

# MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE.

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

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VOL. 47. No. 6

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE.

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## June, 1930. Sunny and warm. Dry in England, Wales, and Ireland. Severe thunderstorms 17th and 18th.

June 1930 was on the whole sunny and warm, with a deficiency of rainfall except in Scotland and frequent thunderstorms during the fortnight subsequent to the 12th.

On the 1st a wedge of high pressure extended southwards over Scotland while the greater part of England lay under the influence of a complex area of low pressure. Slight rain occurred in many parts of England on the 1st and 2nd, a heavy rainstorm which was followed by severe flooding occurring in central London on the 2nd. From the 3rd to the 6th a belt of high pressure lay over England and Wales and Ireland and temperature rose gradually until the 6th when 80° F. and over was experienced inland. On the 7th the winds became northerly with a subsequent drop in temperature but the weather continued sunny. On the 9th while England enjoyed abundant sunshine the eastward passage of a depression together with associated secondaries to the south of Iceland brought rain to the north and north-west and subsequently to most English districts on the 10th and 11th. Meanwhile fair weather had returned to Scotland on the 10th and had become general on the 12th. Brilliant weather was experienced in the north of Scotland from the 10th to the 17th. From the 12th to the 19th thunderstorms occurred frequently, culminating in severe and widespread storms on the 18th, but apart from these the weather was generally fair, warm and sunny, maximum temperatures exceeding 75° F. in many places during the period 17th to 19th.

From the 20th to the end of the month south-westerly winds prevailed, with generally fair sunny weather in the south but rain at times with sunny periods in the north and west. On the 30th a nearly stationary depression off western Ireland caused an influx of warm south-easterly to southerly winds off the Continent and temperatures rose to over 80° F. in many places.

**Pressure and Winds.**—Low pressure prevailed over the greater part of the British Isles at the beginning of the month. From the 3rd to the 6th a belt of high pressure extended over England and Wales and Ireland, with light northerly to easterly winds. Cool northerly winds on the 7th were associated with an anticyclone to the west of Ireland. After an interval of cyclonic weather from the 9th to the 12th during which a gale was reported from Lerwick on the 11th, a belt of high pressure was again established over the British Isles from Scandinavia to the Azores and winds were light and mainly between north and east. From the 19th onwards conditions were mainly cyclonic and winds between south and west. Monthly mean pressures were about normal in the south and south-east and below normal elsewhere, the deviation of the mean pressure at 7 h. G.M.T. from the normal ranging from 0.1 mb. at Yarmouth to -3.8 mb. at Stornoway.

**Temperature.**—In Ireland and Western Scotland the mean temperature for June did not differ much from the normal; elsewhere it was above the normal and in several places in the central and eastern districts of Great Britain the deviation from normal exceeded 3° F. The excess was attributable more to the frequency of moderately warm days and nights than to the occurrence of any abnormally hot spells. At Copdock (Norfolk) the average maximum temperature, 70.4° F., has only once been exceeded in June in the last 30 years whilst the mean temperature 60.6 has only once been exceeded in the same period, viz., in June 1917. The highest temperatures were recorded generally on the 5th, 6th, 16th to 19th and 30th when maximum temperatures in the neighbourhood of 80° F. were recorded in several places. In many places in England the temperature exceeded 80° F. on the 30th. The lowest screen temperatures occurred generally on the 8th, 9th and 29th.

The extremes for the month were:—(England and Wales) 85° at Camden Square (London) on the 30th and 31° at Castleton (York) on the 8th; (Scotland) 81° at Ruthwell on the 18th and Gordon Castle on the 19th and 31° at Smeaton on the 8th; (Ireland) 79° at Lisburn on the 5th and 18th and at Kilkenny and Killarney on the 16th and 37° at Markree Castle on the 12th and 26th.

**Precipitation.**—The general precipitation over the British Isles, expressed as a percentage of the normal for the period 1881-1915, was 78: the values for the constituent countries were: England and Wales 59, Scotland 109, Ireland 88. Precipitation in appreciable amounts occurred most frequently in

northern and western Scotland and locally in the north and west of Ireland. Over most of England and Wales the number of days with measurable rain was below the normal and in almost all districts monthly totals were deficient. In a few places, however, monthly totals exceeded the normal largely in consequence of the heavy falls associated with the thunderstorms of the 17th and 18th. Thus at Greenwich the month's total amounted to about one and threequarters times the normal, 68 mm. or threequarters of the total for the month, falling on the 18th. Cheltenham had twice the normal rainfall for the month, of which 90 mm. or as much as four-fifths of the month's total was registered on the 18th. The deficiency in England was most pronounced in the south and east, several districts experiencing less than one-quarter of the normal. Monthly totals amounted to 20 per cent. of the normal at Cambridge, with measurable rain on only two days, and to 16 per cent. at Grayshott with measurable rain on three days.

Rainfall in Scotland was generally above the average in western and extreme northern districts and in a few eastern areas, particularly in Fifeshire, while elsewhere it was subnormal, the greatest deficiency being mainly in coastal districts of Nairn and Banff and locally in southern Perthshire. Most of the rain fell between the 5th and 11th and from the 19th till the end of the month, the largest falls being mostly of a thundery type. At New Castleton 61 mm. fell on the 19th and at New Cumnock 38 mm. on the 9th.

In Ireland precipitation exceeded the normal locally mainly in western and northern districts but over the greater part of the country there was a deficiency which, however, was not so pronounced as in England.

A conspicuous feature of the weather of the month was the persistence of generally thundery conditions from the 12th to the 19th and on the 23rd and 24th. During a severe local thunderstorm 67 mm. was recorded at East Stour while at Shaftesbury about three miles to the east of East Stour, the fall amounted to only 14 mm. A severe thunderstorm broke over London on the afternoon of the 17th; 40 mm. rain was recorded at Westminster and 37 mm. at Kensington. On the 18th the storms developed over a larger area extending to southern Scotland and Wales; 90 mm. rain fell at Cheltenham and 68 mm. at Greenwich. Some deaths from lightning were reported. In parts of London the rain following on the heavy falls on the previous day caused severe flooding and serious dislocation of traffic. The only considerable part of England which escaped the thunderstorms on the 18th was the south-west and the southern coastal districts. An observer reported having witnessed an impressive display of lightning in the neighbourhood of Royston about 1.45 G.M.T. on the 18th during which a "ball discharge" was seen.

**Sunshine.**—A decided excess of sunshine was recorded in most districts, especially in Scotland and Ireland and in the coastal districts of England and Wales. Representative totals for Districts, expressed as a percentage of the normal for the period 1881-1915, ranged from 131 per cent. in England S.W. to 103 per cent. in the Channel Isles and Scilly. At Aberdeen with 244 hours' sunshine it was the sunniest month since May 1882 with the exception of June 1889 which had 245 hours, while at Deerness, with 241 hours, the month was the sunniest June since records commenced there in 1880. The following stations recorded on the average more than two hours bright sunshine per day above the normal, viz., Deerness, Aberdeen, Armagh, Douglas, Holyhead and Aberystwyth. At Douglas, Brighton and Eastbourne the daily average exceeded 9 hours. Excellent records were obtained in the North on the 3rd, widely from the 4th to the 8th and over most of England on the 9th (Whit-Monday). During the period 5th to the 9th inclusive Copdock (Norfolk) recorded a daily average of over 14 hours. In the extreme north of Scotland, the period 10th-17th was markedly sunny; during these eight days in the Shetlands there was the high average of almost 15 hours per day. At Stornoway as much as 18.0 hours were recorded on the 14th. Abundant sunshine was recorded in England on the 28th and 29th.

**Fog.**—Fog occurred in many places on the 5th, 15th, 18th and 19th, but in general most stations were free from fog during the month.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena.**—A solar halo was observed at Oxford on 14 days, the phenomenon being observed daily from the 15th to the 20th.