

Snow squalls to heavy snows occurred in middle and higher latitudes on several days. The American steamship *West Jessup* encountered heavy snow in $49^{\circ} 30' N.$, $150^{\circ} W.$, with air temperature of 36° , as late as April 27.

No evidences of a tropical storm for this month have been deduced from any of the reports yet received. Off the Mexican and Central American west coast the usual light variable winds of the season were prevalent, with a tendency toward becoming gentle northwesterly in the upper reaches.

Fog, from isolated patches to wide, dense banks, was observed on the horizon or passed through by vessels in many parts of the ocean, generally north of the 30th parallel. The phenomenon was most frequent in east longitudes, where it occurred largely after the middle of April, except near $30^{\circ} N.$, $155^{\circ} E.$, where it was observed on the 4th to 6th. Along the American coast between the 40th and 20th parallels fog prevalence showed a decided increase over that of March. Off Cape San Lucas it was reported on five days.

NOTES

Panaman motor ship *City of San Francisco*, San Pedro to Panama, Capt. C. Zastrow; observer, David Porter, second officer:

April 11 to 14, very hazy. This haze is very likely smoke, but in the early morning before sunrise it is impossible to distinguish this from the true "Cirrus haze." Our courses lie close to the land, which makes it more difficult. Approaching San Jose de Guatemala, this haze or smoke was so thick as to render the lights of the town, ordinarily visible 10-12 miles, invisible until within a mile.

British S. S. *London Shipper*, San Francisco to Balboa, Capt. D. Buckley; observer, J. Kenner, second officer:

April 29, 2:30 a. m., local time. Extraordinary visibility. Bona Island Light, $8^{\circ} 34' N.$, $79^{\circ} 35' W.$, being plainly visible from southward 36 miles distant.

American tanker *India Arrow*, Shanghai to San Francisco, Capt. S. C. Ibsen; observer, Jos. B. Smyth, second officer:

April 19, 2:05 p. m., local time, in $36^{\circ} 23' N.$, $146^{\circ} E.$, the temperature of the sea water dropped suddenly from 66° to 40° , that of the air falling rapidly from 64° to 56° , and the water changing from blue-green to dark olive-green. Wind northeasterly; force, 1; barometer, 30.43 (corrected). Weather fine, clear sky, horizon hazy, sea smooth. Temperature of the sea went up slowly until it reached 60° at midnight, when we reached $37^{\circ} 04' N.$, $148^{\circ} 08' E.$

GALES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND OFF THE AFRICAN COAST

By ALBERT J. McCURDY, Jr.

Indian Ocean.—Weather reports thus far received from vessels that traversed the shipping routes of the Indian Ocean in April, 1925, indicate only two disturbances of any consequence.

The first, a northwesterly gale, accompanied by frequent rain and hail squalls, together with high seas, was experienced on the 1st, 2d, and 3d by the British S. S. *Port Campbell*, Capt. P. J. Reynolds, London to Melbourne. Mr. J. Buchan, observer, reports that the lowest barometer recorded was 28.43 inches (uncorrected) at midnight on the 1st in $43^{\circ} 17' S.$, $71^{\circ} 21' E.$ The wind at the time was W., force 8.

A report of the second gale was received from the British S. S. *Mahana*, London to Melbourne. The observers, Messrs. F. Smith, H. Smith, and J. Rogers, state that a moderate gale began on the 6th, accompanied by high seas and rain showers. The lowest pressure observed was 29.48 inches, occurring at 10 a. m. on the 6th in $43^{\circ} S.$, $48^{\circ} 40' E.$ The wind at this time was W., force 4. This gale lasted throughout the evening of the 7th, and during that time the wind increased to force 8, with shifts to the NW., WNW., W., and WSW.

Mediterranean Sea.—Of the cyclonic disturbances occurring in the Mediterranean Sea during April, only one of any importance has been reported. This was a depression north of Port Said that appeared on the 2d and caused until the 4th strong breezes to strong gales, with accompanying rain squalls and rough seas. The American S. S. *Egremont*, Capt. D. Holth, Bombay to New York, came within its influence on the 2d. Mr. C. E. Dunton, observer, reports that the lowest pressure was 29.47 inches, occurring at 4 p. m. on the 2d in $31^{\circ} 38' N.$, $32^{\circ} E.$ The wind at this time was E., force 6, but later shifted to N. and NW. and increased to force 9.

Red Sea.—The only reported gale of any consequence was a disturbance encountered on the 12th and 13th in the vicinity of the Kamaran Islands by the Japanese S. S. *Bengal Maru*, Capt. M. Araki, Calcutta to Suez. Mr. R. Neyazaki, observer, states that the lowest barometric reading, 29.71 inches, was recorded at 4 a. m. on the 13th in $14^{\circ} 38' N.$, $41^{\circ} 55' E.$ The wind at this time was S., force 7, and increased to a fresh gale that lasted until 3 p. m. of the 13th.