

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: ADASTRAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2; 120, GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH; YORK STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF; 15, DONEGALL SQUARE WEST, BELFAST; or through any Bookseller.

VOL. 44, No. 6.

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE.

Price 9d. Net, Post free, 10d.

Annual Subscription, including Annual Summary and Introduction, 10s. post free.

JUNE, 1927: VERY COOL, MUCH HEAVY RAIN AND HIGH WINDS DURING LAST TWO WEEKS.

General.—Cool, rather unsettled weather with local thunderstorms during the first ten days, generally fair weather from the 11th to the 15th and very unsettled weather with local thunderstorms, heavy rain and high winds subsequently were the main features of the weather of June.

During the first two days of the month, pressure was low to the south and east of the British Isles; cool, cloudy weather with showers was experienced over the eastern districts, in the west the weather was fair. From the 3rd to the 8th a low pressure system was centered either over or near the British Isles and a changeable type of weather with bright periods and local heavy rain prevailed: 38mm. (1.48 in.) fell at Banbridge (Down) on the 7th. During the next two days, pressure was low over Scandinavia and an anticyclone was spreading over the country from the north-west; weather was changeable and cool but with considerable bright periods and not very much rain. From the 11th to the 15th and in eastern districts on the 16th, the weather was fair or fine generally but some low minimum temperatures for the time of year were recorded: on the night of the 14th to the 15th, the screen temperature at Castleton (Yorkshire) fell to 26°F. and a grass minimum temperature as low as 23°F. occurred at Rounton (Yorkshire): ground frosts were widespread during this period. The 16th was a very warm day in south-eastern England when temperature rose above 80°F., the highest maximum 85°F. occurring in London.

From the 16th onwards the character of the weather changed to a more disturbed type. Depressions moving across the country were accompanied by high winds and heavy rain at times. Gales were experienced on the 16th, 18th, 21st, 24th, 25th and 26th the highest mean hourly velocity recorded by an anemometer being 54 m.p.h. at Dunfanaghy on the 21st. Thunderstorms were prevalent especially in the south and east of England from the 23rd to the 30th and were accompanied by some heavy falls of rain locally. The 30th was a fine day in the north of Scotland, Lerwick on that day had as much as 17.0 hours of bright sunshine.

The following remarks taken from observers' notes illustrate the character of the weather of the month:—Southport—A cold and unusually westerly June, bright to 15th much cloud and rain afterwards. Huddersfield—Very low mean temperature and excessive rainfall, much unsettled weather. Ampleforth—This month has been one of unusually heavy rainfall. The middle part of the month was fine and dry but rather cold due to the prevalence of north and north-west winds. West Kirby—Brilliant weather until mid-June then very stormy, cold and rainy with constant high winds or gales. Berkhamsted—June was rather cold, the first half of the month was fine and dry but the latter half was very wet and the month became the wettest June since 1910. Telford—Generally fair to the 16th, then unsettled and rather cool with strong S.W. to N.W. winds reaching gale force at times. Falmouth—June has been remarkable for its excess of wind from a westerly quarter. Dublin—A cold cloudy, dull and rainy month save for a fine spell from the 10th to the 15th. Cork—A relatively, cold month with generally light winds and much cloud. Rainfall about normal but occurring frequently in small amounts.

Pressure and Winds.—The mean pressure for the month was everywhere decidedly below normal, the departure being as much as 7 millibars at Lerwick. The highest recorded pressure at a fixed hour was 1028 mb. at Guernsey on June 22nd, the lowest 989 mb. at Stornoway on June 19th. The prevailing winds were westerly. From the 16th to the 26th high winds and gales were widespread. On the 21st a westerly gale did considerable damage in some districts of Scotland. On that day a gust of 87 mi/hr. was recorded at Dunfanaghy and a gust of 71 mi/hr. at Paisley. Over England the 18th, 21st, 24th, 25th and 26th were the days of highest wind generally. On the 21st a gust of 58 mi/hr. was recorded at South Shields and one of 56 mi/hr. at Spurn Head; on the 25th a gust of 55 mi/hr. was recorded at Southport and on the 18th a gust of 54 mi/hr. at Pendennis.

Temperature.—A notable feature of the month was its relative coolness the greatest deficit, 4.5°F. occurring in Scotland E. (mean temperature 49.2°F.) and the smallest deficit 1.3°F. in the Channel Isles (mean temperature 56.4°F.). In Scotland the month was much the coldest June for at least 60 years and probably for a much longer period. For Edinburgh temperature records are available for comparison as far back as 1764 and during the period of fully 160 years no June has been so cold in Edinburgh as that of 1927.

An exception to the generally low temperatures occurred on the 16th and 17th and 18th. On the 16th maxima in England were above 75°F. generally at inland stations and in the neighbourhood of 70°F. at coast stations; the highest temperatures on this day occurred in and near London. In Scotland the 17th was generally the warmest day and at some stations temperatures of 70°F. or slightly above were obtained.

There were occurrences of ground frost in all Districts during the early part of the month and some remarkably low screen temperatures for the time of year were recorded. The coldest nights generally were the 9th to 10th, 13th to 14th and 14th to 15th.

The extreme temperatures for the month were:—(England and Wales) 85°F. at London (Greenwich and Camden Square) on the 16th, 26°F. at Castleton on the 15th; (Scotland) 74°F. at Inverness on the 17th and 28°F. at Balmoral on the 11th and 15th and at Logie Coldstone on the 15th; (Ireland) 72°F. at Killarney on the 14th, 32°F. at Lisburn on the 11th.

Precipitation.—The general precipitation of the British Isles expressed as a percentage of the normal for the period 1881 to 1915 was 158; the values for the constituent countries were:—England and Wales 163; Scotland 165; Ireland 135.

More than twice the normal rainfall for the month was experienced in parts of south-east England, locally in the Midlands of England, in the centre of Wales and locally in south-west Scotland and west Ireland. Rainfall was almost everywhere in excess of the normal but on the south coast of Cork, in Meath and on the north coast of Devon the rainfall was slightly below normal.

In Scotland, moderate rains were more or less general from the 1st to the 4th and on the 7th whilst the period from the 8th to the 14th was fine in western districts. On the 15th, rain commenced in the west of Scotland and on the 16th heavy falls were general with more than an inch over wide areas; at Aberfoyle on this day as much as 58mm. (2.30 in.) fell; on every day until the 22nd there were in most districts of Scotland further more or less heavy falls. Noteworthy rainfall was registered at Eskdalemuir on the 18th between 17h. and 18h. when 6mm. (0.23 in.) fell in 6 minutes and 9mm. (0.34 in.) in 10 minutes.

In England and Wales the greater part of the total rainfall for the month fell after the 15th; thus, of a total rainfall for the month of 117mm. (4.61 in.) at Keswick only 4.8mm. (0.19 in.) had fallen up to the 15th. Noteworthy falls were 48mm. (1.88 in.) at Chopwellwood on the 30th; 38mm. (1.50 in.) at Buxton on the 30th; 34mm. (1.33 in.) at Douglas on the 16th and at Tynemouth on the 30th.

In Ireland there was a dry period from the 10th to the 14th but rain fell at most stations on almost all other days the falls being generally heavier after the 14th than before the 10th. The heaviest falls of rain were 28mm. (1.11 in.) at Foynes on the 9th, 26mm. (1.02 in.) at Waterford on the 16th and 24mm. (0.93 in.) at Newcastle (Co. Wicklow) on the 16th.

Thunderstorms accompanied in many instances by hail were comparatively frequent especially in eastern England. At Bungay (Suffolk) thunder was heard on no fewer than 10 days of the month. Ball lightning is reported as having been seen at Harpenden (Herts.) on June 25th. A severe thunderstorm in the Thames Valley on June 26th was accompanied by a heavy fall of hail.

Snow fell on high ground in the north of Scotland early in the month and again around the 22nd. Sleet fell at Ushaw (Durham) on June 8th.

Sunshine.—The mean daily duration of sunshine was below normal except in Scotland N. and England N.E. England E. had the greatest deficiency relative to the normal for the District 1.10 hours (mean daily duration 5.76 hr.) and Scotland N. the greatest excess 0.18 hr. (mean daily duration 5.35 hr.). The first half of the month was generally more sunny than the latter half.

Fog.—There was very little fog during the month.

Miscellaneous Phenomena.—Halos of 22° were observed at many stations on various dates: a halo with contact arc was seen at Oxford on June 1st and parhelia on the 9th and 16th. Sun pillars were observed at Oxford on June 14th and at Paignton on June 3rd. Double rainbows were observed at Huddersfield on the 17th and at Calshot on the 26th.