

## METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE, DOMINION OF CANADA.

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# Monthly Weather Review.

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## INTRODUCTION.

In compiling the present Review the principal data made use of are the telegraph reports of observations received at this office for the purpose of weather forecasting, and reports by mail from voluntary observers and storm signal agents. For the material used in tracing the paths of areas of high and low pressure in the United States, we are indebted to the Chief of the Weather Bureau, Washington, D.C.

## REMARKS UPON THE WEATHER.

The weather of January was characterised by unusually high temperature, much bright sunshine, moderate precipitation, and a preponderance of winds from a southerly direction throughout the greater portion of the country. The comparatively open weather, resulting in the melting of snow over large areas, was a great hindrance to lumbering and other interests, but upon the ranches of the west it was of great benefit to cattle.

In British Columbia the weather was exceptionally fine and bright, whilst the rainfall and temperature were about average, the only exception being at Victoria and Barkerville where the temperature was considerable above average and the precipitation below, and at Agassiz where both were much above average. On Vancouver and the Gulf Islands there were only very light flurries of snow and a number of garden flowers were in bloom, roses being gathered at Victoria on the 17th. At Port Renfrew on the west coast of Vancouver Island ripe strawberries were gathered on the 31st. At Okanagan Mission on the Upper Mainland buttercups were in bloom throughout the month.

The weather over the North-west Territories was phenomenally mild and it was not until the end of the month that any pronounced cold weather set in. The precipitation at all stations, excepting Edmonton and Battlefield, was average or slightly below, rain falling at many places. This mild weather with much bright sunshine quickly melted the snow and although benefiting cattle, which were enabled to graze, was a great hindrance to sleighing.

In Manitoba the weather was almost equally mild with that in the Territories; and the precipitation though varying slightly, was about average, the only marked difference being 1.13 inch above at Barnardo. Temperatures below zero occurred frequently, but they were unimportant until the last few days of the month; upon several days the temperatures exceeded 40° at some stations more especially on or about the 19th. This mild weather caused the snow to melt quickly leaving the ground bare or nearly so in most districts. Throughout the month there was much bright sunshine. Fogs were recorded at three stations.

The mild weather in the last mentioned province also extended to Ontario but in this portion of the country the excess of average was not nearly so great and at a few stations the temperature was normal. The precipitation was generally below average, at a few places however it was a little above. In most districts there was much bright sunshine alternating frequently with cloud and falls of rain or snow, also much wind. Temperatures below zero were almost general but they were nowhere exceptional. In northern districts sleighing was fair throughout the month but in the southern portion of the province there were only several short periods during which sleighing was fair. Fogs occurred at a large number of places, five being reported from each of four stations.

In the province of Quebec the weather though dull was unusually mild, whilst the precipitation, which included some rain, was generally average or above. At Quebec and Father Point, however, the precipitation was slightly below average. With the exception of 27.1 at Chicoutimi the temperatures recorded below zero were quite moderate. The sleighing was not good until after the 20th and at Father Point the ground was bare up to the 26th. At this station the river was almost clear of ice throughout the month.

The weather conditions of New Brunswick were much the same as in Quebec the temperature and precipitation being generally above average, there being much cloud, the changes being frequent and rapid, and much rain falling in place of snow. At some inland stations there were some quite low temperatures, the