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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 ON THE WEATHER.

The chief feature of the weather of May in Canada was the comparatively small amount of sunshine, low temperature, and heavy precipitation in the western portion of the country. These departures from the normal, however, were not very great, excepting locally in the temperature, and generally in the rainfall of the Territories. Frosts, though occurring in most districts throughout the country did comparatively little damage, and vegetation, though backward, was almost in average condition on the last day of the month.

In British Columbia, while the precipitation was almost normal there was much exceptionally cold dull weather, more especially during the first half of the month. Added to this were some frosts which doubtless checked vegetation and by the end of the month plant life generally was very backward. On the 30th, there was still much snow in the mountains and foothills.

The weather in the North-west Territories was exceptionally dull, cold and wet, the temperature being as much as 6° and 7° below average in Alberta, and the precipitation considerably above average in most districts. Snow fell at many places during the first half of the month, and on the 3rd and 4th some stations reported falls of five and six inches. Frosts were rather frequent during the month, the temperature falling to 12° at some places. These frosts, however, though retarding vegetation do not appear to have done much damage, and by the 31st the conditions were much improved.

The unpropitious weather of the Territories extended to Manitoba, but the conditions there were not quite so unfavourable; nevertheless it was wet and cool and there was little improvement until after the 19th. Snow fell in some districts during the earlier part of the month, and frosts which were for the most part light were general. Vegetation though backward made great progress during the latter portion of the month.

In Ontario the weather did not differ much from normal, the mean temperature, however, was somewhat above average, and the rainfall nearly everywhere was greater than normal. During the first and last ten days it was comparatively fine and warm, but from the 14th to 21st it was unpleasantly cool. Frosts occurred throughout the greater portion of the province, but they were not severe, excepting to the north of Lake Superior where 7°·0 and 18°·0 were recorded at Savanne and White River respectively. Little damage was caused by these frosts but the many unusually cool nights retarded vegetation and it was somewhat below normal on the last day of the month.

In the Province of Quebec the weather was for the most part fine warm and dry, some unusually low temperatures occurred however in the third week, and during this period it was comparatively dull and unpleasant. Frosts were almost general in the eastern portion of the province, 22°·1 being recorded at Father Point on the 5th. Some damage to vegetation was caused by these frosts, otherwise its condition was normal on the 31st.

The weather in New Brunswick did not differ much from normal, the departures, which were nowhere very great, being generally local. In the central portion the rainfall was in some cases quite light and although vegetation was about normal on the 31st, it was considerably retarded thereby in this portion of the province. Frosts were general but they were not severe and did little damage.