

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR DECEMBER, 1944

General.—December was a cool unsettled month. The continuance of unreliable weather has made farming operations most difficult and shearing has again been delayed, while frequent rains have spoiled much hay. However, pastures and crops have benefited and the countryside is unusually green.

Rainfall.—Thunder activity was very conspicuous, the most general storms being about the periods 4th to 6th and 16th to 17th, with damaging hail in places. These, with other frequent rains, have given rainfall totals in excess of normal. There were, however, a few exceptions, Wairoa to East Cape having rainfall much below average and smaller deficiencies occurred in the Bay of Islands, Bay of Plenty, near Motueka, and in parts of western Southland.

Falls were over double the average over most of the Wanganui, Rangitikei, and Manawatu regions, at Wellington City, and from Cheviot to Oamaru. The excess was most noteworthy near Ashburton, and at Winchmore, for example, the total of 13.31 in. was the heaviest for any calendar month in over fifty-six years.

Temperatures.—The month was the coldest December for a number of years, and departures of mean temperature below normal were usually 2° or 3° F. On the 5th and 6th considerable snow fell on the ranges generally, as well as on the more moderate levels of Canterbury and Nelson.

Sunshine.—Nelson, Marlborough, and most of the North Island had rather more than average sunshine, but further south it was a dull month, Canterbury and eastern Otago having the largest deficiencies.

Weather Sequence.—A trough advancing northward on the 1st gave a period of moderate rain, which became heavier near Cook Strait due to the south-eastward passage of a depression on the 2nd. Thereafter the fresh south-westerly change continued northward with diminishing rainfall. Another cold front reached Southland on the 3rd and took about forty-eight hours to cross the country, while a low-pressure centre formed off Marlborough and moved towards the Chatham Islands region. Conditions were changeable with showers in most districts, heaviest in Canterbury where thunderstorms occurred. Temperatures became colder with snow in the high country, and some light frosts occurred in the South Island. Changeable south-westerly conditions prevailed until the 9th, winds being rather more westerly in northern districts. Further occasional, but on the whole decreasing, showers were experienced. A small centre, which passed eastward across southern Auckland late on the 9th, gave local heavy showers and some thunder; but a weak ridge following gave a temporary improvement generally.

A trough extending from a depression far to the south reached Southland during the 11th and Taranaki the next day. Ahead northerlies became fresh, and the trough was accompanied by rain in western districts. A weak wedge soon passed the South Island with a fair spell, while in the north it became cloudy and warmer with much high level haze and fog in places. A heavy thunderstorm occurred in the Waikato on the 12th.

A slight disturbance affecting the far south was followed by a deep depression which crossed the centre of the South Island on the 14th and caused unsettled weather generally, rain being heaviest in Westland. Strong westerlies prevailed in the north, but elsewhere winds tended south-westerly with cooler temperatures. There was an appreciable improvement by the 16th, but in the afternoon a vigorous depression developed near Timaru. As it moved north to Taranaki and thence across to East Cape late on the 17th it was associated with showers and thunderstorms, these being exceptionally intense and damaging in Canterbury. Later, heavy rains occurred in Hawke's Bay. At this time and for a week afterwards, the northern edge of an anticyclone was off southern New Zealand.

The weather cleared in Westland on the 18th, and more generally the next day after a small depression had passed North Cape. Pressure remained low south of Chatham Islands, and southerlies freshened on the east coast of the South Island with overcast skies and occasional rain on the 20th and 21st. Elsewhere it was predominantly fair.

A belt of rain spread from the west on the 23rd as a depression from the north-western Tasman moved over the South Island. A weak wedge following gave an improvement on the 24th. Another depression moved south-eastward across Canterbury on the 25th, and was associated with brief rain in most districts. An anticyclone centred west of Auckland Peninsula on the 26th and 27th gave fair weather, deteriorating, however, west of the Alps. The trough responsible also brought a few showers to the east coast and on the 28th reached Cook Strait, where it gave rather heavy rain, while another depression passed over the South Island. Further north this trough gave only scattered rain, but brought a change from the humid conditions prevailing previously.

An anticyclone from the northern Tasman gave fairly settled weather on the 30th, but a slow-moving trough reaching Southland on the 31st was bringing another deterioration.

M. A. F. BARNETT, Director.

Notice to Persons affected by Applications for Licenses under Part III of the Industrial Efficiency Act, 1936

Taking of Fish for Sale

H. F. Cantwell, York Street, Picton, has applied for a variation of his existing license so as to permit him to operate the 42 ft. 16 h.p. fishing-vessel "Twilight" (not yet registered), using trawl-nets, set-nets, drag-nets, long lines, hand lines, and crayfish-pots, catches to be landed at Wairau Bar, Blenheim.

C. L. Busst, Port Whangamata, Waihi, has applied for a license to permit him to operate his 29 ft. 25 h.p. fishing-vessel "Elsie" (not yet registered), using set-nets, drag-nets, long lines, hand-lines, and crayfish-pots, catches to be landed at Port Whangamata.

H. A. Pipe, Waihi Beach, has applied for a license to permit him to operate his fishing-vessel "Nuia" (not yet registered), using long lines, hand-lines, and crayfish-pots, catches to be landed at Waihi Beach, and also for a fish-retailer's license to enable him to hawk his catches for sale at Waihi Beach.

Fish Retailing

R. F. Harwood, 173 Ponsonby Road, Auckland, has applied for a fish-retailer's license to permit him to sell wet and cooked fish from his premises at the above address.

G. D. Madden, 10 Francis Street, Takapuna, Auckland, has applied for a fish-retailer's license to hawk fish for sale in Devonport, Takapuna, and Milford areas outside one-mile radius from any fish retailer licensed in that respect and not in any area to the west of the premises of the licensed fish retailer at Devonport.

Persons considering themselves materially affected by the decision of the Bureau of Industry on these applications should make any desired representations in writing not later than the 8th February, 1945, to G. L. O'Halloran, Secretary, Bureau of Industry, G.P.O. Box 3025, Wellington.

G. L. O'HALLORAN, Secretary.

Notice to Mariners No. 1 of 1945

Marine Department,
Wellington, N.Z., 24th January, 1945.

NEW ZEALAND.—NORTH ISLAND.—CASTLEPOINT LIGHT

Exhibition of Temporary Light during Repairs

Position: Lat., 40° 55' S.; long., 176° 13' E. (approx.).

Details: The light will be extinguished during repairs for approximately four nights commencing on Monday night, 5th February.

During this period a fixed white light with a visibility of about fifteen miles will be exhibited from the tower.

No further notice will be given.

Chart affected: No. 2528.

G. H. TANNER, for Secretary.

LAND TRANSFER ACT NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given that the parcel of land hereinafter described will be brought under the provisions of the Land Transfer Act, 1915, unless caveat be lodged forbidding the same within one calendar month from the date of publication of the *New Zealand Gazette* containing this notice:—

5432. THE MAYOR, COUNCILLORS, AND BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF MASTERTON. 1 acre 3.5 perches, being part of Section 18, Masterton Small Farm Settlement, and being all the land bordered green as shown on Deposited Plan No. 12860. Occupied by applicant.

Diagrams may be inspected at this office.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 1945, at the Land Registry Office, Wellington.

E. C. ADAMS, District Land Registrar.

EVIDENCE having been furnished of the loss of certificates of title, Vol. 10, folio 6, and Vol. 16, folio 1 (Canterbury Registry), for Town Sections 59 and 60, Town of Geraldine, situate in the Borough of Geraldine, whereof FRANK PIPER, of Geraldine, Schoolmaster (later retired, now deceased), is the registered proprietor, together with an application to issue a new certificate of title in lieu thereof, I hereby give notice of my intention to issue such new certificate of title at the expiration of fourteen days from 25th January, 1945.

Dated this 22nd day of January, 1945, at the Land Registry Office, Christchurch.

A. L. B. ROSS, District Land Registrar.

NOTICE is hereby given that the several parcels of land hereinafter described will be brought under the provisions of the Land Transfer Act, 1915, unless caveat be lodged forbidding the same within one calendar month from the date of publication of the *New Zealand Gazette* containing this notice:—

5750. JAMES MCLELLAND. 36.97 perches, being part Section 4, Block III, Town of Kaitangata. Deposited Plan 5909. Occupied by applicant.

Diagrams may be inspected at this office.

Dated this 19th day of January, 1945, at the Land Registry Office, Dunedin.

N. E. WILSON, Assistant Land Registrar.