

THE WEATHER FOR APRIL.

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As a general rule there was a preponderance of anticyclonic conditions, with fair weather; but three periods of unsettled weather occurred, the first between the 2nd and 8th, during the passage of an antarctic depression in the south; the second between the 12th and 15th, on account of a similar type of depression, but of far greater intensity; and the third from the 26th to the end of the month, when two shallow depressions were in evidence. Of these, one apparently passed eastward of East Cape on the 26th, and the other was a "westerly low," which overspread the Dominion on the 29th. However, none of the above-mentioned disturbances was accountable for particularly heavy rains. The only districts with a total fall in excess of the average were Gisborne, South Canterbury, and Southland. All other parts of the Dominion recorded below the normal.

DISTRICT NOTES.

District.

Chiefly from Telegraphic Reports.

- 1, 2, 3. Fair and clear weather predominated, and the wind-force was slight during the month except on the 8th, 14th, and 26th. On the latter date high northerly winds were experienced accompanied with heavy rains. The total rainfall, however, was everywhere below the average, the difference ranging from 35 to 60 per cent.
4. About 65 per cent. less than the average rain fell. On the few days on which it was recorded conditions were showery, no particularly heavy rain falling during the month. Fair and dry weather was the rule.
5. The rainfall was about 35 per cent. below normal along the coast, but further inland a much greater deficiency was recorded. Very favourable weather was experienced.
6. Extremely dry weather prevailed, the aggregate rainfall only being about one-seventh of the normal for April.
7. Owing to heavy rain between the 5th and 8th, and on the 27th, the total for the month greatly exceeded the average, in some cases by double. There were three short periods of wet and unsettled weather, but fair conditions intervened.
8. Excepting a few scattered stations where a slight excess was recorded, most parts of the district had less than the average rainfall by about 35 per cent. Between the 19th and 26th fair weather prevailed, and also on several shorter periods. The wind attained gale force on several days.
9. Sixty per cent. less than the average rain fell in this district. The first half of the month was somewhat unsettled, and temperatures were low at times. Snow fell on the higher levels on the 6th, and several hard frosts occurred inland. The last half of the month was mild and fine.
10. What little rain fell was during the first half of the month, the total being about 30 per cent. below normal. Gales were reported on the 7th, 8th, and 14th, but usually the month was free from strong winds, the last few days being almost continuously calm. Very favourable weather-conditions prevailed.