.0	12	9.56	11	+6.20	4.47	30	242.9	..
Te Aroha ..	46	73.6	53.7	63.6	+0.1	81.0	26	43.0	18	3.57	12	+0.20	1.21	31	..	..
Morrinsville ..	87	71.5	49.7	60.6	..	79.6	26	37.8	8	4.42	10	..	1.22	30	..	..
Tauranga ..	100	73.2	50.5	61.8	+0.2	79.0	22	37.2	18	9.45	9	+5.98	4.76	31	253.9	..
Ruakura Farm, Hamilton	131	69.4	49.0	59.2	-1.4	78.4	24	37.0	19	3.28	12	+0.12	0.94	30	182.0	..
Rotorua ..	925	71.7	50.0	60.8	-0.3	80.6	26	37.4	18	5.86	11	+2.21	1.55	31	205.2	..
Whakarewarewa ..	1,000	70.8	48.8	59.8	(-0.8)	79.8	26	35.5	18	5.83	10	+2.00	1.47	31	..	..
Onepoto, Lake Waikaremoana	2,110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.58	..	..	1.51	30	..	..
New Plymouth ..	60	66.8	52.0	59.4	-0.5	74.1	29	45.0	3	4.46	12	+0.25	1.09	30	220.7	..
Chateau Tongariro ..	3,670	57.6	36.6	47.1	(-1.6)	64.2	27	24.5	17	8.80	17	..	1.91	22	..	..
Karioi ..	2,125	65.6	43.1	54.4	(+0.9)	74.8	31	29.5	18	1.71	9	..	0.38	31	..	..
Napier ..	5	68.9	54.1	61.5	-1.0	85.2	26	44.0	17	3.75	12	+1.81	0.92	30	212.0	..
Hastings ..	45	72.3	51.2	61.8	(+0.6)	86.2	26	41.0	18	2.81	12	..	1.05	30	..	..
Taihape ..	2,157	63.7	46.5	55.1	-0.7	71.2	26	35.6	18	2.73	11	-0.53	0.80	22	..	..
Tangimoana ..	8	67.1	51.6	59.4	-1.0	76.0	24	40.0	18	2.60	9	-0.10	1.12	22	..	..
Palmerston North	100	68.5	51.9	60.2	0.0	79.0	27	42.0	18	3.46	13	+0.48	1.04	22	..	..
Massey College, P.N.	110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pahiatua ..	384	66.2	49.5	57.8	(-2.6)	74.0	14, 27	36.4	14	4.35	14	(+0.70)	2.22	22	..	..
Kapiti Island ..	44	64.6	53.6	59.1	0.0	69.0	14	47.0	17, 18	5.11	11	+2.03	2.05	22	..	..
Masterton ..	387	69.1	49.1	59.1	-1.5	81.4	20	39.4	14	2.55	12	-0.22	0.69	1	204.5	..
Wellington ..	415	63.8	51.0	57.4	-2.0	72.0	20	41.6	18	4.43	13	(+1.50)	1.26	22	222.6	..
Nelson ..	24	68.2	51.1	59.6	-1.0	80.0	20	40.9	18	3.00	12	+0.04	1.07	22	224.0	..
Appleby, Nelson	57	69.0	50.7	59.8	(-0.4)	79.4	20	38.6	18	2.69	9	..	1.02	22	..	..
Blenheim ..	30	71.7	49.5	60.6	(-1.6)	82.2	26	37.2	18	1.68	10	(-0.05)	0.55	22	216.7	..
Golden Downs ..	900	68.2	44.5	56.4	(-0.8)	75.1	20	32.2	20	3.40	11	..	0.89	22	..	..
Waihopai ..	860	69.1	49.2	59.2	-0.8	81.0	26	36.6	18	2.65	12	..	0.85	22	..	..
Hammer Springs	1,225	65.8	44.4	55.1	-2.4	79.6	14	33.8	9	3.19	13	-0.61	1.06	22	154.1	..
Balmoral ..	743	66.3	45.5	55.9	(-3.3)	81.4	14	34.0	13	2.30	10	..	0.69	22	..	..
Hokitika ..	12	64.2	49.9	57.0	-0.6	74.5	31	42.0	2	9.39	15	-0.98	2.97	21	175.1	..
Lake Coleridge ..	1,220	66.4	46.3	56.4	-1.6	79.8	14	34.5	17, 18	2.42	9	-0.01	1.34	27	..	..
Rudstone, Methven	1,217	63.5	45.9	54.7	(-2.3)	75.0	14, 15, 19	35.0	17	4.43	14	+0.62	1.61	27	..	..
Christchurch ..	22	63.3	49.0	56.2	-3.6	75.1	25	40.0	7	2.64	12	+0.18	0.65	28	185.6	..
Lincoln ..	36	64.9	48.1	56.5	-3.2	77.0	8	38.5	17	2.32	10	+0.15	0.70	28	186.4	..
Hermitage, Mount Cook	2,510	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ashburton ..	323	63.3	45.0	54.2	(-3.8)	76.3	14	33.0	17	2.76	14	-0.05	1.06	28	154.8	..
Lake Tekapo ..	2,350	64.3	42.5	53.4	(-1.6)	77.3	25	32.6	18	2.34	3	..	1.34	27	263.8	..
Fairlie ..	1,000	64.9	42.6	53.8	(-4.8)	83.0	25	32.1	2	2.88	9	..	1.17	28	161.7	..
Timaru ..	56	65.1	52.4	58.8	+0.2	74.6	14	38.2	18	2.77	10	+0.35	1.11	28	170.7	..
Waimate ..	200	64.0	50.2	57.1	-0.4	76.0	25	41.0	18	2.24	14	-0.58	0.74	27	122.5	..
Milford Sound ..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.14	13	..	3.74	21	..	..
Queenstown ..	1,110	68.0	46.6	57.3	(-0.4)	77.6	4	37.4	2	0.97	8	-1.54	0.48	20	279.6	..
Ophir ..	1,000	68.9	45.7	57.3	-1.1	80.5	4	34.0	2	1.99	8	+0.45	0.74	28	..	..
Waipiata ..	1,550	65.3	43.8	54.6	-1.2	80.4	25	31.6	13	1.59	8	..	0.51	20	243.8	..
Alexandra ..	520	69.2	47.5	58.4	(-1.5)	82.2	4, 25	38.2	18	1.12	9	-0.29	0.42	28	255.1	..
Manorburn Dam ..	2,448	60.8	40.0	50.4	(-0.9)	72.8	4	29.0	2	2.14	10	-0.04	0.60	20	..	..
Dunedin ..	240	62.4	46.9	54.6	-1.5	76.5	19	39.1	30	5.78	16	+2.31	1.68	20	168.9	..
Gore ..	245	65.5	43.5	54.5	-1.6	81.0	13	34.0	3	4.27	12	+1.09	1.76	20	217.8	..
Invercargill ..	12	62.3	45.9	54.1	-1.3	74.0	14	37.0	3, 30	4.05	18	+0.05	1.44	21	215.6	..
LATE RETURNS.																
Hermitage, Mount Cook, November, 1936	2,510	57.4	41.0	49.2	(-0.2)	71.0	28	32.5	3	15.08	21	+2.79	2.83	28	103.6	..

NOTE.—At stations where departures from normal are in parentheses the record has been maintained for less than ten years in the case of temperatures and for less than twenty years in the case of rainfall, and the normals are partly interpolated.