

## MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE.

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

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## JUNE, 1925: FINE, WARM AND ABNORMALLY DRY.

**General.**—During the first few days of the month, moderate to fresh westerly to south-westerly winds prevailed over the British Isles. The weather was mainly fair to cloudy with showers. Some drizzle was experienced in the north-western coasts. On the 4th an anticyclone was situated over the English Channel while a depression was centered south-west of Iceland. Fine weather prevailed over the British Isles except in the north where conditions were cloudy to overcast with slight local drizzle. During the following eight days the weather was dominated by the anticyclone which lay over the British Isles. Temperature rose considerably and warm sunny weather prevailed. In many places the temperature exceeded 80°F. especially from the 9th to the 12th. Between 14 and 15 hours of bright sunshine were experienced on those days. Meanwhile the anticyclone, after having passed to Scandinavia, had begun to withdraw westwards to the Atlantic. On the 13th to 14th a depression moved south-eastwards from Iceland to the Baltic, a temporary drop in temperature being associated with the cool northerly breezes which set in. On the 15th the winds backed to west, the anticyclone re-established itself over southern England and temperature again rose above 80°F. in a few places. On the 16th the trough of low pressure near the Faroes, together with the main depression centered further north, travelled to the Gulf of Bothnia and southern Scandinavia causing a renewal of moderate to light winds over the British Isles, with rain in the north of Scotland. On the 17th an anticyclonic ridge extended from the Azores to Iceland, and north-west to north winds prevailed during the next ten days. Warm sunny weather continued to be experienced generally in the western districts of Great Britain, but in the eastern districts the weather was cloudy and cool, especially on the 24th, when a maximum temperature of 49°F. was recorded at Rounton (York). Slight rain occurred locally, the largest measurements being registered on the east coast. Between the 27th and the 30th the anticyclone passed southwards across the British Isles and the weather became generally fine and warm. In north-west Scotland and north-west Ireland, however, much cloud was associated with an Icelandic depression and rain fell locally.

The general character of the month is illustrated by the following remarks taken from Observers' notes:—Lerwick,—Rainfall much below normal. Sunshine above that of the same month last year. The latter part of a fine month was marred by the prevalence of cold northerly winds which sent the temperature down to below that on the same days of December, 1924. Arisaig (Inverness-shire),—A far finer month than for years past. A great deal of sunshine and much genial warmth except for a week of cold N. wind. Gergask (Inverness-shire),—River Spey at Laggan Bridge lowest level for many years. Arrochar (Dumbartonshire),—An unusually fine and warm month. Rain quite welcome on 29th. Southport,—The driest and sunniest June in 54 and 34 years' records respectively. Double the normal duration of N.W. winds and only one third of the normal hours of S. ones. Air pressure exceptionally high. Evaporation unprecedentedly large (for any month). Only one rain day or 2 fewer than the smallest previous number in any month whatever in 54 years' observations. Well water levels fortunately normal. Stonyhurst,—The driest June since 1859 and the largest number of hours of bright sunshine for 26 years. Blundellsands,—The least rainfall of any month since observations were started in the district 50 years ago. Worksop (Hodsock Priory),—During the last 50 years the only drier month was February, 1891 with 0.08 in. Ipswich,—Sunniest June on record and the driest with the exception of 1921. The average mean temperature was, however, only slightly above normal. Rothamsted,—Unusually dry and sunny, the rainfall figures being lower and the sunshine figures higher than in any previous June. Berkhamsted,—The warmest June since 1917. A very fine and very dry month just marred by a few days of chilly weather. Cheltenham,—An abnormal month. Rainfall the lowest for any month since 1867. Bright sunshine next to highest on record for any month. Newport,—An absolute drought right through the month with much sunshine, high temperatures and low humidity. Totland Bay,—The first month in 39 years with rainfall less than 0.005 in. of rain and the longest spell of rainless days since the spell of 43 consecutive rainless days ending April 28th, 1893. Torquay,—An unprecedented dry month with a comparatively high day temperature and a total duration

of bright sunshine many hours in excess of all past Junes since records were established. Teignmouth,—An exceptionally warm dry and sunny month. Penzance,—The driest and sunniest month on record. Dublin,—A month of high and uniform atmospheric pressure, warm and very dry.

**Pressure.**—An unusual feature of this month's track chart is the absence of tracks of depressions across the British Isles. The depressions followed tracks which lay to the north-east and over Scandinavia so that the weather of the British Isles was only slightly influenced by them. The predominating influence on the weather was the anticyclone which for the greater part of the month lay over our Islands. The mean pressure was everywhere above normal, the deviations of monthly mean pressure varying from 6.9mb. at Roches Point to 2.4mb. at Lerwick. The prevailing winds were between west and north and light to moderate. The highest recorded pressures were 1032 mb. at Castlebay, Stornoway, Wick, Aberdeen and Malin Head on the 10th, and the lowest, 999 mb., at Lerwick on the 16th.

**Temperature.**—The mean temperature in Districts 1-10 was 57.2°F. The mean temperature was above normal in all districts, the deviation from normal varying from 1.0°F. to 2.4°F. except in England E. and N.E. and in Ireland N. where the deviations did not exceed 0.5°F. Following the warm spell during the 2nd and 3rd weeks the week ending June 27th was cold. The warmest days of the month occurred during the second week.

The extreme temperatures for the month were:—(England and Wales) 88°F. at Camden Square (London) on the 11th, 32°F. at Oundle and Usk on the 3rd. (Scotland) 86°F. at Kelso and Perth on the 10th, 32°F. at Dungavel on the 22nd. (Ireland) 86°F. at Killarney on the 8th, 38°F. at Phoenix Park on the 5th.

**Precipitation.**—The outstanding feature of the weather of June was its abnormal dryness. The deficiency was most marked in England and Wales and in Ireland where falls of 1 in. or more were confined to high land in the English Lake District, Connemara and the north-west of Ireland. The fall for the month amounted to less than 6 per cent. of the average over the whole of England and Wales if parts of the extreme north and the eastern counties from the Wash to Beachy Head were excepted. In many districts in the south and south-west of England and in the south of Wales the month was rainless. In Scotland the percentage values increased fairly regularly from about 10 per cent. in the south to 118 per cent. at Achfary in Sutherlandshire. At most stations all previous records for dryness were beaten. At Camden Square (London) the fall of 0.11 in. was the least amount recorded there in June since 1858 and the driest month since April, 1912, when only 0.04 in. fell. It was the driest calendar month at Wolstanton Rectory (Shropshire) in 60 years record. At Skegness it was the driest June since 1887. At Strelley (Nottingham) it was the driest of any month since 1879. At Ashburton, the only other rainless month since 1866 was February, 1895. Reference has already been made in a previous section to records from other stations. The general rainfall experienced as a percentage of the normal was:—England and Wales 6, Scotland 39, Ireland 23 and the British Isles as a whole 18. The rainfall for the British Isles as a whole was less than in June, 1921, and ranks about equal with that of the record dry month, February, 1891. A similar statement holds for England and Wales.

**Sunshine.**—The mean daily duration of sunshine was above normal in all districts, the greatest excess 4.30 hrs. occurring in England S.W. The northern and eastern districts of the British Isles were the least sunny. In several places the total for the month reached record figures.

**Fog.**—Fog occurred on most mornings from the 8th to the 12th on the east coast.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena.**—Solar halos were of frequent occurrence. An Aurora was observed at Southampton on the 17th. A sun pillar was observed at Oxford on the 29th and 30th. The observers at Cleethorpes and Hunstanton report having seen a mirage on the 10th.