

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA FOR FEBRUARY, 1913.

DISTRICT NO. 10, GREAT BASIN.

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GENERAL SUMMARY.

February, like the preceding months of this winter was colder than the average for the Great Basin as a whole, and many places reported unusually low temperatures. The precipitation for the district averaged below normal; but in Utah there was more snow as a rule than in the two previous winter months. In spite of the cold weather, there were no reports of stock losses on the ranges, and the month was favorable to the farming interests rather than otherwise.

For the district there was on the average 12 clear days, 8 partly cloudy days, 8 cloudy days, and 4 rainy days.

TEMPERATURE.

The temperature for February averaged 28.2°, which is 1.9° below normal. A study of the temperature charts shows that the warmest weather was in the sheltered valleys of the Utah area, and in west-central and southern portions of Nevada. As a rule the mean monthly temperatures were below normal; there were, however, a few stations in the southern part of the Utah area and in northeastern Nevada that reported monthly temperatures above normal.

The local mean temperatures ranged from 11.2° at Border, Wyo., to 45.6° at Jean, Nev. The station reporting the greatest deficiency was Truckee, Cal., whose mean was 16.4°, or 11.6° below normal; while the greatest excess was 6.6° at Marysvale, Utah, whose mean was 28.6°.

The month began cold in nearly every section of the district, and continued so until about the 14th. In this period the coldest days were the 3d and 4th, and some stations reported their lowest minimum temperatures on those dates. There were a few days during the middle of the month when temperatures ranged above normal, and the highest for the month was recorded generally from the 15th to the 17th. Soon after this warm spell, the weather grew colder culminating in the coldest weather for the month about the 23d, but the lowest temperatures were variously reported as having occurred from the 19th to the 28th.

The following were the highest temperatures that occurred in the various areas of the several States of this district: 48° at Cokeville, Wyo., on the 24th, 53° at

Grace, Idaho, on the 5th; 64° at Park City, Utah, on the 2d; 62° at Paisley, Oreg., on the 15th; 52° at Cathedral Park, Cal., on the 15th; and 66° at Jean, Nev., on the 14th.

The lowest temperatures were: -30° at Border, Wyo., on the 21st; -19° at Paris, Idaho, on the 21st; -14° at Meadowville, Utah, on the 20th; -7° at Cliff, Oreg., on the 28th; -8° at Truckee, Cal., on the 28th; and -20° at Geyser, Nev., on the 28th.

PRECIPITATION.

Precipitation for the month averaged 0.90 inch, which is 0.45 inch below normal. Good amounts fell in the Utah area with a few exceptions, but in the remaining portions of the district the amounts were below normal. In the Nevada area the average was only 0.41 inch, or 0.83 inch below normal. This was 0.03 inch below the average of the precipitation in February, 1912; and smaller averages were recorded only three times during the past 25 years. In the Utah area, on the other hand, some very heavy snows occurred. At Salt Lake City 14 inches were recorded on the 18-19th, the largest 48-hour amount on record at that station. Fifteen inches fell at Heber in 24 hours, and 19 inches in 48 hours at Elberta.

The greatest amount of precipitation for the month was 3.52 inches at Elberta, Utah. The greatest 24-hour amount was 1.69 inches on the 25th at the same place. The greatest monthly depth of snow that fell at any station in the district was 34 inches at Thistle, Utah.

SNOWFALL AND WATER SUPPLY.

The large amounts of snow which fell in the Utah area during February insured a good average supply of water for the Great Salt Lake and Sevier Lake watersheds. The snow was reported as having drifted well and packed solidly.

In Nevada the precipitation from September 1st to the last of February was slightly above the 3-year seasonal average in the Humboldt drainage basin; in the Walker and Carson basins, slightly above the 3-year average, although it has been found that the snow at the stations in this basin was as heavy as at the summit, which is very unusual; and in the Truckee drainage basin the precipitation is decidedly below the 3-year average.

TABLE I.—Climatological data for February, 1913. District No. 10, Great Basin.

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall, unmelted, Number of rainy days, Number of clear days, Number of partly cloudy days, Number of cloudy days), Prevailing wind direction, and Observers.

TABLE 1.—Climatological data for February, 1913. District No. 10—Continued.

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall), Sky (Number of rainy days, Number of clear days, Number of partly cloudy days, Number of cloudy days), Prevailing wind direction, Observers.

a, b, c, etc., indicate, respectively, 1, 2, 3, etc., days missing from the record.
** Temperature extremes are from observed readings of the dry bulb, means are computed from observed readings.
† Also on other dates.
T. Precipitation is less than 0.01 inch rain or melted snow.

TABLE 3.—Maximum and minimum temperatures at selected stations for February, 1913. District No. 10, Great Basin.

Table with columns for Wyoming (Border, Evanston, Weston, Idaho) and Utah (Corinne, Fillmore, Government Creek, Meadowville, Modena, Oak City, Ogden, Parowan, Provo, Salt Lake City). Rows show daily temperature data from Feb 1 to Feb 28, including monthly means.

Table for Nevada with columns for Burns, Oreg., Cherry Creek, Elko, Eureka, Fallon, Jean, Lovelocks, Millett, Mina, Quinn River Ranch, Reno, Tecoma, Tonopah, Winnemucca. Rows show daily temperature data from Feb 1 to Feb 28, including monthly means.

a, b, c, 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.