

District.

23. Much showery weather prevailed between the 9th and 17th, and again towards the end of the month, but fair though cold conditions predominated. Precipitation was about 30 per cent. in excess of the average for March.
- 24, 25. With the exception of a few short periods of fair weather, conditions were generally cold and damp, the rainfall being considerably above the average.

SUMMARY.

Except for a depression which existed off East Cape between the 23rd and 26th, the atmospheric disturbances have been of the westerly low-pressure type, passing to the southward of New Zealand. Of these the most notable one was that which influenced weather-conditions between the 26th and 30th. During this period extremely heavy rains occurred in the high levels of the South Island and in Otago, causing floods in many of the larger rivers. Of the rainfalls at this time it may be interesting to specially note that experienced at the Hermitage. On four days 21.93 in. fell, and of this amount 19.10 in. fell on two days—viz., on the 27th and 28th. It may be easily understood what a marked effect on the river-level such an abnormal fall over a wide area would have. While Otago and the central portion of the South Island had an excessive rainfall, in some cases double the average, the east and west coast of the South Island had less than the average. In the North Island the Taranaki and Wanganui districts experienced more than the average, but in the northern and east coast districts nothing more than a few occasional showers were experienced, and the total was considerably below the average for March. In these districts, and also in the east coast of the South Island as far as Timaru, fair and dry conditions ruled, but elsewhere much dull and misty weather prevailed during the month. High northerly winds occurred in and southward of Cook Strait on frequent occasions, particularly on the 17th, 28th, and 29th. The first frosts of the season were reported in the south on the 23rd.

STOCK EXPORTED.

MARCH, 1913.

THE following table shows the numbers and descriptions of stock exported from the Dominion:—

Port of Shipment.	Horses.			Cattle.			Sheep.			Swine
	To Australia.	To Pacific Islands.	To Fiji.	To Australia.	To Pacific Islands.	To Argentine.	To Australia.	To Pacific Islands.	To South America.	To Pacific Islands.
Auckland	33	7	..	..	13	..	..	224	..	29
Gisborne	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Napier .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	39	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lyttelton	33	..	..	1	..	..	93	..	..	..
Timaru .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	274	..	..	..
Dunedin	18	..	..	..	..	..	63	..	..	..
Bluff	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	134	7	..	8	13	..	430	224	..	29

The following are the particulars of the horses shipped: Thoroughbred—1 stallion, 25 mares, 9 geldings, 4 colts, 4 fillies; ponies—2 mares, 2 geldings; hacks—4 stallions, 9 mares, 25 geldings; draught—19 stallions, 15 mares, 1 gelding, 9 colts, 7 fillies; 1 half-draught mare, 1 gelding, 1 half-thoroughbred mare, 1 gelding cob, 1 Welsh stallion,