

# Monthly Weather Report

## OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL STATIONS AND VOLUNTEER OBSERVERS

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### June, 1951 - Sunny and dry on the whole.

The weather was sunny in most parts and dry on the whole though more than the average rainfall occurred locally, particularly in parts of east Scotland and Northern Ireland.

During the first eight days a ridge of high pressure extended southward over the British Isles from an anticyclone in the north; the weather was unusually sunny, and dry apart from slight rain and local thunder in the extreme south-west of England and Wales and at Guernsey on the 7th and 8th. Day temperatures were not particularly high except locally in the west and north-west, while minimum temperatures were low at times. On the 7th easterly winds of polar origin caused a considerable fall in temperature. On the 9th and 10th small depressions over southern Ireland and the southern North Sea were associated with rain in the south of Ireland and in England and Wales and local thunderstorms in England, but the weather continued dry and sunny on the whole in Northern Ireland and most of Scotland.

From the 11th to the 14th Atlantic depressions moved north-east off our north-west seaboard, while secondary troughs of low pressure crossed the country. Rain fell in most areas on the 11th and 12th and in the north and west also on the 13th, while scattered rain or showers occurred on the 14th. Thunderstorms were widespread on the 12th. On the 16th and 17th a depression westward of Ireland moved east and turned north-east; rain fell generally except in east and south-east England and thunderstorms were recorded, chiefly in the north. Subsequently an anticyclone off our south-west coasts moved east-north-east to central Europe, while a trough associated with a depression westward of Scotland moved across the country. Scattered showers and local thunderstorms but long sunny periods occurred on the 19th and rain, or showers in Scotland and Northern Ireland on the 20th. In the southern half of England, however, the 20th was dry and sunny. Between the 21st and 26th a complex depression moved from Spain to Brittany, thence to the Low Countries and finally northwards over the North Sea where it remained for some days. Unsettled thundery weather prevailed for the most part and rainfall was heavy locally in east Scotland on the 25th. Thereafter a ridge of high pressure off our north-west coasts moved in over the British Isles, while a small depression off south-west Ireland moved east-south-east; mainly fair weather prevailed apart from rain in a few places in the south of England on the 28th. By the 30th the anticyclone was centred over England and the fair weather persisted except in the north-west and extreme north of Scotland, where weak troughs of low pressure caused some rain.

**Pressure and Wind.**—Mean pressure somewhat exceeded the average in the extreme north of Scotland and was about or slightly below the average at most places elsewhere. The deviation from the average at 9h. ranged from +1.2mb. at Wick to -1.4mb. at Scilly. The total run of the wind was on the whole less than the average, particularly in the north and there were no records of a mean hourly velocity of more than 33 knots at anemograph stations. Among the highest gusts registered in knots were 51 at Millport, Isle of Bute on the 6th and 45 at Scilly on the 7th and at Eskdalemuir on the 13th.

**Temperature.**—Broadly speaking mean temperature was a little below the average in the east, particularly the north-east and very slightly above in the west, the deviations for the districts ranging from -1.1°F. in east Scotland to +0.3°F. in Northern Ireland.

There was no very warm spell though warm days occurred in some parts on the 3rd-6th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd and 30th. Low minimum temperatures for the time of year were registered on the 1st, 2nd, 8th and 9th. In Scotland, the lowest screen minimum temperature, 24°F., has only once before been registered in June, namely June 1941, in nearly 100 years of observations.

Extreme temperatures for the month included:—(England and Wales) 78°F. at Ambleside and Barmouth on the 6th and in London, Camden Square on the 21st, 27°F. at Kielder Castle on the 1st and 2nd; (Scotland) 81°F. at Glasgow on the 5th, 24°F. at Budden Ness on the 1st and Glenlivet on the 8th; (Northern Ireland) 78°F. at Garvagh on the 4th, 35°F. at Garvagh on the 1st and 9th.

**Precipitation.**—The general precipitation expressed as a percentage of the average for the period 1881-1915 was 55 over England and Wales, 85 over Scotland and 101 over Northern Ireland. In Scotland more than the average occurred in some east coast areas from the Moray Firth to the Firth of Forth, in the extreme north-west and around Renfrew. Elsewhere less than the average was received, considerably less locally in the south and around Wick, in Caithness. In England and Wales the deficiency was general except in a few small scattered areas; locally on the south-west coast and around Cheltenham less than one quarter of the average was registered. In Northern Ireland less than the average occurred in the south-east and north-west of the Province, the percentages at individual stations ranging from 67 at Seaford, County Down to 135 at Garvagh, County Londonderry.

Falls of 1 in. or more in 24 hours occurred locally at times, for example on the 9th, 10th, 11th, 17th, 20th, 22nd and 25th, among the greatest being 2.92 in. at Glenferness, Nairnshire, 2.88 in. at Keith, Banffshire and 2.28 in. at Dallas Lodge, Morayshire, all on the 25th.

Local thunderstorms occurred frequently, namely on the 4th-5th, 7th and 9th-29th. They were rather widespread on the 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th-19th, 22nd and 25th.

**Sunshine.**—The general sunshine expressed as a percentage of the average for the period 1906-35 was 116 in England and Wales, 109 in Scotland and 120 in Northern Ireland, the percentages for the districts ranging from 103 in east Scotland to 125 in south-east England. An excess was almost general except at a number of places on or near the east coast of Scotland. At most stations on the south-east coast of England the mean daily duration exceeded 9.5 hours and at one or two it was as much as 10 hours (see chart 4). The first 10 days were notably sunny, the mean daily duration for this period exceeding 12 hours in some places, while at Worthing and Littlehampton it was as much as 13 hours.

**Fog.**—Local fog, mainly at night or in the early morning, developed rather frequently, chiefly on the 1st-6th, 9th-14th, 21st-23rd and 27th-30th; it was probably most considerable locally in the Shetlands, on the extreme north and north-east coasts of Scotland and in the neighbourhood of Scilly and Guernsey.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena.**—Solar halos were noted at Oxford on nine days. Sun pillars were observed at Prestatyn and Wrexham on the 20th and 24th respectively.