

## MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE.

(Supplement to the Weekly Weather Report.)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS COMPILED FROM THE RETURNS OF OFFICIAL STATIONS AND VOLUNTEER OBSERVERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, WITH  
A CHART OF RAINFALL CONTRIBUTED BY THE BRITISH RAINFALL ORGANISATION.

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE,

AND PUBLISHED FOR H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE BY WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.; OR OLIVER AND BOYD, EDINBURGH; OR E. PONSONBY, LTD.,  
116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR.  
Vol. XXVII. (New Series)  
Weekly Weather Report.

No. VIII.

AUGUST, 1910.

[Price 6d.]

## SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS.

**Pressure, Winds and Weather.**—The type of pressure distribution in August was of a very unstable character, and the weather over the United Kingdom was cool and extremely changeable, few places experiencing more than three or four consecutive days without rain. In addition to the anticyclone which occupied a normal position in the neighbourhood of the Azores, a second high pressure system lay almost constantly over Iceland and the Arctic Sea, the conditions being thus favourable for the development of cyclonic areas over Western Europe and the northern portions of the Atlantic. In many cases the centres of these disturbances advanced eastwards or north-eastwards across the United Kingdom, causing heavy falls of rain, and considerable variability in the direction of the wind, which occasionally blew with considerable strength for the time of year.

The mean pressure values for the month shew that in the Azores the barometer stood at about 30.20 ins., and was not much below the normal. Over the United Kingdom the values ranged from between 29.90 ins. and 29.98 ins. over the Channel and South of England to a little below 29.75 ins. in the north of Ireland and the south-west of Scotland, where the readings were more than a tenth of an inch below the average. Further to the northward the decrease in pressure which exists normally in August was replaced by a decided increase, the mean readings in Iceland being slightly above 30.0 ins., or more than 0.2 in. higher than in the north of Scotland. At Reykjavik the value exceeded the average by about a quarter of an inch. In our own islands the barometer seldom rose to any high level. Readings above 30.15 ins. were recorded in the north of Scotland on the 9th or 10th, but it was not until the close of the month that the mercury rose above 30.2 ins. On the 31st that value was exceeded in all but the extreme northern and north-eastern districts, the readings being above 30.3 ins. in the south-western parts of the United Kingdom, and as high as 30.4 ins. in the Channel Islands. The lowest readings were observed during the passage of a deep cyclonic system which appeared over the country on the 26th, the barometer falling below 29.2 ins. in the north of Ireland, and below 29.6 ins. in nearly all other parts of the Kingdom. The extreme range of pressure was not large; in the south of England it did not amount to more than 0.7 in., but in the north of Ireland (owing to the movement of the disturbance just noted) it was rather over 1.0 in.

Over England and Ireland the prevailing winds were mainly from between South and West, but in Scotland the direction varied greatly, and in Shetland there was a large proportion of breezes from the North-Eastward. During the progress northwards of a small depression which appeared off our south-west coasts on the 1st a gale from South-West and West was experienced in the western part of the Channel, the wind at Scilly attaining in gusts a velocity of 60 miles per hour. In the rear of the disturbance of the 26th—27th an unusually steep barometrical gradient was formed over our north-west coasts, and on the evening or night of the 26th the Westerly to North-Westerly wind attained, in squalls, a velocity of 65 miles an hour at Fleetwood and Llanegwad, and 66 miles at Holyhead. During the passage of a small secondary depression across the south of England on the 28th the anemometer at Brighton registered a velocity in gusts of 61 miles per hour.

Owing to the almost constant prevalence of cool winds blowing from the surface of the ocean, and also to the presence of much cloud, the month was characterised by an almost entire absence of seasonable warmth. Over by far the larger portion of the United Kingdom no shade temperature as high as 80° was recorded, and very few readings as high even as 75°. Between the 10th and 12th and again between the 14th and 16th the thermometer rose to 75° or a trifle above it in many parts of England, and touched 78° at Whitby. The only temperature exceeding 80° was recorded in a district in which extreme warmth might have been least expected. On the 6th, the thermometer rose to 77° at Baltasound, and to 82° at Sumburgh Head, the reading at the latter station being no fewer than 12° in excess of any previously observed in the neighbourhood since the record commenced in 1871. The purely local nature of this remarkable

visitation may be gauged by the fact that at Deerness (Orkney) and at Wick the maximum reading on the same day was no higher than 58°. At Sumburgh Head the warmth was prolonged over two days, the thermometer on the 7th rising to the unusually high level of 73°. Maximum temperatures below 60° were recorded in several parts of Ireland and North Britain on the 2nd, at a few northern stations on the 6th, and in many districts in the closing week; in a few isolated places the thermometer on each occasion failed to rise above 55°. Owing to the presence of cloud, which served to hinder the progress of terrestrial radiation, the night temperatures were as a rule fairly high, but early on the 4th, and again on the 23rd, the sheltered thermometer in various parts of North Britain fell slightly below 40° and at West Linton it sank on the latter date to 32°, the minimum reading on the grass being a couple of degrees lower.

The mean temperature of the sea water round our coasts was a trifle higher than in July, and at the western and southern stations it agreed almost precisely with that of the air on shore. Round the north and east coasts of Great Britain the water was slightly cooler than the air.

**Rainfall.**—The aggregate rainfall of the month was below the average at many places in the south and east of England, the smallest totals reported being 1.5 in. at Cambridge, Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and 1.6 in. at Shoeburyness. In the western and northern portions of the United Kingdom there were considerable local variations but, generally speaking, the total was largely in excess of the average, more than 7 ins. being recorded at a considerable number of stations. At Eskdalemuir the aggregate amounted to 8.6 ins., at Cruachan (Loch Awe), Rothesay and Sheepstor, to 8.9 ins., at Graythwaite to 9.0 ins., and at Crieff to as much as 11.3 ins., the fall at the last mentioned station being equal to nearly three times as much as the average. The number of days with rain was in excess of the normal in all but the driest districts. Only 12 such occasions were noted at Lowestoft and Clacton-on-Sea, and 13 at Dungeness and Rugby, but at several western and northern stations the number exceeded 25. At Cahir there were as many as 28, and at Foynes as many as 29, while at Killarney there was not one day without a measurable quantity.

Heavy rain storms were experienced at various times during the month, chiefly on the 1st, the 18th, and between the 23rd and 28th. On the 1st more than an inch was recorded at Scilly and in the east and south-east of Ireland, and as much as 2.2 ins. at Newcastle (County Wicklow), 1.8 in. at Waterford, and 1.7 in. at Killiney, Dublin. On the 18th a considerable fall was experienced at many places situated in the western and northern parts of Great Britain, as much as 1.4 in. at Graythwaite and 1.2 in. at Barnstaple and Port Talbot. The heaviest falls occurred, however, between the 23rd and 28th, and were especially noticeable in Scotland, where serious floods were reported. On the 24th as much as 2.4 ins. fell at Crieff, and between the 25th and 28th daily falls of considerably over an inch were reported at many northern stations; as much as 2.3 ins. at Markree Castle and 1.7 in. at Crieff and Inagh (Co. Clare) on the 25th; 2.2 ins. at Stornoway on the 26th; and 1.9 in. at Eskdalemuir, 1.8 in. at Dursley and 1.7 in. at Kirkby, Lonsdale, Newton Rigg and Abergavenny on the 28th. Between the 23rd and 25th the fall at Crieff amounted to 5.19 ins., of which no less than 3.50 ins. occurred in the space of 23 hours. Thunderstorms were experienced in many parts of the United Kingdom between the 3rd and 5th, on the 14th and 15th, and in the fourth week of the month, the accompanying falls of rain and hail being locally very heavy.

**Bright Sunshine.**—One or two stations in the north of Scotland experienced slightly more than the average duration of bright sunshine, but over the country as a whole the amount was very deficient. On the east and south-east coast of England and over the western portions of the Channel more than 180 hours were recorded, the highest values being 208 hours at Guernsey (Villa Carey), 202 hours at Ramsgate, and 199 hours at Felixstowe. In the west of Ireland and in most parts of central and southern Scotland the total amounted to less than 100 hours. At urban stations the duration ranged from 152 hours at Bunhill Row, and 140 hours at Camden Square to 115 hours at Birmingham, 86 hours at Manchester (Prestwich) and 71 hours at Glasgow.