

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. 46. No. 6

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE.

Price 9d. net, Post free, 10d.
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JUNE, 1929. Cool, with a considerable excess of bright sunshine in western districts. Relatively dry in England and Ireland.

Notwithstanding an excess of sunshine in most districts, notably in the west, June 1929 was on the whole a cool month, the only outstanding warm days, when temperature rose above 70° F., occurring on the 11th and 12th, about the 18th and, except in eastern districts, about the 26th. Although unsettled weather during the first two weeks brought welcome rain, the second half of the month was relatively dry in most districts. There was an excess of precipitation over Scotland as a whole and a deficiency over England and Ireland, the general precipitation over the British Isles being below the normal.

The first day of the month was generally cloudy and rather warm over most of Great Britain but by evening rain was spreading in from the west. Heavy falls occurred during the night in the north-western districts but elsewhere amounts were generally slight. Dungeon Ghyll (Westmorland) had as much as 36mm., Ford (Argyll) 30mm., and Renfrew 20 mm. during the night. The weather continued unsettled up to the 9th and rain fell on most days, although there were many bright periods, excellent sunshine records being obtained in parts of Scotland on the 4th and 5th and in several districts on the 7th and in the north-west and west on the 8th (15·7 hrs. at Tiree and 14·8 hrs. at Pendennis on the 7th). The heaviest rain occurred on the 4th, 5th and 6th. Thunderstorms were experienced in the south on the 4th and in the north between the 5th and the 8th.

On the 9th an anticyclone to the south-west of the British Isles extended its influence over the greater part of the country giving an interval of mainly sunny warm weather. More than 15 hrs. sunshine were recorded at a few stations on the 9th, 10th and 11th and day temperatures rose above the normal, 76° F. being recorded at Renfrew, Hull and Lympne on the 12th. Showers occurred in Scotland and Ireland, and on the 11th heavy rain fell locally in coastal regions in the north-west of the British Isles; 36 mm. fell at Blacksod and 14 mm. at Tiree. On the 12th a depression moved northwards from the Bay of Biscay over the British Isles and gave general rain. This was followed by a period of showery and cool weather with considerable sunny periods and frequent thunderstorms in the north between the 12th and 14th. After the 15th there was very little precipitation until the end of the month except in Ireland and in the north, where rain or showers prevailed up to the 25th.

After the 14th temperature rose quickly, maxima of over 70° F. were reported at most places on the 18th and 19th, while 83° F. occurred at Greenwich and 82° F. at Norwich on the 19th. On these two days over 15 hrs. sunshine were reported locally. Temperature again rose over 70° F. in the south-east on the 23rd. After this the winds veered to north with a corresponding drop in temperature, ground frosts occurring at a few places round the 26th. The weather remained cool in the east until the 30th, but in the west it turned warm; 72° F. was recorded at Kilmarnock on the 27th and 75° F. at Mallarany on the 28th. Rothesay had 16·1 hrs. sunshine on the 25th and many other places over 15 hrs. between the 25th and 29th.

During the night of the 29th to the 30th rain fell in the south-west of England and on the 30th spread to most southern districts; in Ireland and in the north-west of Great Britain the weather on the 30th continued dry and warm, abundant sunshine being recorded in several places (12·7 hrs. at Cahirciveen, 13·0 hrs. at Tiree and 11·9 hrs. at Holyhead).

Pressure and Winds.—Anticyclonic conditions prevailed about the 11th, from the 17th to the 19th except in northern districts, and widely during the last few days of the month, but during the greater part of the month conditions were cyclonic. Monthly means of pressure were below the normal over most of the country, the deficit from the normal being greatest in the extreme north, whilst in the extreme south there was a slight excess. There was a prevalence of winds from between west and north. Strong winds occurred fairly frequently, generally about the 15th and on the 23rd. Gales were recorded at Scilly on the 14th and at Fleetwood and Southport on the 23rd. The highest wind speed recorded was 59 mi/hr. in a gust at Eskdalemuir on the 16th.

Temperature.—Except at a few coastal stations, monthly mean temperatures were everywhere below the normal. Day temperatures were often below the normal owing to the prevalence of cool winds from between west and north, and rather cold nights were experienced

widely from about the 5th to the 9th and from the 25th to the 29th, the temperature in the screen falling below freezing-point at some places, mostly in Scotland, during this period. At West Linton the temperature in the screen fell to 29° F. on the morning of the 9th, while on the morning of the 5th at Drumochter (Inverness), ice, an eighth of an inch thick, was reported. Ground frosts were rather more widespread during these periods. The highest temperatures were recorded about the 11th, 18th and in the west and north about the 26th when day temperatures exceeded 70° F. over wide areas. On the 19th the temperature attained or exceeded 80° F. locally in the south-east and east of England.

The extreme temperatures for the month were:—(England and Wales) 82° F. at Norwich and Camden Square (London) on the 19th, and 31° F. at Roden (Shropshire) on the 5th. (Scotland) 77° F. at Ruthwell on the 12th, and 29° F. at West Linton on the 9th. (Ireland) 75° F. at Mallarany on the 28th, and 33° F. at Markee Castle on the 26th and 27th.

Precipitation.—The general precipitation over the British Isles expressed as a percentage of the normal for the 35 years, 1881–1915, was 91; the values for the constituent countries were:—England and Wales 78, Scotland, 124, Ireland 83. During the first eight days, precipitation occurred over most of the country, heavy falls occurring on the 1st, 2nd and from the 4th to the 6th. From the 9th to the 11th there was, in general, only trifling falls except in northern districts. Heavy rain was generally experienced on the 12th followed by a period of showery weather lasting until the 17th. After the 17th little or no rain fell over the greater part of England until the 30th when some large falls were recorded in the south and south-west. In many districts of England there was no measurable precipitation during the period 16th to 29th inclusive. In Scotland and Ireland moderate falls occurred on the 18th and 19th and in the north and west about the 21st. After the 24th almost rainless conditions prevailed until the end of the month in both Scotland and Ireland.

Monthly totals of precipitation exceeded the normal in parts of Wales and in Devon and Cornwall, but in almost all other districts in England there was a decided deficiency which was most pronounced in the east and south-east. Shoeburyness had only 30 per cent. of the normal total for the month, Chelmsford and Raunds 31 per cent., Meltham (Yorkshire, W. Riding) 35 per cent., and Manchester 38 per cent. In Scotland precipitation exceeded the normal in the west and north, but over most of the eastern counties, particularly those in the Border districts, it was much below the normal. At Wolfelee and Arbroath there was less than 70 per cent. of the normal, while at Melvich (Sutherland) there was almost 270 per cent. In Ireland precipitation exceeded the normal in coastal districts in the west and north, but over most of the country there was a deficiency.

Thunderstorms occurred between the 4th and 8th and between the 12th and 14th. Hail showers were rather widespread in northern districts during the first ten days of the month.

Sunshine.—There was a pronounced excess of sunshine in western districts. Representative sunshine aggregates for Districts, expressed as a percentage of the normal for the period 1881–1915, varied from 121 in England N.W. to 96 in Scotland W. At Hoylake and Rhyl the mean daily excess of sunshine amounted to 2·50 hours and 2·14 hours respectively. Abundant sunshine was recorded in Scotland on the 1st, in northern districts of Ireland and Scotland on the 4th, in northern Scotland on the 5th, in many districts from the 7th to the 11th, in England and Wales from the 17th to the 19th, in the north and west on the 20th, over most of Ireland and England and Wales on the 21st, in many districts on the 25th and 26th, and in the west during the period 23rd to 30th.

Fog.—Some fog was reported mostly from places on or near the coast and occurred most frequently during the first week of the month.

Miscellaneous Phenomena.—A line squall occurred at Clacton on the evening of the 6th. At Oxford a sun pillar was observed on the 17th and a solar halo with parhelia on the 21st.