

204577.37 (76-)
SECTION VI.—WEATHER AND DATA FOR THE MONTH.

EXCESSIVE PRECIPITATION AT OKLAHOMA, OKLA.

In the *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* for April, 1914, Prof Julius v. Hann draws attention to what he believed to be an unusually heavy rainfall of brief duration at Oklahoma, Okla., between 3:35 a. m. and 6:10 a. m., July 1, 1913.¹ Unfortunately the monthly table of accumulated excessive precipitation was misinterpreted in this case by Prof. Hann.

When this table, now called Table II, published monthly in this REVIEW for many years past, was devised it was found impracticable to make it sufficiently wide to accommodate on one line the record of accumulated falls that continued at an excessive rate for several hours. It was decided that in the latter case the record should be broken at the end of each 50 minutes, the accumulating amounts being recorded on successive lines until the excessive rate ended.

In the light of this explanation of the table it is clear that the entry for Oklahoma, Okla., under July 1, 1913, in the second line, 5-minute column (1.26 inches), represents the accumulated fall for 55 minutes; and that in the last line for Oklahoma, the entry in the 5-minute column (4.19 inches) represents the accumulated or total fall for 155 minutes during which the falls had been at an excessive rate as measured by the scale of excessive rates given under the heading "Description of Tables and Charts" (below p. 401). The fall for the last 5-minutes period was only 0.13 inch (3.3 mm.).

The above statement is published here because the erroneous interpretation referred to above is being widely published and attributed to this REVIEW, by both technical and popular European journals. Journals that have printed this error are requested to give equal prominence to this correction.—[C. A. jr.]

204577.37 (76-)
THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By P. C. DAX, Climatologist and Chief of Division.

Pressure.—The distribution of the mean atmospheric pressure over the United States and Canada, and the prevailing directions of the winds, are graphically shown on Chart VII, while the average values for the month at the several stations, with the departures from the normal, are shown in Tables I and III.

The mean barometric pressure for the month as a whole was above the normal over the entire country, save in New England, the interior of Virginia and North Carolina, and locally in the middle Missouri Valley, where the means were slightly less than normal. The more marked plus departures appeared in the middle and west Gulf States, extending into eastern New Mexico, and in the upper Lake region and upper Mississippi Valley. However, as a rule the departures from the normal were not large, the means in most districts being near the normal values.

During the first few days of the month a moderate high pressure area occupied the central and eastern districts, which passed to sea about the 3d, and was followed by a trough of low pressure, extending on the morning of the 4th from the Lake region westward to the northern mountain districts. By the following day a high pressure area of considerable magnitude overspread the Hudson Bay district and slowly moved southward during the next few days to the southeastern States.

On the 8th–10th a moderate depression moved eastward over the northern border States and Canadian Provinces, after which no barometric changes of consequence occurred until about the middle of the month, when a rather extensive area of high pressure advanced from the Canadian Northwest, overspread the central and northern districts during the following few days, and passed to sea about the 18th. From the 22d to the 25th relatively high pressure obtained over the southern States east of the Rocky Mountains, and from the last named date to the close of the month a disturbance of considerable energy moved across the central and northern districts from the Pacific Ocean to the Canadian Maritime Provinces, with considerable diminution in intensity with approach to the ocean.

The distribution of the highs and lows for the month was favorable for the occurrence of southerly winds as prevailing direction over most districts east of the Rocky Mountains, while the prevailing directions to the westward were variable.

Temperature.—The month opened with moderately warm weather over all parts of the country, and during the first few days a warm area advanced slowly eastward from the Canadian Northwest, reaching the great valleys by the 4th. At the same time cool weather set in over the far West and overspread the mountain districts during the next few days, with temperatures as low as or lower than had been recorded for many years at the same period, and with local snows and frosts at exposed points. About this time much cooler weather obtained over the northern districts from the upper Mississippi Valley eastward, but to the southward temperatures continued quite high.

About the 8th high pressure over the northeast and a moderate depression on the Middle Atlantic coast resulted in a marked fall of temperature in New England and the Middle Atlantic States. However, temperatures continued high over interior districts, but were moderate and below normal from the Rocky Mountain region westward. About the 11th the cool weather in the northeast gave way to much higher temperatures, while warm weather continued in central and southern districts, with readings as high as or higher than ever before recorded for the period of the year at many points on the 10th or 11th. By the middle of the month temperatures were everywhere moderate, except in the south, where they continued high, but during the next few days the warm weather there was displaced by more moderate temperatures, and about the 20th the weather was unusually cool for the season in the Lake region.

¹ See Monthly Weather Review, Washington, July, 1913, 41 : 1128.