

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WEATHER BUREAU

CHARLES F. MARVIN, CHIEF

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

CALIFORNIA SECTION

APRIL, 1915

BY

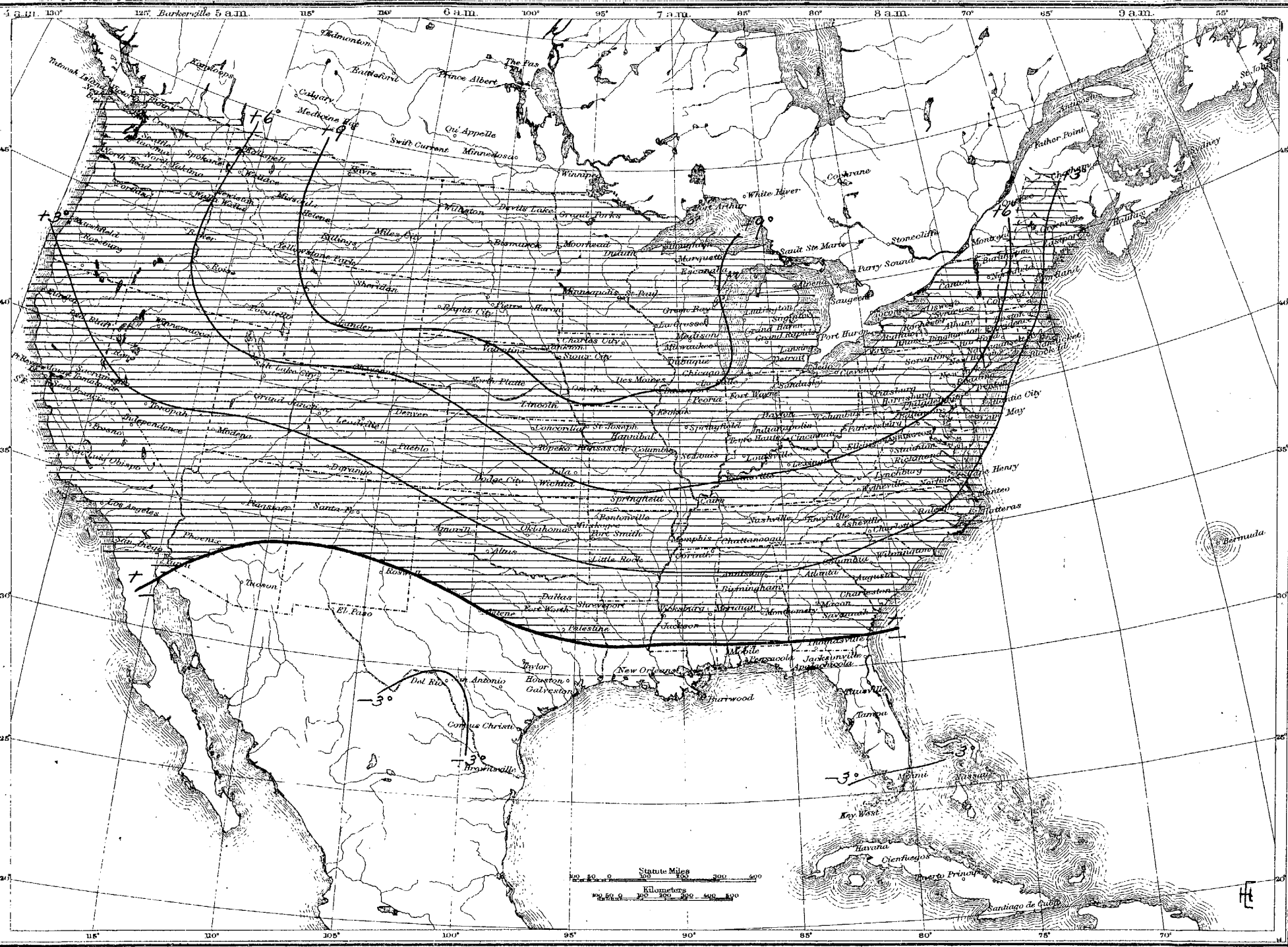
GEORGE H. WILLSON

DISTRICT FORECASTER AND SECTION DIRECTOR



SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE
MAY 21, 1915

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



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU.

CALIFORNIA SECTION.

G. H. WILLSON, District Forecaster.

VOL. XIX.

SAN FRANCISCO, APRIL, 1915.

No. 4.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Although cloudiness and wet weather predominated over a large portion of the State the month cannot be rated as an unusually wet one. In fact, precipitation was deficient from the bay-section north, and the southern portion of the State, contrary to custom, received the largest amounts. The controlling condition of the month's weather lay in the succession of disturbances which occupied the Inter-Mountain region and which were almost continuous during the last ten days of the month.

Three storms, remarkable for their intensity and attended by high winds as well as rain, were charted. The first overlay southern Nevada on the 4th, and the other two occupied the entire Inter-Mountain region on the 13th and 29th, respectively. The last one developed great energy and caused the highest winds of the season along the California coast, 110 miles per hour from the northwest being recorded at Point Reyes Light on the 29th. Other high winds were 58 miles from the north at Eureka, 34 miles from the northwest at San Francisco, 30 miles from the southwest at Los Angeles and 46 miles from the west at San Diego, the last two occurring on the 30th. Damage to shipping interests was light considering the violence of the storm, but the movements of even the largest vessels were interfered with. Some buildings at beach points in the south were blown down and the Redondo Beach pier was reported partially demolished.

With the passage of this storm freezing weather was experienced in elevated regions, and the temperature at many places in the valleys was the lowest of the month. Hail was quite generally reported on the 4th, 13th and 30th, falling in the southern citrus belt on the last named date.

The outlook for crops at the end of the month was excellent in most sections, especially in the south where the excess of rainfall during the last decade was particularly beneficial.

The amount of snow at the high elevations was equal to if not above the normal. The storms toward the close of the month, if not adding appreciably to the layer, probably induced such a gradual melting in the Sierra that most of the water found its way into the soil instead of into the streams. Notes pertaining to the subject of snow at high elevations follow:

Bunker Hill.—The weight of a cubic foot of snow two feet below the surface was 28 pounds. Snow is melting very slowly; the amount on the ground at the end of the month was eight feet.—C. F. Bettinger.

Fordyce Dam.—At an elevation of 7300 feet, on the shaded side of the timber, there are eight feet of snow on the ground.—E. E. Roening.

Inskip.—The snow is well packed, though melting somewhat. There are deep drifts on the north and northwest sides of the mountains.—T. M. Cooper.

Letter Box.—Snow is melting slowly and streams rising gradually. There is one inch more of snow than at this time last year.—B. F. Darby.

Summit.—The depth of snow at end of month was 54 inches. A cubic foot taken from the surface weighed 38 pounds, one at 30 inches below the surface 44 pounds and one near the bottom 48 pounds. The snow is streaked with ice, and the cold snap we had during the latter part of the month will add about ten days to its life.—E. F. Stewart.

Table Rock.—The snow is fast disappearing from the low levels,

but on the adjacent mountains there is a great amount for so late in the season. A cubic foot of snow taken from the surface weighed 29 pounds.—Caroline M. Hayes.

PRESSURE.

The monthly mean atmospheric pressure for the State, reduced to sea-level, was 29.96 inches.

The highest was 30.32 inches at Eureka on the 13th.

The lowest was 29.59 inches at Point Reyes on the 30th.

The range for the State was 0.73 inch.

TEMPERATURE.

The monthly mean temperature for the State was 56.0 degrees, which is 1.0 degrees below the normal.

The highest monthly mean was 70.1 degrees at Indio and the lowest was 28.6 degrees at Tamarack.

The highest temperature, 99 degrees, occurred at Azusa on the 11th and at Blythe on the 11th and 12th and the lowest was 5 degrees at Tamarack on the 25th.

The range for the State was 94 degrees.

PRECIPITATION.

The average precipitation for the State was 1.85 inches or 0.06 inch above the normal.

The greatest monthly amount was 9.94 inches at Nellie while a trace occurred at 3 stations.

The greatest amount in 24 hours was 2.96 inches at Nellie on the 22nd.

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 81; Fresno 64; Los Angeles 76; Mount Tamalpais 74; Red Bluff 67; Sacramento 68; San Diego 78; San Francisco 74; San Jose 76; San Luis Obispo 82.

WIND.

The prevailing direction of the wind was southwest.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS.

At Eureka there were 140 hours of sunshine during the month or 35 per cent of the possible; at Fresno 248 hours or 63 per cent; at Los Angeles 183 hours or 47 per cent; at Mount Tamalpais 192 hours or 49 per cent; at Red Bluff 219 hours or 55 per cent; at Sacramento 228 hours or 57 per cent; at San Diego, 179 hours or 46 per cent; at San Francisco 193 hours or 49 per cent; at San Jose 194 hours or 49 per cent; at San Luis Obispo 167 hours or 42 per cent.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.

Thunderstorms.—Abbotts, 27; Alturas, 2; Azusa, 13, 30; Cahuilla, 29; Camptonville (near), 4; Cathedral Park, 20; Center Ranger, 4, 20-22; Chester, 28-29; Corona, 12, 21; Covelo, 20; Cuyamaca, 30; Deer Creek, Dobbins (near), 4; Downieville, 4, 5; Edison, 27; East Park, 4, 7; Electra, 4; Fairmont, 26; Fontana, 13; Glennville, 5, 27; Dunlap (near), 7, 12; Happy Camp, 28; Hayfork, 20; Hetch Hetchy, 4, 19; Hullville, 29; Kennedy Mine, Kinsley, Lake Eleanor, 4; La Porte, 4, 5, 28; Letter Box, Mill Creek (No. 1), 4; Mitchell Mill, 4, 20; Mokelumne Hill, 4; Montgomery Creek, 2; Nellie, 28, 30; Nevada City, 4; Oceanside, Pacific, 30; Palm Springs, 28; Rialto (near), Riverside, 13; San Bernardino, 30; Table Rock, 28; Three Rivers, 22; Twin Valley, 20; Watsonville, 27; West Branch, 4, 28; Yreka, 28.

Earthquakes.—Brawley, 27, 29, 30; Cahuilla, 20; Camino, 5; Coyote, 6; Dudley, Dudleys, 5; El Cajon, 3; Julian, Mesa Grande, 1; Nevada City, North Fork, 5; Priest Valley, 21; San Diego, 13; San Luis Obispo, 21; Sonora, 5, 16; Spreckels, 6; Towle, 5; Watsonville, 6.

Climatological Data for April, 1915.

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, Snowfall, Precipitation of inch or more, Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy), Prevailing direction of wind, Observers.

Climatological Data for April, 1915.—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, Snowfall, Precipitation on inch or more), Number of days (Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy), Prevailing direction of wind, Observers.

Daily Precipitation for April, 1915.—Continued.

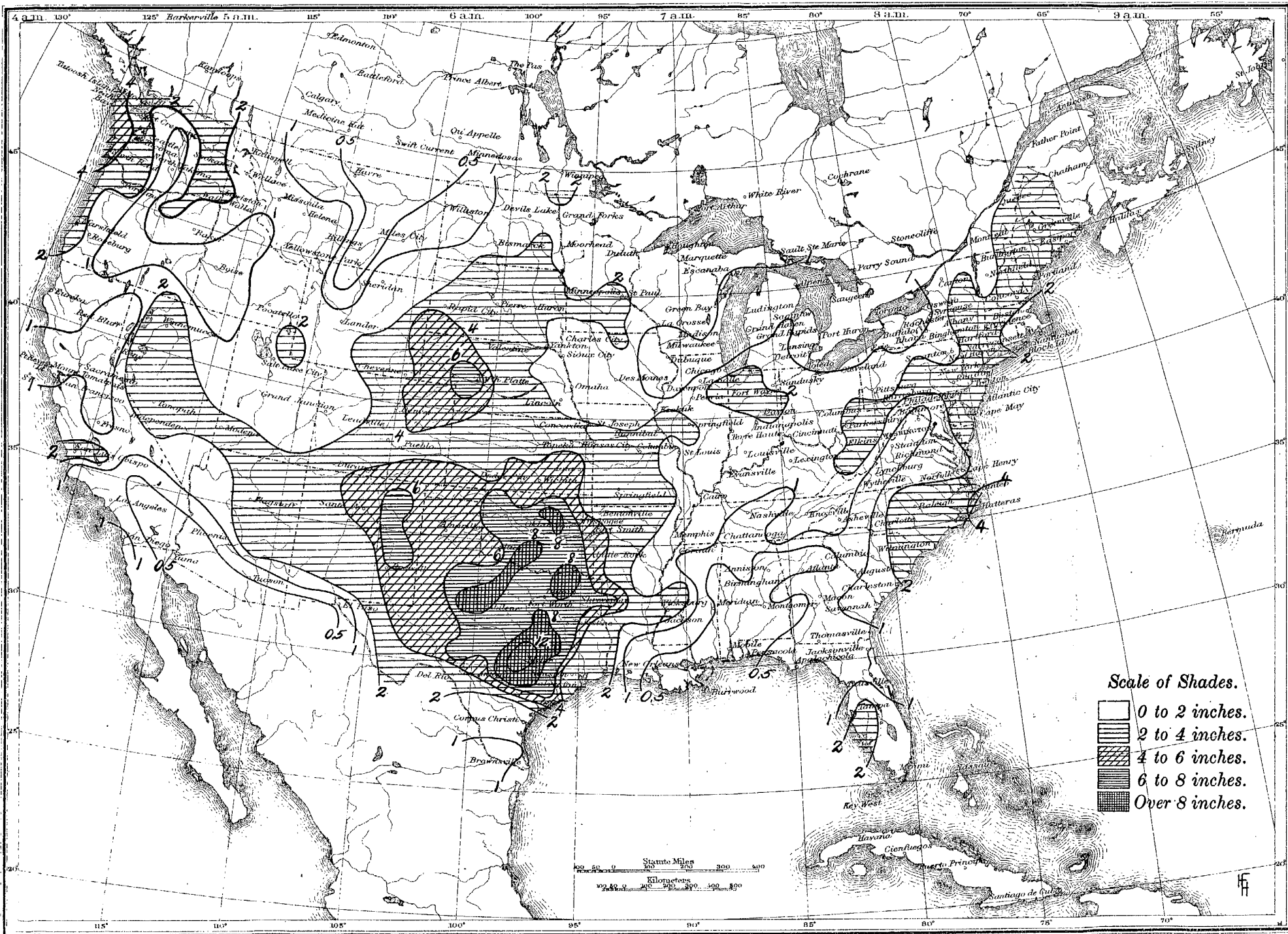
Table with columns for Stations, Day of Month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various California locations such as Pacific, Palm Springs, Parkfield, Pasadena, Paso Robles, etc., with their respective daily precipitation values.

Except as otherwise indicated observations are generally made late in the afternoon, near sunset, and precipitation recorded is for the 24 hours ending at the time of observation. *** Regular Weather Bureau station: precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight. ||| Precipitation measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours. * Precipitation included in the next following measurement. † Separate dates of fall not recorded. T, Trace, or less than 0.01 inch.

Daily Temperature for April, 1915.

Table with columns for Stations, 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various California locations such as Alturas, Bakersfield, Barstow, etc., with their corresponding temperature data for each day of the month.

Total Precipitation, April, 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.