

On the 22nd a depression was approaching from the Tasman Sea. In this a vigorous cyclonic centre developed suddenly on the 23rd and was located to the west of Cook Strait until the evening of the 24th. It was responsible for a brief northerly gale at Auckland on the 24th, but the southerly gales which commenced in the South Island on the 23rd, and, extending northwards, did not finally die out until the 25th, were more severe and some damage was done by them. This storm caused general rain, which was heavy everywhere except in parts of Otago and Southland. Particularly heavy falls were recorded in North Canterbury, Wellington, Taranaki, and Hawke's Bay. Severe flooding occurred in southern Hawke's Bay, where the falls in the low levels were unprecedented. A number of places had over 9 inches in 24 hours, and at Rissington in three days there were 12.15 inches. Fortunately, the rain in the ranges was much lighter, so that the amount of damage done was relatively small.

A slight depression caused some scattered rains on the 29th and 30th, particularly in districts with a westerly aspect. In some places the rain was accompanied by thunder, and thunderstorms were generally of frequent occurrence during the month.

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CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

SUMMARY OF THE RECORDS OF TEMPERATURE, RAINFALL, AND SUNSHINE FOR JANUARY, 1938.

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	76.0	58.5	67.2	(+2.6)	78.5	2, 17	46.0	11	2.48	7	..	1.43	8	257.1
Waipoua State Forest..	225	77.1	54.5	65.8	(-2.9)	86.0	15	49.0	6	2.73	12	..	1.27	23	258.9
Riverhead .. .. .	105	76.9	52.8	64.8	(+2.6)	84.5	15	41.0	11	3.82	9	..	2.12	8	..
Auckland .. .. .	160	76.5	63.8	70.2	+4.0	84.2	7	56.7	11	3.75	10	+0.78	2.32	8	294.9
Waihi .. .. .	404	76.7	56.4	66.6	+2.1	85.0	15	45.0	11	3.00	10	-2.28	0.88	23	279.2
Te Aroha .. .. .	46	82.3	57.8	70.0	+3.2	90.0	15, 17	44.5	11	2.24	8	-1.29	0.74	23	..
Tauranga .. .. .	100	76.2	57.9	67.1	+3.1	82.4	19	49.5	11	1.63	7	-2.40	0.68	23	284.8
Ruakura Farm, Hamilton	131	79.9	55.5	67.7	+4.0	88.2	15	42.4	11	2.60	10	-0.92	0.96	23	283.5
Rotorua .. .. .	925	80.3	56.9	68.6	+4.8	89.8	15	47.2	10	4.24	11	+0.06	0.97	23	256.9
Whakarewarewa ..	1,000	76.7	55.6	66.2	(+2.9)	87.8	15	44.4	11	5.78	13	+1.37	1.16	28	..
Gisborne .. .. .	25	80.5	54.7	67.6	..	91.3	4	41.5	21	2.69	5	..	2.13	25	280.9
Onepoto, Lake Waikaremoana	2,110	71.8	55.8	63.8	..	83.3	7	48.0	26	5.71	10	..	3.13	25	..
New Plymouth .. ..	60	73.6	57.6	65.6	+3.2	82.0	15	47.3	11	8.18	9	+4.00	2.53	23	258.1
Chateau Tongariro ..	3,670	67.7	48.0	57.8	(+5.7)	78.8	11	37.1	10	5.87	13	..	1.74	5	..
Karioi* .. .. .	2,125	74.0	47.1	60.6	(+4.0)	84.3	16	33.9	11	6.56	12	..	2.88	24	..
Napier .. .. .	5	74.6	59.0	66.8	+1.7	88.2	8	49.0	11	6.09	9	+3.59	4.34	24	266.0
Hastings .. .. .	45	79.6	56.6	68.1	(+4.3)	92.0	8	45.4	11	11.12	9	..	9.68	24	..
Taihape .. .. .	2,157	73.6	54.0	63.8	+4.9	83.9	16	44.0	11	6.19	9	+3.03	1.46	24	..
Wanganui .. .. .	72	73.6	58.3	66.0	..	86.1	8	48.0	27	4.66	7	..	1.75	24	277.3
Tangimoana .. .. .	8	75.4	55.6	65.5	+3.0	85.0	7	44.0	26	2.11	6	-0.31	0.86	8	..
Palmerston North ..	100	80.1	56.5	68.3	+5.7	91.0	16	46.0	11	2.50	7	-0.47	0.97	8	..
Massey College, P.N.†..	110	75.7	57.0	66.4	(+4.3)	86.0	8	46.2	11	2.47	7	(-0.89)	1.01	8	232.6
Pahiatua .. .. .	384	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kapiti Island .. ..	44	71.0	58.3	64.6	+3.3	77.0	15	49.0	26, 27	4.19	9	+1.51	1.53	5	..
Masterton .. .. .	387	79.5	53.4	66.4	+3.2	94.5	15	42.5	11	4.38	7	+1.82	2.38	23	261.6
Wellington .. .. .	415	70.0	55.8	62.9	+1.2	78.0	13	48.4	10	5.16	9	(+2.27)	2.21	23	248.1
Nelson .. .. .	24	72.9	57.4	65.1	+2.6	79.1	5	45.9	10	3.32	7	+0.42	1.29	23	268.1
Appleby, Nelson .. ..	57	73.4	56.9	65.2	(+3.2)	80.3	5	47.0	11	4.12	7	..	1.78	23	..
Blenheim .. .. .	30	78.2	55.3	66.8	(+2.6)	92.2	18	40.5	11	1.36	8	-0.52	0.86	23	269.9
Golden Downs .. ..	900	73.7	50.3	62.0	(+3.2)	86.8	18	41.2	10	4.35	7	..	1.97	23	..
Waihopai .. .. .	860	77.3	52.1	64.7	(+2.5)	92.9	21	43.0	10	3.00	8	..	1.34	23	..
Hanmer Springs .. ..	1,225	76.0	49.5	62.8	+3.3	92.6	21	35.6	26	5.01	12	+1.06	2.23	23	208.8
Balmoral .. .. .	743	76.5	51.2	63.8	(+2.6)	93.2	21	39.0	26	3.62	7	..	1.58	23	..
Westport .. .. .	23	67.7	58.2	63.0	..	79.0	16	49.0	10, 11	8.97	11	..	2.48	7	196.6
Hokitika .. .. .	12	68.8	56.2	62.5	+2.7	72.5	3, 4	45.5	10	11.81	12	+1.71	3.22	29	182.6
Lake Coleridge .. ..	1,220	73.7	51.1	62.4	+2.7	88.1	21	38.0	10	5.25	7	+2.71	1.28	7	..
Rudstone, Methven ..	1,217	71.1	51.3	61.2	(+2.2)	85.0	13	39.0	10, 24,	5.80	9	+1.58	1.28	21	207.2
Christchurch .. ..	22	70.1	54.4	62.2	+0.8	83.0	4	45.3	10	2.92	9	+0.59	0.99	22	192.2
Lincoln .. .. .	36	72.9	53.5	63.2	+1.6	86.6	13	39.3	26	3.63	7	+1.43	1.21	21	195.7
Onawe, Duvauchelle's Bay	150	72.9	55.8	64.4	..	84.1	22	44.0	26	2.29	8	..	0.94	22	..
Hermitage, Mount Cook‡	2,510	70.9	46.2	58.6	(+5.7)	89.9	12	32.0	24	21.62	12	+3.29	4.83	8	209.8
Ashburton .. .. .	323	70.9	52.2	61.6	(+2.0)	81.2	13	40.2	26	4.31	11	+1.55	1.36	22	164.3
Lake Tekapo .. .. .	2,350	71.8	49.1	60.4	(+3.9)	86.5	13	34.5	10	4.15	7	..	1.28	22	280.6
Fairlie .. .. .	1,000	72.8	50.2	61.5	(+3.1)	89.0	3	38.0	10	5.93	8	..	1.77	7	164.0
Timaru .. .. .	56	70.2	52.8	61.5	+1.0	78.4	11	42.2	10	4.22	8	+1.83	1.17	7	186.8
Waimate .. .. .	200	70.8	52.2	61.5	(+2.4)	84.1	13	45.5	24	3.03	10	+0.36	0.86	22	146.6
Milford Sound .. ..	23	65.0	53.1	59.0	..	73.0	26	40.8	10	19.93	7	..	6.45	3	..
Queenstown .. .. .	1,110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophir .. .. .	1,000	75.8	50.2	63.0	+3.1	90.8	16	38.2	10	1.36	5	-0.62	0.51	7	..
Waipiata .. .. .	1,550	74.4	..	..	..	88.4	21	..	..	2.40	5	..	0.79	7, 22	237.9
Alexandra .. .. .	520	76.9	53.4	65.2	(+3.9)	90.2	13	42.0	10	1.78	6	(-0.19)	0.95	7	269.1
Manorburn Dam .. ..	2,448	68.8	46.3	57.6	(+4.4)	82.0	13	33.2	10	1.85	7	-0.70	0.69	7	..
Dunedin .. .. .	240	69.5	52.0	60.8	(+2.5)	84.0	4	42.4	10	2.86	8	-0.55	0.90	8	210.1
Gore .. .. .	245	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Invercargill .. .. .	12	69.7	49.3	59.5	+2.3	82.0	4	37.0	26	3.73	13	-0.27	0.77	8	223.7

\* Screen minimum mean for 24 days only. † Massey College, Palmerston North, observations for 30 days only. ‡ Hermitage, Mt. Cook, maximum mean for 29 days and minimum mean for 24 days only.

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.