

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU.

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In Cooperation with Maryland State Weather Service.

# CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA.

## MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION.

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### GENERAL SUMMARY.

December had a mean temperature slightly above normal. Monthly precipitation, monthly sunshine, and monthly relative humidity were below normal. Monthly snowfall was the least of record, as in 1918. Fogs were of frequent occurrence during the mild period. No damaging winds occurred.

Mean monthly temperatures were 1° to 2° above normal in southern Maryland and over the central portion of the Eastern Shore; from this area the departures decreased to slightly below normal in the extreme western, the extreme northeastern, and the extreme southeastern portions.

The cold spell that set in on November 29 terminated on the 3d of the month. A prolonged and rather humid period from the 4th to the 19th, inclusive, was interrupted briefly by moderately cold weather on the 10-11th and 14-15th. The 7-9th, 13th, and 17-19th were markedly mild. A cold wave overspread the section on the 20th and cold weather continued to the close of the month. Periods of lowest temperatures were 21st-23d and 26-29th. In the Allegheny Mountain region temperatures of zero or slightly lower were recorded on the 3d, 23d, 26th, 27th, and 29th. Lowest temperatures of the month in the section ranged from 4° below zero at Oakland to 15° above zero at Baltimore, Crisfield, and Solomons.

Monthly precipitation for the section was about two-thirds of normal. It was deficient, except slightly above normal in the extreme southern portions of southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore. Monthly totals were between 1 and 2 inches over the western half of the section, except slightly above 2 inches in the southern Allegheny Mountain region; they were between 2 and 3.4 inches over the eastern half of the section. Precipitation was mostly in the form of rain and was light to moderate, except heavy on the 24th over the Eastern Shore.

Light snow fell in the Allegheny Mountain region on the 1st, 20th, 21st, 25th, and 28th. Snow flurries occurred on the 1st to the eastward of the Allegheny Mountains, except over the central and southern portions of the Eastern Shore. Snow flurries occurred also on the 3d in north-central Maryland; on the 14th, 22d, and 24th in the Allegheny Mountain region; on the 22d and 30th in the Blue Ridge Mountain region; and on the 28th in the District of Columbia and in southern Maryland. Snow set in over the southern portion of the section in the evening and night of the 31st.

*Crops.*—During the first and second decades winter grains were benefited by the rains and mild weather and were in good condition generally, having a good color and a good stand, and some plowing was done. During the third decade winter grains were turning brown due to the cold weather. Husking of corn was finished during the first half of the month, except during the third decade on the Eastern Shore.

Skating and ice-harvesting resulted from the cold weather of the third decade.

Ice in upper Chesapeake Bay interfered somewhat with the movement of vessels between Baltimore and Philadelphia, via the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, during the 6-day period following Christmas Day.—*J. B., jr.*

### PRESSURE.

The monthly mean sea-level pressure at Washington was 30.21; at Baltimore, 30.19; at Aberdeen, 30.20 inches. The highest at Washington was 30.76; at Baltimore, 30.73—both on the 21st; at Aberdeen, 30.73 inches on the 26th. The lowest at Washington was 29.28; at Baltimore, 29.25; at Aberdeen, 29.29 inches—all on the 13th.

### TEMPERATURE.

The monthly mean for the section, 35.2°, is 0.6° above normal. The highest monthly mean was 40.2° at Crisfield; the lowest, 28.7°, at Grantsville. The highest temperature, 76°, occurred at Cheltenham on the 19th; the lowest, 4° below zero, at Oakland on the 29th. The greatest local monthly range was 70° at Great Falls, and the least, 50°, at Annapolis. The greatest daily range was 50° at Boyds on the 20th.

### PRECIPITATION.

The monthly average for the section, 2.36 inches, is 1.00 inch below normal. The greatest monthly amount was 3.36 inches at Milford; the least, 1.07 inches, at Cumberland. The greatest amount in 24 hours was 1.63 inches at Bridgeville on the 24th. The monthly average snowfall for the section, 0.3 inch, is 4.7 inches below normal. The greatest monthly snowfall was 5.0 inches at Friendsville. The average number of days with 0.01 inch or more, 8, is 1 below normal.

### WIND.

The prevailing direction for the section was northwest. The total movement at Washington was 5,090; at Baltimore, 4,002; at Aberdeen, 5,049 miles. The maximum velocity at Washington was 35 miles per hour from the northwest; at Baltimore, 26 miles from the west; at Aberdeen, 40 miles from the west—all on the 14th.

### SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS.

At Washington 40 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 44 per cent; at Aberdeen, 43 per cent. For the whole section the average number of clear days was 9; partly cloudy, 10; cloudy, 12.

### MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES).

*Fogs, light (periods of).*—4-8; 17-19; 23-24; 30-31.

*Fogs, dense.*—Entire section, 19; also Aberdeen, 5, 6; Annapolis and Baltimore, 8; Frederick, 4, 8; Milford, 17; Washington, D. C., 6, 8.

*Sleet, light.*—Northern portion of section, 3, 24, 25, 30; southern portion of section, 31.

*Winds, high.*—Westerly, 1, 13-14, 19-20, 25.

### SUGGESTION TO OBSERVERS.

We suggest that maximum thermometers be clamped at about 100° or 110°, since the higher up you clamp the instrument the easier it will "set" and the less rapidly you will have to whirl it. Tighten the screw *gently* with a pair of pincers. It is easy, of course, to twist off the screw, but, on the other hand, it is almost impossible to tighten it sufficiently with the fingers.





Daily Temperatures for December, 1924.

Table with columns for Stations, days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various locations in Maryland and Delaware, such as Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective daily temperature readings.

\* , p , etc., indicate respectively 1, 2, 3, etc., days missing from the record. § Instruments are read in the morning; the maximum temperature then read is charged to the preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Baltimore, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; at other stations, except Cumberland and Takoma, they are for the 24-hour period ending late in the afternoon, near sunset. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.