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MONTHLY AND ANNUAL PRECIPITATION AT MAZATLAN, SINALOA, MEXICO, FOR THE YEARS 1909, 1910, 1911, AND 1912.

[Data furnished by W. E. Alger, United States consul.]

	1909	1910	1911	1912	Average.
January	T.	T.	T.	0.18	0.04
February	0.00	0.00	1.77	0.33	0.52
March	0.00	0.00	0.00	T.	T.
April	0.00	T.	T.	0.00	T.
May	0.00	0.00	T.	T.	T.
June	0.07	0.40	0.52	4.26	1.31
July	5.52	8.57	8.76	1.11	5.99
August	9.28	4.61	6.10	3.19	5.80
September	1.92	5.03	2.18	7.04	4.04
October	T.	4.04	3.91	0.62	2.14
November	0.00	0.00	1.37	0.00	0.34
December	2.89	1.69	0.56	0.26	1.35
Annual	19.68	24.34	25.17	16.98	21.53

NOTE.—On account of the meager character of the data regarding rainfall distribution over the Pacific coast districts of Mexico, the above table should be of interest. Attention is at once drawn to the heavy rainfall of the summer months, and the marked dryness of the winter and spring periods, conditions directly opposing those prevailing along the Pacific coast of the United States. P. C. D.

TWO CLIMATIC CROSS-SECTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.[1]

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Introduction.—Between the tabulated data on a page of some climatological report, and actually experiencing the climate itself and observing its effects, there is a difference as great as that between reading a description of a glacier and seeing or climbing over the glacier. A traveler who is something more than a sightseer, and who is interested in climatological "field work," can see, even through a car window, types of meteorological conditions and their effects which will give him a vivid impression of the larger facts of climate and of their control over man. Such field work is not instrumental. It may be termed a series of "climatic snapshots." The impressions thus gained are inevitably superficial. But, taken together, they constitute a sort of moving picture as much more vivid than the tabulated data of climate as the real glacier is more vivid than the printed account. The writer had the privilege of taking part in the recent Transcontinental Excursion of the American Geographical Society. This trip gave an excellent opportunity to see two climatic cross-sections of the United States. As the journey was made rapidly, the climatic contrasts were sharply emphasized, and the "snapshots" were very clear and instructive. Some of the impressions thus gained are briefly described here in the hope that readers who may not have had the good fortune to take such a trip may perhaps, in some slight way, share in the meteorological advantages of the journey.[2]

[1] Notes taken during the Transcontinental Excursion of the American Geographical Society of New York, Aug. 22–Oct. 18, 1912.

[2] The party left New York Aug. 22, by special train, and traveled via Albany, Chicago, Madison, Duluth, Yellowstone National Park, Spokane, Seattle, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Denver, Santa Fe, and the Grand Canyon to Phoenix, Ariz. From Phoenix the return journey was via Kansas City, Memphis, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Asheville, and Washington to New York.