

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR JUNE 1963

*General:* June will be remembered mainly for the Hawke's Bay flood of the 3rd and the severe storm which caused it, with south-easterly gales in Taranaki and about Cook Strait, and snow in the South Island high country. Otherwise the weather was fairly typical for the time of year. Stock were reported to be wintering reasonably well.

Vivid sunrises and sunsets, resulting from the presence of unusual amounts of dust in the stratosphere, were observed throughout the country during May and June. The dust appears to have originated in the eruptions of Mt. Agung (Bali) late in March.

*Rainfall:* Except in Hawke's Bay, rainfall was mainly close to normal. However, it was somewhat above average in southern Northland, in the high country of South Canterbury and North Otago, and in the Catlins area of eastern Southland; and it was somewhat below average in the Cape Runaway - East Cape area, in north Taranaki and Wanganui, and about the Kaikoura coast.

In Hawke's Bay totals ranged from two to six times the average value. The greatest excesses were recorded in the Napier-Eskdale-Tangoio area, where more than four-fifths of the rain fell on the 2nd and 3rd. Some high totals for the 3rd were: Hedgeley (Eskdale) 15.50 in., Tangoio 12.39 in., Taradale 11.18 in. At both Napier Aerodrome and Tangoio over 2½ in. were recorded in an hour on the afternoon of the 3rd. Exceptionally serious flooding resulted in the Tangoio Valley, with considerable flooding also in the Esk Valley and parts of Napier.

Some flooding was also reported on the Southland Plain on the 25th as a result of a total of about three inches of rain in five days, together with snow-melt in the rivers.

*Temperatures:* Temperatures were close to normal in the North Island and in western and northern districts of the South Island. Over the remainder of the South Island they were 1-3 degrees below average. Largest departures were recorded in the high country of Canterbury, Otago, and western Southland.

Snow was reported on the high country of both islands and to low levels in parts of Otago and Southland from the 21st to the 23rd.

*Sunshine:* Sunshine was mainly close to normal, except in eastern districts from Gisborne to Christchurch, where it was 20-50 hours below average.

*Weather Sequence:* For the first six days the weather was frequently unsettled, especially in the North Island. An anticyclone was centred to the south-west of the South Island, and from the 1st to the 3rd a depression moved from Lord Howe Island over Auckland and Hawke's Bay. A violent storm resulted, with rain

over the North Island and some northern and eastern districts of the South Island. In parts of Hawke's Bay the rain was exceptionally heavy, causing serious flooding in the Napier-Esk area, especially in Tangoio. Temperatures were cold in the south-easterlies, with snow on the South Island high country. Gales buffeted Cook Strait and Taranaki. As the depression moved away on the 4th there was a brief temporary improvement, except in the Wellington-Napier area. During the next two days a second depression from the north Tasman Sea moved across the South Island, with further general rain, heavy in Bay of Plenty, about Cook Strait, and in the Christchurch area.

The period from the 7th to the 16th was one of rather more settled weather in many parts of the country. At first some further rain occurred on the West Coast and the Otago coast; and on the 8th and 9th a shallow depression passing close to Northland caused rain mainly in the Auckland Province and Taranaki. For the next four days this depression developed as it passed near the east coast of North Island, while an anticyclone covered the south Tasman Sea and the South Island. The weather was fair, apart from rain at times in eastern districts from Cape Palliser to East Cape and also in Northland and Coromandel. From the 14th to the 16th an anticyclone moved north-eastward across New Zealand and the weather was fair or fine.

General rain, heavy in parts of the Auckland Province and the West Coast, accompanied the passage of a vigorous trough on the 17th and 18th; this was associated with a depression over the South Island. During the next three days another vigorous trough crossed the country, associated this time with a very deep depression to the south-west. Rain was heaviest in western districts; some eastern districts escaped completely. Snow was reported, especially in parts of Southland and in the high country of both islands.

From the 22nd to the 25th pressures were very low to the south-east, while an anticyclone advanced slowly eastward across the South Tasman Sea. Westerly to south-westerly winds prevailed, with considerable rain in Southland and later some flooding. Showers also affected other districts at times, notably Otago, Banks Peninsula and Christchurch, the West Coast, the New Plymouth - Auckland Coast, and Northland.

The last five days of the month brought settled weather to most of the country as an anticyclone moved slowly north-eastward over the South Island. However, a depression off the Queensland coast moved slowly into the north Tasman Sea; and freshening easterly winds brought light rain to Northland and Gisborne.

R. G. SIMMERS, Director.

(N.Z. Met. S. Misc. Pub. 107)

New Zealand Post Office—Schedule of Building Contracts of £10,000 or More in Value

Name of Work	Successful Tenderer	Amount of Tender Accepted	
		£	s. d.
Beckenham Post Office .. .. .	J. N. Grant Ltd. .. .. .	25,593	2 5

J. B. DARNELL, Director-General.

Ministry of Works—Schedule of Civil Engineering and Housing Contracts of £10,000 or More in Value

Name of Work	Successful Tenderer	Amount of Tender Accepted	
		£	s. d.
<i>Civil Engineering—</i>			
West Taupo access road: Formation 17M-21M .. .. .	Green and McCahill (Contractors) Ltd. .. .. .	55,993	0 6
S.H. 12: Ohacawai-Maungaturoto: Ruawai-Dargaville section, supply and delivery of road aggregate	Walton Bros. Ltd. .. .. .	13,500	0 0
<i>Housing—</i>			
Contract No. 11/2032: Four units at Birkdale .. .. .	North Shore Construction .. .. .	13,017	17 0
Contract No. 11/2033: Five units at Birkdale .. .. .	Underwood and Sons Ltd. .. .. .	16,393	6 6
Contract No. 22/349: Five units at Hamilton .. .. .	J. Green .. .. .	14,103	3 6
Contract No. 185/22/97: Six units at Wairakei .. .. .	E. A. Mahood .. .. .	23,275	7 6
Contract No. 230/15/34: Five units at Bulls .. .. .	Pull and Field .. .. .	16,477	8 10
Contract No. 208/364: Three units at Titahi Bay .. .. .	Voss Constructions Ltd. .. .. .	10,169	0 0

J. T. GILKISON, Commissioner of Works.

Tariff Notice No. 1963/50—Decision on Application for Determination of the Minister of Customs

NOTICE is hereby given that the following application originally advertised as shown, seeking the imposition of increased rates of duty, by determination of the Minister of Customs, on the goods described hereunder has been declined:

Tariff Item	Goods	Originally Advertised	
		Tariff Notice No.	Gazette No.
693.310.6	(a) Chain or diamond mesh netting manufactured from plain or plastic coated wire .. .. . (b) Fabricated field fence, viz.: Sheep and pig netting boundary fence, etc., manufactured from plain or plastic coated wire	1963/4	2, 17 January 1963, page 56

Dated at Wellington this 25th day of July 1963.

J. F. CUMMINGS, Comptroller of Customs,

(Tariff Notice No. 1963/50)