

Aviation Service Station, Auckland—

Macky, W. A., Meteorologist, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Stewart, C. W., Meteorological Assistant, B.Sc.

Dyer, W. R., Meteorological Assistant, B.Sc.

Aviation Service Station, Christchurch—

Larsen, L. N., Meteorologist, B.Sc.

Howell, E. H., Meteorological Assistant, M.Sc. (Hons.).

Rutherford, G. T., Meteorological Assistant, M.Sc. (Hons.).

Holding a Commonwealth Service Fund Fellowship—

Simmers, R. G., Meteorologist, Wellington, M.Sc. (Hons.).

PUBLICATIONS.

Regular publications have been maintained as follows :—

(1) Monthly in the *Government Gazette*—

Daily observations of pressure, temperature, &c., at the Kelburn Observatory, Wellington.

Notes on the weather of the Dominion for the month.

Summary of temperature observations at climatological stations other than Wellington.

Total rainfall and number of days for all rainfall stations.

Once a year, also, a table is included giving the total rainfalls, differences from average, and the greatest day's fall during the previous year for all stations.

(2) Volume of "Meteorological Observations": This contains monthly and annual means of pressure, temperature, wind, sunshine, and other climatological data from upwards of forty stations; monthly means for each hour of the day of pressure, temperature, rainfall, and sunshine at Wellington, and temperature at Alexandra; and a map showing departure from normal of rainfall over the whole country for the year concerned. The 1936 volume, the last to appear, contains reproductions of the barograph records at Wellington for the polar year, August, 1932, to February, 1934.

With so large a proportion of the staff having joined only recently and the great pressure of routine and organization work, it has again been possible to devote little time to investigations.

The following papers have been published :—

Meteorological Office Note No. 18, on "Some Comparisons of the Invigorating Effect of the Climate in Different Parts of New Zealand," by Dr. W. A. Macky. Reference was made to this last year.

Meteorological Office Note No. 19, on "Atmospheric Pollution at Wellington," by C. E. Palmer.

The following are in the press :—

Meteorological Office Note No. 20, on "Visibility and Upper Winds at Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch," by L. N. Larsen.

Meteorological Office Note No. 21, on "Climatological Observations at Eastbourne, Wellington, and some Comparisons," by Dr. W. A. Macky.

Mr. Palmer's paper gives an account of a series of observations made at Wellington with a "dust-counter" of the type designed by Dr. J. S. Owens. This not only gives a count of the number of solid dust particles present in unit volume of the atmosphere, but enables their nature and size to be determined. The results are important from the point of view of health.

The paper by Mr. Larsen was prepared largely in his own time. It presents, in the forms prescribed by international agreement, the results of observations of visibility, cloud-heights, and wind direction and speed in the upper air from the available observations at Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch. This information will be of use, particularly, to aviators.

Note No. 21 gives the results of a short series of observations made by Dr. Macky at Eastbourne, one of the eastern suburbs of Wellington, and then proceeds to discuss the variation of temperature in various parts of the Wellington area.

Dr. C. J. Seelye has commenced work on new monthly and annual rainfall maps of New Zealand for incorporation in the Centenary Atlas.

The Director himself has spent much time, almost entirely out of office hours, on the discussion of the Meteorology of the Australian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-1913, under the leadership of Sir Douglas Mawson. It is hoped that it will be possible to bring this to a conclusion within about a year.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR 1937.

January.—A cool and humid month. Rainfall above normal except in parts of Taranaki, Canterbury, and Otago, and particularly heavy in the north-eastern and far northern portions of the North Island. Cyclonic depressions visited the northern part of the Dominion on three occasions. Easterly gales in association with one of these caused damage in the Auckland Province on the 14th and 15th. In the south a series of deep westerly depressions passed between the 19th and 23rd and were accompanied by gales in many places. Pasture was abundant but rather soft. The milk yield was well maintained, but lambs did not fatten well. Shearing, which had been held over in some districts, was still further delayed, and the weather was rather unfavourable for crops.