

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations taken at Kelburn, Wellington, for the Month of January, 1942. Observations taken at 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 415 ft.

Date.	Pressure in Millibars, 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 9 a.m. (Symbols)
		In Screen.						Beaufort Scale.	Anemometer.				
		At 9 a.m.			Maximum.	Minimum.	Minimum on Grass.						
		Dry.	Wet.	Relative Humidity, Per Cent.				Dry.	Dry.	Direction.			
1	993.0	52.2	48.3	70	64.1	47.3	47.1	SW	5	279	..	8.1	o
2	991.4	63.1	56.2	63	70.4	46.8	42.0	NNW	3	137	68	9.1	b
3	1001.6	54.4	50.3	73	58.3	48.3	47.7	SSE	3	174	2	2.0	c
4	1007.8	58.2	54.6	78	65.2	45.1	41.0	NW	3	137	Trace	10.8	c
5	1006.8	55.0	52.2	81	60.5	51.9	49.2	NW	5	191	10	1.0	c
6	997.5	59.4	59.2	99	64.0	54.6	55.8	NW	5	512	12	6.3	or
7	996.1	60.7	56.2	74	64.8	52.6	50.1	WNW	3	442	14	12.1	b
8	1002.2	53.1	49.7	77	59.6	47.2	44.9	S	3	296	..	6.7	c
9	1001.6	56.7	53.2	78	61.9	46.9	44.0	NNW	3	130	1	5.0	c
10	1003.7	60.9	56.1	72	63.4	52.8	50.1	S	2	235	1	4.2	c
11	1007.8	54.0	50.0	74	63.4	45.2	41.8	NW	6	165	..	7.1	oir
12	1015.2	62.0	57.4	74	67.1	50.0	43.4	NNW	3	230	..	9.2	bc
13	1014.4	61.8	60.1	91	67.8	56.4	56.0	NW	6	400	Trace	6.0	oq
14	1016.2	59.1	59.0	100	63.7	58.5	58.9	WNW	4	447	..	0.0	oimd
15	1013.1	63.0	61.9	93	64.9	58.1	58.7	NW	4	444	1	1.0	o
16	1014.9	60.6	60.6	100	65.2	57.2	56.2	NW	3	319	Trace	0.3	omd
17	1012.7	60.0	58.0	88	66.0	57.2	57.7	NW	7	415	48	3.1	oq
18	1013.1	60.1	60.0	100	66.0	59.0	59.1	NW	5	480	1	2.0	orq
19	1022.9	59.1	55.0	75	65.8	49.7	46.0	WNW	2	145	1	8.4	c
20	1031.2	56.9	49.0	53	59.3	49.1	45.2	SSE	5	202	..	12.4	b
21	1024.6	58.3	50.8	55	64.8	46.1	37.7	SE	2	151	..	12.7	c
22	1015.6	64.7	60.7	78	66.3	49.8	42.4	SSE	3	111	..	9.5	bc
23	1011.4	65.1	61.4	80	68.0	56.1	54.9	SE	3	159	8	7.0	o
24	1016.0	56.5	56.4	99	66.0	54.9	55.8	S	3	179	13	0.0	ofd
25	1019.9	65.2	59.8	71	74.1	54.0	52.3	ESE	1	188	..	12.2	b
26	1016.8	66.5	60.3	68	68.9	57.2	53.1	NNW	4	152	..	5.0	c
27	1017.1	63.8	59.4	77	70.7	57.1	56.1	E	1	131	..	0.0	o
28	1013.4	65.3	61.7	80	67.1	58.1	57.2	NNW	3	95	19	0.2	o
29	1014.6	66.7	64.1	86	71.0	58.4	58.4	ENE	1	179	..	10.4	c
30	1015.8	71.0	68.9	90	76.1	53.9	49.8	NW	1	75	..	11.9	bc
31	1010.6	59.4	56.1	80	61.4	57.1	56.0	NNW	3	170	15	0.1	o
Means, &c. ..	1010.9	60.4	57.0	80	65.5	52.8	50.6	..	3.4	238	214	183.8	..

Mean earth temperature at 1 ft., 63.6°; and at 3 ft., 61.3°. Number of rain days, 15. The total rainfall was 2.14 in., being 26 per cent. below normal. Sunshine was only 40 per cent. of the possible, being the dullest January since 1923. Mean dewpoint at 9 a.m. was 54.2°, and mean vapour pressure, 14.2 mb.

NOTE.—A thunderstorm accompanied by heavy rain occurred on the 2nd. Frequent lightning was seen on the evening of the 7th. Foggy mornings were experienced on the 23rd and 24th.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

Gale (force 8 or more)	Forces 4 to 7.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
..	11	3	1/2	2	4	4 1/2	1	1 1/2	14 1/2	..

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR JANUARY, 1942.

General Notes.—In January, as in the three preceding months, there were no really settled spells, although occasional pleasant days were experienced. Cool, changeable conditions predominated, the weather being frequently cloudy and at times humid. Well-distributed rain has given benefit to crops, which have shown good growth. Hay has been spoilt by the wet, and harvesting has suffered many delays, although a considerable quantity has now been stacked. Feed is plentiful, although rather soft in places. Stock are in good condition, and lambs are reported to have fattened well.

Rainfall.—Although rain was frequent totals were not excessive, except where the thunderstorms on the 6th were heaviest. Over the Auckland Province rain was deficient, falls of half the normal or less being common. Moderate deficiencies predominated in Northern Taranaki and Western Wellington, while over the remainder of the North Island there were moderate surpluses. Values in the South Island were not markedly different from normal deficiencies predominating except in Otago and Southland.

Temperatures.—Mean temperatures were below normal as a rule by one or two degrees Fahrenheit. Cloud kept the maximum temperatures rather low. One or two frosts in inland areas affected gardens.

Sunshine.—The stations in the central area bounded by New Plymouth, Napier, Hokitika, and Christchurch, had an unusually dull month, sunshine averaging one or two hours a day below the normal. To the north and south of this area normal values were reached and in some cases slightly surpassed.

Weather Sequence.—On the 1st south-westerlies prevailed, a depression which had passed over the North Island being situated near Chatham Islands. The weather continued showery, but by the 5th, with winds veering to north-westerly, conditions were temporarily fair and warm in the east.

On the 6th strong westerlies were widespread with many thunderstorms, and these were severe about the central high country of the North Island, where there was some intense rain. Thereafter a westerly type of situation prevailed, pressure remaining high to the north while disturbances passed in the south. Winds were from the westerly quadrant, turning to the south-west for brief intervals, when scattered light rain extended to eastern districts.

A low-pressure trough crossed New Zealand on the 16th and 17th bringing cool southerlies with showers, but an extensive anticyclone moved on to the country on the 18th. The weather then cleared except in the East Cape region. On the 21st this anticyclone was located south of Chatham Islands, while a low-pressure centre deepened east of Gisborne. The resulting easterly winds brought extensive cloud and considerable fog or light drizzle to eastern and central areas, especially on the 23rd and 24th.

For the remainder of the month pressure became fairly high over the Dominion with only shallow disturbances affecting the weather, which was cloudy with much mist and fog at times and with occasional scattered rain.

M. A. F. BARNETT, Director.