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SOLAR OBSERVATIONS

SOLAR AND SKY RADIATION MEASUREMENTS DURING APRIL, 1925

By HERBERT H. KIMBALL, Solar Radiation Investigations

For a description of instruments and exposures and an account of the method of obtaining and reducing the measurements the reader is referred to the REVIEW for January, 1924, **52**: 42 and January, 1925, **53**: 29.

From Table 1 it is seen that solar radiation intensities averaged slightly below normal values for April at all three stations. A noon reading of 1.50 gram-calories per min. per cm.^{2} at Washington on the 7th almost equals the previous April maximum at that station of 1.51. For further particulars relative to the radiation intensities on this day see the paper by Mr. I. F. Hand in this REVIEW, p. 147, entitled, "The effect of local smoke on visibility and solar radiation intensities."

Table 2 shows that the total solar and sky radiation received on a horizontal surface averaged slightly above normal at the three stations for which weekly normals have been determined.

At Washington skylight polarization measurements made on five days give a mean of 60 per cent, with a maximum of 66 per cent on the 7th. These are slightly above normal values for April at Washington. At Madison measurements made on seven days give a mean of 55 per cent, with a maximum of 60 per cent on the 4th. These are slightly below normal values for April at Madison.

TABLE 1.—*Solar radiation intensities during April, 1925*

Washington, D. C.

[Gram-calories per minute per square centimeter of normal surface]

Date	8 a.m.	Sun's zenith distance 78.7°	75.7°	70.7°	60.0°	0.0°	60.0°	70.7°	75.7°	78.7°	Noon
	75th mer. time	Air mass A. M. 5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	*1.0	P. M. 2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	Local mean solar time
	e.										e.
	mm.	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*mm.*
April 3	5.16					1.32					4.37
4	5.56				1.10						4.57
6	2.62					1.42					2.87
7	4.75		0.97		1.12	1.54	1.23	1.04	0.95	0.89	2.26
8	5.16					1.13					4.37
9	3.63	0.64	0.75	0.89	1.06	1.28					3.81
11	7.04			0.67	0.87	1.15					6.27
13	3.15					1.46	0.98				3.30
15	12.24				0.91						10.97
17	5.79		0.51	0.65							5.16
21	2.49	0.87	0.96	1.08	1.17						3.15
24	13.61					1.05					15.65
27	11.81				0.95	1.32					10.97
Means		(0.76)	0.80	0.82	1.03	1.30	(1.10)	(1.04)	(0.95)	(0.89)	
Departures		+0.06	+0.05	−0.05	−0.03	−0.05	+0.01	+0.14	+0.20	+0.29	

Madison, Wis.

April 1	2.74						1.14				2.87
2	3.15				1.08						3.30
4	3.00			1.10	1.29	1.54	1.25				3.63
6	4.17				1.20		1.18				2.74
10	5.16					1.29	1.03				6.76
16	3.81				1.18						3.63
23	11.81				0.85						14.10
25	8.81			0.94	1.12	1.33					11.38
28	4.17			0.98	1.16						5.16
Means				1.01	1.13	1.30	1.15				
Departures				−0.08	−0.09	−0.02	−0.07				

TABLE 1.—*Solar radiation intensities during April, 1925.*—Con.

Lincoln, Nebr.

Date	8 a.m.	Sun's zenith distance 78.7°	75.7°	70.7°	60.0°	0.0°	60.0°	70.7°	75.7°	78.7°	Noon
	75th mer. time	Air mass A. M. 5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	*1.0	P. M. 2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	Local mean solar time
	e.										e.
	mm.	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*mm.*
April 21	10.97			0.76	0.99						12.24
25	5.56			0.78	1.07	1.35					3.63
29	3.63	0.88	1.00	1.14	1.31	1.54					3.15
Means		(0.88)	(1.00)	0.87	1.12	(1.44)					
Departures		+0.11	+0.15	−0.10	−0.09	−0.01					

* Extrapolated.

TABLE 2.—*Solar and sky radiation received on a horizontal surface*

[Gram-calories per square centimeter of horizontal surface]

Week beginning—	Average daily radiation: Washington	Madison	Lincoln	Chicago	New York	Average daily departure from normal: Washington	Madison	Lincoln
	cal.	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*	*cal.*
Ap. 2	440	472	379	359	435	+51	+95	−59
9	447	418	444	276	416	+42	+27	+9
16	439	284	419	182	379	+19	−125	−19
23	338	461	526	344	337	−98	+30	+72
Deficiency since first of year on Apr. 29						−1,001	−1,596	−1,281

WEATHER OF NORTH AMERICA AND ADJACENT OCEANS

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By F. A. YOUNG

The following table shows the average sea-level pressure for the month at a number of land stations on the coast and islands of the North Atlantic. The readings are for 8 a. m. 75th meridian time, and the departures are only approximate, as the normals were taken from the Pilot Chart and are based on Greenwich mean noon observations, which correspond to those taken at 7 a. m. 75th meridian time.

Station	Average pressure	Departure
	Inches	*Inches*
St. Johns, Newfoundland	29.86	−0.01
Nantucket	30.01	+0.03
Hatteras	30.02	+0.01
Key West	29.99	−0.03
New Orleans	30.03	+0.03
Swan Island	29.87	−0.11
Turks Island	30.00	−0.02
Bermuda	30.08	+0.08
Horta, Azores	30.23	+0.12
Lerwick, Shetland Islands	29.73	−0.07
Valencia, Ireland	29.86	−0.03
London	29.86	−0.01

It will be seen from the above table that there were no unusually large departures, although the average pressure for the month was somewhat higher than usual at Horta and slightly lower at Lerwick, denoting that both the Azores HIGH and Icelandic LOW were fairly well developed.

At Horta the barometric readings ranged from 30.62 inches on the 12th to 29.50 inches on the 30th, and at Lerwick from 30.16 inches on the 20th to 28.91 inches on the 15th.

The number of days with winds of gale force was considerably greater than usual over the western section of the steamer lanes. According to reports received up to date, the maximum number occurred in the 5-degree square between the 40th and 45th parallels and the 55th and 60th meridians, where gales were reported on 9 days. Conditions were apparently not far from normal over the territory north of the 45th parallel, east of the 35th meridian, with winds of gale force occurring on from 1 to 3 days.

The number of days with fog did not, on the whole, differ materially from the normal as shown on the Pilot Chart, the maximum amount occurring, as usual, on the Grand Banks, where fog was reported on 13 days.

The month began with moderate depressions over Nova Scotia and also off the northern coast of Europe. These LOWS both moved northeastward and were accompanied by no unusually heavy weather, except that on the 3d moderate northerly gales were encountered in the vicinity of Hatteras.

On the 4th there were two disturbances over the ocean; the first central near 40° N., 60° W., and the second, of much greater intensity, near 50° N., 20° W. By the 5th the western LOW was in the vicinity of Nova Scotia and western Newfoundland, and was surrounded by moderate winds. On the same date the eastern LOW was central about 5 degrees west of the southwest coast of Ireland,