

NAVAL AIR STATION, D. C.

TABLE 3.—Mean free-air temperature, humidity, and vapor pressure and resultant wind (m. p. s.) during August, 1925, at Washington, D. C.

Altitude m. s. l. (m.)	Naval Air Station (7 m.)			Weather Bureau (34 m.)	
	Temperature ° C.	Relative humidity %	Vapor pressure (mb.)	Wind	
				Direction	Velocity
Surface.....	22.4	79	21.52	N. 27° W.	0.7
250.....	21.9	71	18.60	N. 38° W.	1.3
500.....	22.1	65	17.18	N. 53° W.	1.5
750.....	20.9	65	16.04	N. 50° W.	1.4
1,000.....	19.4	67	15.03	N. 58° W.	1.5
1,250.....	17.9	68	13.93		
1,500.....	16.0	69	12.83	N. 36° W.	2.2
2,000.....	13.2	68	10.56	N. 31° W.	3.3
2,500.....	10.4	61	7.96	N. 38° W.	3.8
3,000.....	7.4	57	5.97	N. 47° W.	4.4
3,500.....	3.6	58	4.23	N. 60° W.	5.1
4,000.....	-0.2	66	3.51	N. 62° W.	5.3
4,500.....	-2.0	46	1.57	S. 87° W.	5.5
5,000.....	-3.8	39	0.85	N. 81° W.	6.5

THE WEATHER ELEMENTS

By P. C. DAY, in Charge of Division

PRESSURE AND WINDS

The important feature in the distribution of the mean atmospheric pressure was the distinct upbuilding of the high pressure area usually existing over the Southeastern States, and its northward extension into the Great Lakes region, New England and the Canadian Maritime Provinces. In fact the pressure for the month was distinctly of the anticyclonic type, an unusual number of high areas entering the country from the Canadian Northwest, and persisting for rather lengthy periods over the more eastern districts, particularly during the last decade.

Cyclones were, as usual in summer, mainly of slight intensity, and those maintaining their identity over any extensive tracks were confined largely to the more northern districts.

The only important cyclone to traverse the interior districts had its origin in the far Southwest and assumed definite proportions by the morning of the 11th, when it was central over Kansas. During the following three days it moved slowly Northeastward to southern New England, attended by precipitation over considerable areas near its center, the falls being heavy in portions of Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, moderate in some near-by localities, and generally light to the eastward.

Average pressure was above normal over the entire United States, save for a small area in the far Northwest, and in Canada also except over small areas near the borders of Montana and North Dakota. Over all central and eastern districts it was well above the normal.

Compared with July pressures, those for August were higher over all southern, and most central and eastern districts, and in Canada from the Great Lakes eastward, the excesses over the July values being unusually large for a summer month in the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Valley and near-by areas. In the Northwestern districts and over western Canada the August averages were materially lower than those for July.

Winds were mainly light, a number of stations reporting the least total movement of record for August, and in some cases less movement than for any previous month.

The usual number of local high winds associated with thunderstorms occurred, though loss of life and damage

to property were mainly less than frequently happens in August.

Since the center of high pressure was over the middle Appalachian Mountain region, the wind circulation over the eastern third of the country conformed mainly to that usual in anticyclonic areas, from the Northeast over the Atlantic coast districts, easterly in the Gulf States, southerly in the middle Mississippi Valley; and south to southwest in the Great Lakes region. Between the Mississippi Valley and the Rocky Mountains the prevailing winds were almost uniformly from the south. In the far West, particularly along the California coast, where in August the winds are mainly strong from the northwest, this month they were frequently from the south or southwest, and generally light.

The important details of the principal wind, hail, or other storms are given in the table following this section.

TEMPERATURE

There were few important rapid temperature changes, though there were some unusually heated periods, and others that were distinctly cool, but these were the result mainly of gradual heating or cooling.

The first few days were moderately cool from the Rocky Mountains eastward; in fact over portions of the Middle Plains the first was the coldest day of the month, in a few sections the coldest of record so early in August. At the same time some of the highest temperatures were experienced in the far West. For the week ending the 11th temperatures were mainly moderate, though above normal generally over the northern and eastern districts and below in the Southwest.

The week ending the 18th was on the whole warmer than normal from the Great Plains eastward, the excesses becoming greater toward the south. In the far West, particularly over the Plateau, this week was distinctly cool. The week ending the 25th continued warm during the greater part over the central and eastern districts, the 19th and 20th being excessively warm over the Southeastern States where the maximum temperatures, ranging up to 110°, were in many cases the highest ever experienced in August, and in some cases higher than for any previous month. In the far West this week was moderately cool, freezing temperatures being reported from exposed points in Idaho and Oregon.

The last week was mainly warmer than normal between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains, and cooler in the Plateau and Southwest, and over the Atlantic and Gulf coast districts, the coolest weather of the month occurring about the 28th in portions of the North Atlantic States.

The average temperature as a whole was above normal over the Great Lakes, the central valleys and most of the Southern States from Texas eastward, though the excesses were mainly small. The month was moderately cooler than normal from the central portions of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas westward, generally over the Plateau and Pacific States, and locally near the middle Atlantic coast.

Maximum temperatures reached 100° or more at some time during the month in practically all except the northeastern States, the highest reported, 120°, occurring in southern California. They reached 113° in Arizona, 112° in Nevada and Texas, and 110° in Georgia. The most extensive warm period was about the 17th to 20th, when temperatures in excess of 100° were experienced generally from the middle and southern plains eastward to the Atlantic coast.