

After another long fine spell, a deep depression was located over the Central Tasman Sea on the 24th. It was of the type which had been causing drought-breaking rains in successively more eastward parts of Australia and the prospects for rain in the Dominion seemed very favourable. For four days storms raged in the Tasman Sea, with strong southerly gales in the western portion. From the 26th, however, pressure began to fall in southern New Zealand under the influence of some distant disturbance to the southward. By the 28th pressure became quite low in southern districts. But so far as rain was concerned the Dominion fell between two stools. From the night of the 28th to the morning of the 29th pressure rose rapidly, the storm in the Tasman Sea, which by this time was moving northward, was swept away, and though a strong, cold, southerly wind traversed the country it produced extremely little rain. This was a great disappointment. Thereafter, a very dry type of weather again set in.

EDWARD KIDSON, Director.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

SUMMARY OF THE RECORDS OF TEMPERATURE, RAINFALL, AND SUNSHINE FOR MARCH, 1939.

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.
	Ft.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.		°F.		In.		In.	In.		
Te Pahi, Te Hapua ...	200	72.2	56.6	64.4	(+1.3)	76.0	4	46.0	19, 21	0.59	5	..	0.27	11	160.0
"Ramote," Kerikeri ...	400	72.4	56.1	64.2	..	77.6	8	50.8	30	0.98	9	..	0.32	12	136.6
Waipoua State Forest	225	72.4	51.3	61.8	(+0.0)	77.0	10	45.0	24	0.28	5	..	0.17	12	160.2
Riverhead ...	105	71.8	49.0	60.4	(-0.4)	75.5	9, 11	41.7	18	0.20	3	..	0.12	5	..
Auckland ...	160	72.3	60.0	66.2	+1.6	76.8	7	56.7	24, 31	0.25	4	-3.02	0.08	21	199.4
Waihi ...	404	69.8	52.9	61.4	-0.4	75.0	7	47.0	15, 28	1.83	6	-5.67	0.97	11	189.0
Wharekawa Nursery, Whangamata	50	71.6	54.5	63.0	..	78.8	8	45.0	20	2.59	9	..	0.88	12	..
Te Aroha ...	46	75.3	54.1	64.7	+1.3	80.5	7	46.0	20	0.45	6	-3.69	0.33	11	..
Tauranga ...	100	72.1	54.3	63.2	+1.1	77.0	8	47.0	2	1.35	7	-2.57	0.46	30	204.9
Ruakura Farm, Hamilton	131	73.9	51.0	62.4	+0.4	79.0	1	43.6	20, 27	0.54	3	-2.71	0.48	11	167.2
Rotoehu Plantation ...	235	72.9	50.8	61.8	..	79.6	29	35.6	4	1.07	5	..	0.56	30	..
Rotorua ...	925	75.3	53.4	64.4	+3.8	83.5	1	42.8	13	0.63	7	-2.85	0.22	21	198.7
Whakarewarewa ...	1,000	72.9	51.9	62.4	(+2.3)	79.5	8	41.3	31	0.59	4	-3.28	0.26	21	..
Gisborne ...	25	71.3	50.1	60.7	..	84.0	19	38.3	24	0.70	5	..	0.30	11	195.5
Onepoto, Lake Waikaremoana	2,110	64.1	51.1	57.6	..	74.0	8	42.5	30	5.16	6	..	2.03	11	..
New Plymouth ...	190	68.5	53.4	61.0	-0.1	74.0	1	43.1	27	1.49	4	-2.19	1.30	11	189.6
Chateau Tongariro	3,670	62.4	43.4	52.9	+3.3	68.2	2	36.6	21	1.82	7	..	0.89	12	..
Dawson Falls	3,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kariori ...	2,125	67.7	44.2	56.0	(-1.9)	73.5	4	32.3	30	0.73	3	..	0.45	11	..
Nepier ...	5	69.7	53.9	61.8	-0.3	79.5	28	43.0	30	0.96	5	-1.70	0.61	11	235.4
Hastings ...	45	74.2	50.4	62.3	(+1.8)	81.4	8	38.6	30	0.65	3	..	0.40	11	..
Taihape ...	2,157	67.8	49.4	58.6	+2.2	75.0	2	38.4	30	0.79	4	-1.81	0.54	11	..
Wanganui ...	72	69.8	53.7	61.8	..	76.5	1	44.3	23	0.80	4	..	0.36	11	216.8
Tangimoana ...	8	69.7	51.7	60.7	+0.5	77.0	1	40.0	23	0.75	5	-1.54	0.45	9	..
Palmerston North	100	72.0	52.8	62.4	+1.9	80.0	5	44.0	30	0.91	4	-1.61	0.49	10	..
Massey College, P.N.	110	70.8	52.5	61.6	(+1.6)	78.3	5	42.9	30	1.17	6	(-1.70)	0.59	10	216.3
Rahiata ...	384	70.6	49.7	60.2	(+0.5)	79.2	4	32.0	30	0.73	5	(-2.68)	0.23	10	..
Kapiti Island	44	67.5	55.7	61.6	+1.2	75.0	1	47.0	30	1.83	5	-0.25	1.60	10	..
Masterton ...	387	74.8	47.2	61.0	+1.1	84.1	7	33.5	30	0.74	7	+2.01	0.34	10	231.4
Wellington ...	415	66.7	53.6	60.2	+0.5	75.7	5	43.8	30	1.05	6	(-2.15)	0.75	10	195.7
Nelson ...	24	69.5	53.5	61.5	+1.5	73.8	1	42.2	13	0.15	2	-2.77	0.12	10	244.6
Appleby, Nelson	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blenheim ...	30	73.1	50.1	61.6	(+0.6)	86.5	28	36.8	23	0.25	4	(-1.52)	0.12	10	227.8
Golden Downs	900	71.8	45.6	58.7	(+2.4)	80.1	7	37.0	13	0.94	4	..	0.38	8	..
Waihopai ...	860	73.9	48.5	61.2	(+0.6)	85.5	2	38.0	23	0.47	4	..	0.22	8	..
Westport ...	23	64.3	54.8	59.6	..	69.0	2	48.0	28	4.83	6	..	2.98	10	181.7
Hanmer Springs	1,225	71.9	46.4	59.2	+2.7	85.9	2	30.6	30	2.51	8	-0.75	0.81	8	194.6
Balmoral ...	743	71.5	47.5	59.5	(+1.3)	87.0	2	31.0	30	1.40	6	..	0.63	7	..
Hokitika ...	12	66.3	53.7	60.0	+2.2	75.0	11	44.5	12	4.31	10	-5.20	1.61	9	137.2
Lake Coleridge	1,220	70.9	48.1	59.5	..	80.5	27	32.5	30	1.12	4	..	0.55	8	..
Darfield ...	640	71.5	48.5	60.0	..	85.4	6	32.2	30	1.50	8	..	0.85	8	..
Christchurch	22	65.4	52.7	59.0	+1.1	77.0	31	37.0	30	0.72	6	-1.12	0.38	8	158.1
Wigram Aerodrome, Sockburn	74	66.7	51.5	59.1	..	80.0	31	35.3	30	0.77	6	..	0.34	8	..
Rudstone, Methven	1,217	68.5	48.3	58.4	(+1.8)	80.0	2	36.0	30	2.85	14	+0.13	1.19	8	173.6
Lincoln ...	36	67.6	51.4	59.5	+0.9	79.8	31	34.5	30	1.26	6	-0.83	0.44	8, 10	159.5
Onawe, Duvauchelle's Bay	150	68.6	52.1	60.4	..	82.0	6	41.1	30	0.77	7	..	0.31	9	..
Hermitage, Mount Cook	2,510	68.7	47.4	58.0	(+4.9)	77.1	5	33.0	30	4.11	4	-10.25	1.97	9	177.5
Ashburton ...	323	67.2	49.8	58.5	(-1.4)	83.3	6	30.3	30	1.90	16	+0.18	0.52	9, 11	..
Lake Tekapo	2,350	68.8	44.3	56.6	(-2.4)	79.5	2	29.9	30	1.51	5	..	0.75	8	..
Jacksons Bay	22	64.2	53.8	59.0	..	72.0	11	45.2	30	15.86	13	..	5.61	9	..
Fairlie ...	1,000	68.6	46.7	57.6	(+2.4)	83.0	6	26.8	30	2.03	7	..	0.81	8	158.0
Timaru ...	56	64.9	50.2	57.6	+0.3	72.8	14	34.8	30	1.45	8	-0.71	0.51	9	125.8
Waimate ...	200	65.2	50.8	58.0	+1.6	76.0	24	44.0	24, 27	1.83	10	-0.25	0.58	9	132.8
Milford Sound	23	64.8	51.2	58.0	..	73.0	11	39.0	30	6.79	13	..	1.45	9	..
Queenstown ...	1,110	70.1	49.0	59.6	+3.8	77.2	2	37.4	30	0.84	4	-1.78	0.63	10	197.6
Ophir ...	1,000	73.1	44.4	58.8	+3.1	85.2	2	25.9	30	0.63	5	-0.67	0.18	9	..
Waipiata ...	1,550	70.6	44.9	57.8	+3.3	84.2	2	28.8	30	1.72	7	..	0.81	10	200.0
Alexandra ...	520	72.6	49.2	60.9	(-3.9)	85.0	1	32.0	30	0.50	2	(-0.51)	0.32	10	208.9
Manorburn Dam	2,448	65.8	42.0	53.9	(-3.9)	75.8	1, 2	26.0	30	0.57	7	..	1.32	9	..
Dunedin ...	240	65.3	48.5	56.9	+0.9	76.5	17	38.9	30	1.54	10	-1.36	0.65	10	146.4
Invercargill ...	12	64.5	47.7	56.1	+1.6	74.0	16	35.0	22	1.69	10	-2.20	0.55	10	134.9

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.