

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WEATHER BUREAU
CHARLES F. MARVIN, CHIEF

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

CALIFORNIA SECTION

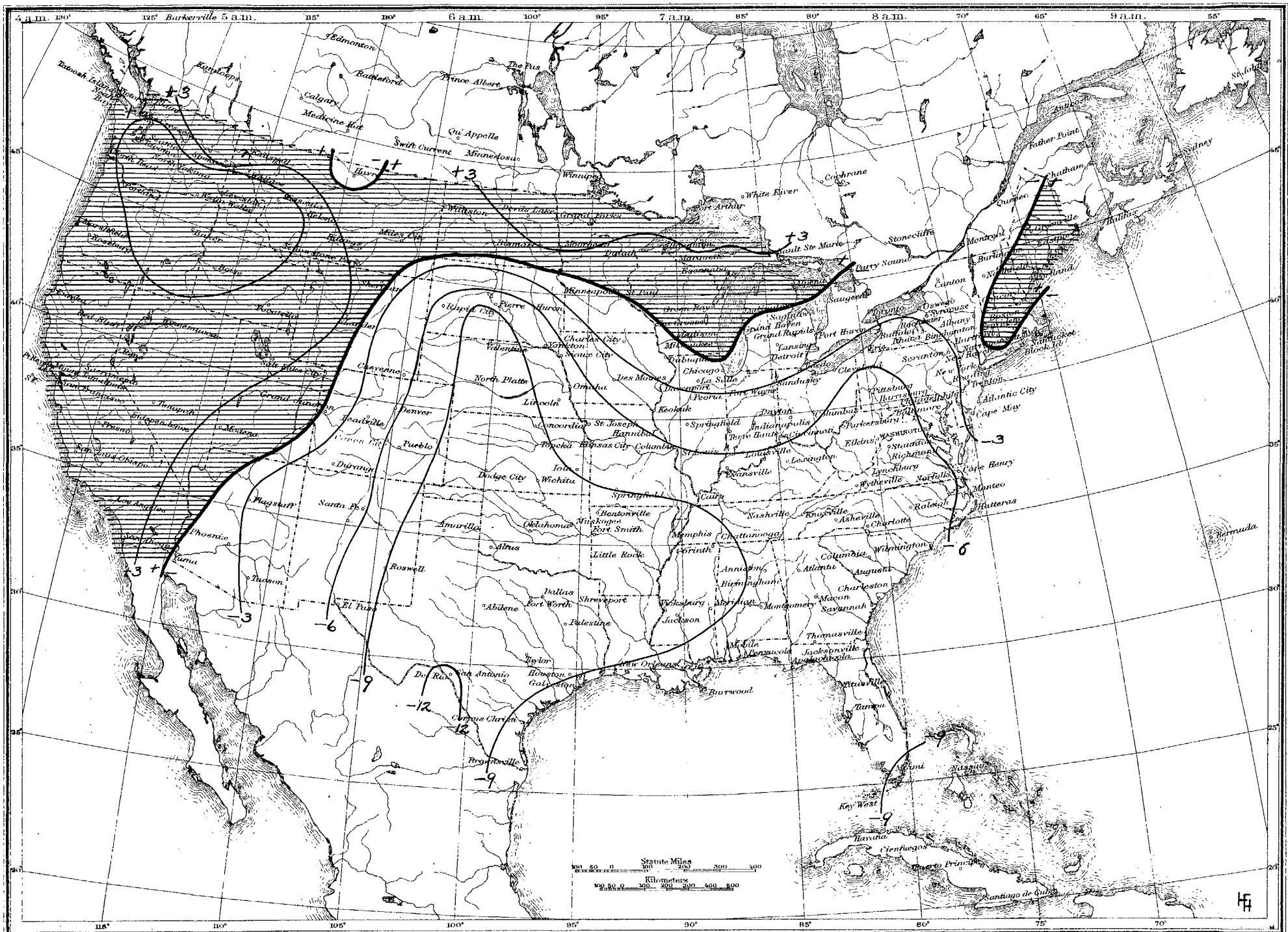
MARCH, 1915

BY
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DISTRICT FORECASTER AND SECTION DIRECTOR



SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE
APRIL 22, 1915

Departure of the Mean Temperature from the Normal, March, 1915.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU.

CALIFORNIA SECTION.

G. H. WILLSON, District Forecaster.

VOL. XIX.

SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH, 1915.

No. 3.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

March, 1915, was a warm dry month, resembling in its main characteristics, March, 1914. The temperature was not unusually high, the monthly mean temperature for the State being only about one degree above the normal, but it was very uniform. Nearly every station in the State showed an excess of temperature but the departures were small. The sunshine was above normal over the whole State.

The ground had been thoroughly soaked by the heavy rains of the preceding month and the warmth and sunshine of March were exactly what was needed to put all crops in excellent condition. Fruit trees began to bloom early in the northern part of the State and there was fear of a late frost, but there was practically no damage from that source. There was not a killing frost at any of the lowland stations during the month. During the last decade more or less heavy rains caused some damage to the blossoming trees, but the benefit derived far outweighed the damage. At the end of the month the outlook was bright for one of the best fruit crops in years.

A peculiar feature of the month's weather was the large number of days with drying north winds in the southern valleys. These conditions are very unusual for March. Their effect was to greatly minimize the good effect of the heavy rains earlier in the year. At the end of the month the southern section of the State was much in need of rain, but in the north conditions were excellent.

The snowfall was very light except in southern California, but the heavy snowfall of the earlier months melted slowly, leaving more than the average amount on the ground at the end of the month. The snow is well packed and has a high water content.

PRESSURE.

The monthly mean atmospheric pressure for the State, reduced to sea-level, was 30.05 inches.

The highest was 30.42 inches at Eureka on the 15th.

The lowest was 29.46 inches at Independence on the 1st.

The range for the State was 0.96 inch.

TEMPERATURE.

The monthly mean temperature for the State was 53.1 degrees, which is 1.3 degrees above the normal.

The highest monthly mean was 66.4 degrees at Soledad and the lowest was 27.7 degrees at Tamarack.

The highest temperature, 94 degrees, occurred at Azusa on the 16th and at Blythe on the 23rd and the lowest was -11 degrees at Tamarack on the 5th.

The range for the State was 105 degrees.

PRECIPITATION.

The average precipitation for the State was 2.33 inches or 2.41 inches below the normal.

The greatest monthly amount was 13.13 inches at Delta while none occurred at 2 stations.

The greatest amount in 24 hours was 5.55 inches at Stirling City on the 27th.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY.

The mean relative humidity from observations taken at 5 a.m. and 5 p. m., for each of the regular Weather Bureau stations, was as follows: Eureka 80; Fresno 66; Los Angeles 71; Mount Tamalpais 71; Red Bluff 67; Sacramento 64; San Diego 70; San Francisco 74; San Jose 76; San Luis Obispo 72.

WIND.

The prevailing direction of the wind was northwest.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS.

At Eureka there were 142 hours of sunshine during the month or 38 per cent of the possible; at Fresno 254 hours or 68 per cent; at Los Angeles 256 hours or 69 per cent; at Mount Tamalpais 182 hours or 49 per cent; at Red Bluff 260 hours or 70 per cent; at Sacramento 217 hours or 58 per cent; at San Diego, 272 hours or 73 per cent; at San Francisco 208 hours or 56 per cent; at San Jose 217 hours or 59 per cent; at San Luis Obispo 211 hours or 57 per cent.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.

Thunderstorms.—Angels Camps, 2, 8; Cahuilla, 8, 11; Camptonville (near), China Flat, 28; Confidence, 7, 29; Converse Nursery, 7-9; Corona, 10; Covelo, Deer Creek, 28; De Sabla, 6; Dobbins (near), 28; Dudley, 9; Duddleys, 6, 28, 29; Dunlap (near), 28; Electra, Fairmont, 7; Fontana, 1; Fresno, Glennville, Hot Springs, 28; Hullville, 6; Kinsley, 7, 9, 28; La Jolla, 10; La Porte, Las Plumas, Lemon Cove, 28; Los Alamos, 7; Mammoth Tank 9; Mesa Grande, 8; Mill Creek (No. 1) 7, 28; Milo, Milton (near), Mitchell Mill, 28; Mokelumne Hill, 8; Nellie, 1, 8, 10, 11; Nevada City, 28; Oak Grove, 8; Ojai Valley, 7; Peachland, Represa, Ruth, 28; San Luis Obispo, 7; Stanwood, Three Rivers, 28; Tuolumne Ranger, 7, 9, 28; Valley Springs, 7; Weitchpec, 30; West Branch, 6, 28; West Point, 7.

Earthquakes.—Arbolado, 16; Brawley, 1, 30; Cahuilla, 12; China Flat, 29; Julian, 3; Rialto (near), 19.

OBSERVERS NOTES.

Campo.—There is a good flow of water in the streams and feed is looking fine in all the mountain valleys.—Archibald Campbell.

Corona.—Eight days of desiccating north winds from the 14th to the 21st made necessary the starting of regular irrigation on the 23rd.—J. W. Garthwaite.

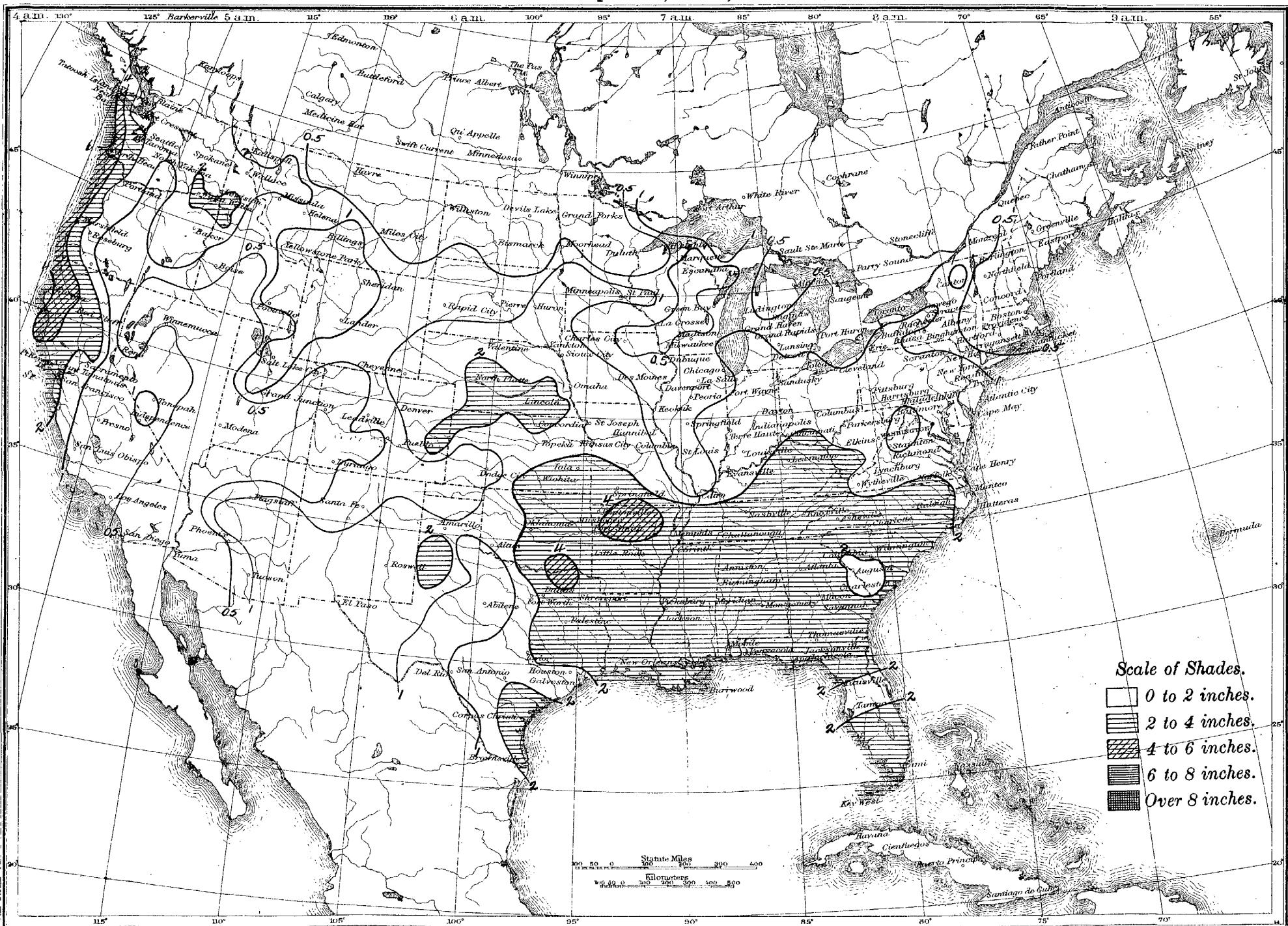
El Cajon.—A rainy season of unusual wetness terminated abruptly on the 2nd, and mid-summer conditions prevailed. At the month's close the water in some untapped reservoirs measured less than at its beginning. Evaporation due to the high temperatures and drying wind had absorbed the run-in and eaten into the storage.—H. H. Kessler.

La Porte.—At the beginning of the month there was a great depth of solid snow on the ground which settled about one-half its depth during the month; yet with more than three inches of rain the streams are at only a normal stage. The ground is well soaked.—Chas. W. Hendel.

Santa Cruz.—March was a lovely month. The ground is in fine condition and the prospect is very bright for an excellent season.—W. R. Springer.

Soledad.—Half an inch of hail fell in 30 minutes on the 11th. No rain fell half a mile on either side of us.—P. H. Smith.

Total Precipitation, March, 1915.





The influence of the diversified topography of California upon its precipitation is shown by the lines of equal rainfall in inches, on the accompanying relief map.