

## MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

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

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE. To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: YORK HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2; 120 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH 2; 26 YORK STREET, MANCHESTER 1; 1 ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF; 80 CHICHESTER STREET, BELFAST; or through any bookseller.

VOL. 56. No. 6.

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE

Price 1s. 0d. net, Post-free 1s. 1d.

Annual Subscription, including  
Annual Summary and Introduction,  
15s. 0d. post free.

## JUNE, 1939.—Warm and unusually sunny at first; less settled and mainly cool later.

The month was sunny generally and dry on the whole in Scotland and Ireland.

From the 1st–5th an anticyclone was situated over the British Isles, and on the 6th it drifted eastward, while the Azores anticyclone spread north-east; very warm, dry and unusually sunny weather was experienced throughout the country. On the 7th temperature fell considerably in the north though it continued very warm in the south, and during the night of the 7th–8th some rain was reported in the north of Scotland and thunder occurred locally in south-west England; further thunderstorms were reported in the south-west on the 8th. A depression near Iceland and an associated trough of low pressure moved eastward on the 9th and 10th; rain occurred in northern Ireland and the west and north of Scotland on the 9th and in England also on the 10th, although in the latter country it fell mostly during the night of the 10th–11th, and sunshine was still abundant in south and east England on the 10th. In England the rain on the 10th ended a period of absolute drought which had lasted in many parts since May 18th.

Subsequently the weather was changeable and cool on the whole. On the 11th and 12th shallow secondary depressions associated with a disturbance over Scandinavia moved south over the British Isles; cool northerly winds prevailed and local thunderstorms were reported. Pressure was low near Iceland, while a trough moved east over this country from 14th–16th; rain fell in most parts and was heavy locally on the 14th and 15th. A complex depression, moving eastward over the country, caused occasional rain between the 17th and 19th; the falls were considerable in Yorkshire on the 19th. Thereafter an anticyclone was established north-westward of the British Isles; on the 21st and 22nd a depression lay over France and Spain and rain was almost general over southern England. Meanwhile fairer conditions with good local records of bright sunshine prevailed in the north. Some high temperatures were registered in Scotland on the 23rd. On the 24th and 25th pressure was low in a belt from Scandinavia to the Bay of Biscay; mainly cool weather prevailed with scattered rain or showers. An Atlantic depression moved north-east along our north-west seaboard from the 27th to 29th; rain fell at times and was heavy locally on the 27th and 28th, though little was recorded in south-east or east England. On the closing day of the month an irregular trough of low pressure moved eastward over the British Isles giving showers and rather widespread thunderstorms.

**Pressure and Wind.**—Mean pressure was not very different from the average, the deviation at 7h. ranging from  $-0.6$  mb. at Lerwick to  $+1.8$  mb. at Malin Head. Wind reached gale force locally at times, chiefly in the west and extreme north. Among the highest speeds registered in gusts were 63 m.p.h. at Lerwick and 55 m.p.h. at Stornoway on the 9th, 56 m.p.h. at Larkhill on the 21st and 57 m.p.h. at Tiree on the 23rd.

**Temperature.**—Mean temperature exceeded the average on the whole, the excess for districts 1–10 being  $+0.9^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The deviations for the districts ranged from  $-0.2^{\circ}\text{F}$ . in England, E. to  $+2.2^{\circ}\text{F}$ . in Scotland, E. The excess was mainly due to the unusual warmth experienced during the first week, particularly from the 3rd to 7th, when temperatures of  $80^{\circ}\text{F}$ . or above were registered at numerous stations. On the 7th temperature fell considerably in Scotland and Ireland but it continued high on that day in England. The daily range of temperature was great during this anticyclonic spell; a range of between  $40^{\circ}\text{F}$ . and  $50^{\circ}\text{F}$ . was recorded at many places.

At Houghall, County Durham, a range exceeding  $40^{\circ}\text{F}$ . occurred on four consecutive days, the actual values being  $47^{\circ}\text{F}$ . on the 3rd and 4th and  $42^{\circ}\text{F}$ . on the 5th and 6th. The remainder of the month was cool on the whole, though it was rather warm in parts of Scotland and Ireland on the 22nd and 23rd. The lowest minimum temperatures occurred as a rule on the 2nd–4th, 9th, 12th–14th, 16th and 25th.

The extremes for the month were:—(England and Wales)  $90^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at London (Camden Square) on the 7th,  $29^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at Castleton on the 3rd, Doncaster on the 4th and Thetford on the 9th; (Scotland)  $88^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at Glasgow on the 4th,  $30^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at West Linton on the 2nd and at Dalwhinnie on the 13th; (Ireland)  $85^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at Mallaranny on the 5th,  $35^{\circ}\text{F}$ . at Birr Castle on the 25th.

**Precipitation.**—The general rainfall of the British Isles expressed as a percentage of the average for the period 1881–1915 was 96, the values for the constituent countries being England and Wales 106, Scotland 82 and Ireland 88. In Scotland rainfall was deficient over most of the country; an excess occurred, however, in small areas in the west, east and extreme south. In Ireland, an excess was received in some central districts (an excess of 71 per cent. occurred at Crom Castle, County Fermanagh) and at a few other isolated places; elsewhere there was a deficiency. In England and Wales, the distribution was variable. Less than the average occurred over a large area covering most of the Midlands, south-east England and Essex and Suffolk. More than the average occurred at most places elsewhere and more than 150 per cent. was recorded locally in Cumberland, Yorkshire, Devon and Somerset. The first part of the month was very dry; over most of Scotland there was no measurable rain until the 9th, over the greater part of England it was delayed until the 10th, while in parts of southern Ireland the dry spell lasted over the 12th.

Among the heavier falls of rain in 24 hours were:—

15th 2.35 in. at Princetown, 1.96 in. at Cantref (Brecknock), 1.88 in. at Ystalyfera (Glamorgan), 1.85 in. at Maesteg (Glamorgan), and 1.72 in. at Bradford (Dorset).

19th 1.83 in. at Bridlington and 1.71 in. at Withernsea.

27th 1.70 in. at Kingairloch (Argyllshire).

Local thunderstorms were reported on a number of occasions, mainly on the 7th, 8th, 11th–12th, 16th, 18th, 20th–23rd, 26th, 28th and 30th.

Snow fell on the Cairngorms on the 10th and 11th and again on the 24th.

**Sunshine.**—Sunshine was excessive, particularly so in Ireland, north-west England, and the west of Scotland. The percentages of the average for the districts ranged from 103 in England, E. to 141 in Ireland, N. Sunshine was abundant during the first eight to ten days; for example, the mean daily duration was about 15 hours locally in north-west England for the first nine days and roughly 14 hours locally in south-east and east England for the first ten days. Among the best records for a single day may be mentioned 16.6 hours at Lerwick on the 2nd and 16.3 hours at Tiree on the 21st.

**Fog.**—Fog occurred at times, particularly from the 15th–24th; the period with most fog was the 20th–24th.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena.**—Solar halos were noted at Oxford on nine days.