

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

September 1929

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

CALIFORNIA

October 1, 1929

The Director
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Director:

I am transmitting herewith, report of activities in Yosemite National Park during the month of September, 1929.

000 - General

The month of September was favored with clear and warm weather up to the 19th, when three extremely heavy thunderstorms broke the three months spell of perfect summer weather, giving the entire park a good drenching with $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain. The Yosemite Falls started up after being dry since August 15th, but the water slowly disappeared again and the Yosemite Falls is now practically dry. The thermometer reached 97° on the 16th, with an average maximum temperature of 82° for the month. Travel figures for the month show a gain of 14.6% over September of last year.

100 - Administration

110 - Status of work

A slackening in general office work is beginning to become apparent after the unusually busy summer season.

Construction and maintenance work has progressed as rapidly as possible, the rain making it possible for the opening up of additional road construction, by burning of slashings on the Wawona Road.

120 - Park Inspections by:

121 - Superintendent

The Superintendent made inspection trips of the Big Oak Flat and Wawona Roads, and on the floor of the valley prior to the departure for the Superintendent's Conference at Yellowstone National Park, on September 7th.

122 - Special Field Representatives, N. P. S.

Chief Engineer Kittredge was in the park from September 6th to 8th, advising on various engineering matters. He inspected the work being done in the Valley and the betterment work on the Big Oak Flat Road.

123 - National Park Service Officers

There were no Park Service officers visited the park during the month of September.

125 - Other Governmental Officers

Deputy First Assistant Postmaster General Spilman, wife and son, arrived at Yosemite National Park, Saturday, September 14th, enroute to the Postal Convention at Sacramento, California.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Phelps and Mrs. Phelps arrived at the park September 24th, after attending the Postal Convention at San Francisco, California.

Mr. Harry C. Overhulser, of the Biological Survey, and Mr. George Tonkin, U.S. Game Protector, Berkeley, California, called at the park on September 19th and asked our cooperation in making a survey of ducks.

127 - Other Agencies

The California State Hotel Association held their convention at the park September 19th to 21st, and the Hotel Greeters their convention September 24th to 25th.

The California State Bankers Convention was also held at Yosemite during September 26th and 27th.

130 - Finance and Accounts

The following is a statement of the status of the various appropriations handled by the Park:

Appropriation	Allotment	Expended & Obligated	Unencumbered Balance
Yosemite Nat'l Park 1929-30	\$379,976.78	\$246,855.75*	\$134,121.03*
Roads & Trails N. P. S.	1,873,806.48	1,714,207.34*	159,599.14*

* Estimated figures

Revenues:

#3 The report of revenues is attached to the report as Schedule

140 - Labor Situation

The usual cut in the number of laborers employed during September was made with but 89 more carried on the payroll over that of last year for September.

150 - Equipment and Supplies

The following equipment was received and paid for at Yosemite Park during September:

- 1 - Royal typewriter
- 1 - Road Grader
- 1 - Electric fan

160 - Status of Alienated Lands

Nothing new to report during the month.

170 - Plans, Maps and Surveys

Engineer Parker completed the location, plan and profile of the Merced Lake Trail early this month. Instrument-man Brandon and party were on survey work in the Valley from the first to the 7th.

Engineer Parker with field party consisting of Instrumentman Brandon and three chainmen began topographical survey of Tuolumne Meadows on September 8th and continued on this work throughout this month.

200 - Maintenance

210 Maintenance-

Our road maintenance crews were called in from the maintenance roads outside the Valley early in the month with the exception of the gang at Tioga Road where the force was reduced and the men have continued work by putting the road in a condition for the winter.

In the floor of the Valley, unpaved roads were scarified and graded. Work was begun repairing broken pavement, sealing expansion joints and in digging ditches along pavement edges so as to cut tree roots that are lifting pavement.

Trail Maintenance: Very little work has been done on trail maintenance during the month.

Building Maintenance: There has been the usual small maintenance on buildings. From 3 to 4 men have been employed on building maintenance during the month. The new acousti- Celotex ceiling was placed in the office of the Superintendent. The office walls and ceiling was painted throughout. New battleship linoleum was laid on top of a felt matting in the two rooms of the Engineer's office. This linoleum will prevent the harsh noise from penetrating to the floor below.

Water System: There has been the usual maintenance and repair during the month. All leaky fixtures and fire hydrants have been repaired so that there is the minimum loss of water during this low water period. On account of shortage of water, the Merced River was turned in the mains on August 27th. Since, the rain of September 19th and 20th, the river intake has been closed and water is being used from Illilouette Creek.

Sewer System: The usual maintenance has been done throughout the month with the exception that during the latter part of the month only one man has been employed on the sewer farm. We still have one man maintaining the operation of the sewage pumps.

220 - Improvements

Roads: The road fill was completed for the new Happy Isles Bridge. Header Boards were placed for pavement and the $4\frac{1}{2}$ base course of water bound macadam has been placed. Curb rock to control traffic was placed at the Camp Curry Parking Area. The paving for the Pohono Bridge was completed the first part of the month. From the first to the 20th work was continued with a force of approximately 20 men in logging and piling brush for construction of the third unit of the Wawona Road. The $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of rainfall during the month reduced the fire hazard and the burning of brush was continued on the 21st. Five large culverts were placed on the Tioga Road, 3 replacing inadequate wooden bridges and two placed over open drains that have never been bridged. Work continued during the month on the Big Oak Flat road, grading completed between Gentry and Coyote Creek, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile of road widened and surfaced between the park line and Crane Flat.

Trails: A new bridge on the Vernal Falls trail is being built on the site of the old bridge foundation. Work on the Glacier Point Trail continued during the month with grading completed between Glacier Point and Union point, with $2\frac{2}{3}$ of the distance up completed, between the half way tree and Union point. It will be impossible to complete the

Four Mile Trail this fall. The bridge over Echo Creek along the Merced Lake Trail is almost completed, and abutments in for the bridge on upper crossing of Merced River. The bridge of the dry branch of the river above Lost Valley is almost completed, and abutments in for the bridge over main channel in this same vicinity.

Buildings: It was decided to tear down the old residence/and re-^{of the superintendent} build a new one on the same site using as much of the old foundation, flooring and walls as possible; The tearing down has been completed and the rough framing done for the first floor.

Telephone Lines: 1500 feet - 10 pair covered cable was laid for supplying telephone circuits to the new hospital. A set of 22 volt storage cells were installed at the Ahwahnee Hotel terminal room to supply the switchboard at this hotel with battery. The recent rain storm did considerable damage to telephone cables and we have been very busy repairing this damage. The rebuilding of the power line between Curry's Saw Mill and the Fish Hatchery was completed this month. Twenty-nine poles were set and approximately 9,000 feet of wire was strung. The electric service to the new employee's cottage adjacent to the school house was installed and connected to the panel board. The fixtures, wall, receptables, etc., remain to be installed. Approximately 700 feet of 3 conductor, 2300 volt, lead encased, armored cable was installed in the area near the Ahwahnee Hotel. This cable when installed made it possible to remove a large section of overhead construction which formerly served the Ahwahnee Hotel area and the camp 12 area. Two new poles were set and repairs made to the wiring at the school-house transformer platform.

230 - New Construction

Buildings: All masonry work at the new hospital was completed and the plastering finished. The work of painting and finishing carpentry is under way. It is expected the new hospital will be completed by November first. It was decided to build one comfort station at the Glacier Point Camp Grounds, and install certain water hydrants in this camp ground. Construction work on the residence of the Superintendent has progressed and rough framing done for the first floor. The Women's dormitory building was completed and occupied. Also employee's cottage was completed except for a small amount of painting.

Foot Paths: The work has been under way during the greater portion of the month, placing seal coat on the foot paths that were built this year and last year.

300 - Activities of other agencies in the Park

310 - Concessioners

The Yosemite Park and Curry Company submit the following report

of activities during the month:

The closing of Camp Curry and the reopening of Yosemite Lodge for the winter months, September 26th; the closing of Tuolumne Meadows Lodge for the winter months.

Housecounts for the month of September, 1929, as compared with last year were as follows:

	1928	1929
Camp Curry	2344	12,663
Yosemite Lodge	8464	732
The Ahwahnee	1364	2,231
Camp Curry Housekeeping	461	1,368
Yosemite Housekeeping	1474	599
Glacier Point	701	627
	14808	18,220

315 - New Contracts

New contract with the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation was approved on September 19th. This contract provides for an interchange of electric power between the National Park Service and the Power Company and covers the period November 20, 1928, to June 30, 1930, inclusive. This contract supercedes the contract dated May 1, 1924, covering the interchange of power, certain provisions of which the General Accounting Office objected to. Collateral agreements with all the park operators and permittees have also been executed by which they bind themselves to pay for the electric energy that they may purchase from the power company, delivery being made over the transmission lines of the National Park Service. Negotiations with the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation were carried further during the month looking to the making of a contract that will authorize the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation to take over the business of furnishing electric energy to all the park operators and permittees. The Government will continue to operate its power plant to provide energy for its own uses and the contract provides that all surplus power generated will be purchased by the power company. This contract is about ready to be submitted to the Washington Office for approval.

A contract for the construction of the third unit on the Maroon Road was awarded during the month to Welch and Murdock covering the section from Eleven Mile to Grouse Creek. The contractor is establishing his camp and has moved in two steam shovels and his trucks and other equipment and is ready to start work immediately.

317 - Status of Authorized Projects of Contractors

See #220 and 315

350 - Donations and Accessions to the Yosemite Museum

A number of pictures, books, and relics, were presented during the month. The skull of a young mountain sheep found at Lyell Glacier

was also presented.

400 - Flora, fauna, and natural phenomena

410 - Ranger-Naturalist and Guide Service

The educational staff was reduced during the month in that campers and visitors decreased, all nature guided walks stopped and the automobile "caravan" discontinued September 5th. Programs at Camp #7 were also discontinued.

420 - Museum Service

Attention has been given to the matter of arranging and labeling exhibits during the month. The northwest section of the attic has been made into a moth proof room with suitable shelving for the storage of a large amount of Indian basketry and other museum material which will be classified and stored here under the direction of Field Naturalist Carl Russell during the next few months. By the first of September all exhibits at Tuolumne Meadows had been stored, also at Mariposa Grove, and all outpost educational work concluded. On September 26th the Park Naturalist accompanied by Assistant Park Naturalist Perry and Ranger Morris climbed to the top of Red Peak for the purpose of collecting rock specimens to show metamorphic shists, in this case quite red in color, overlying granite. By checking up the Sierra Club sealed tube and a rusty can hidden under the rock monument, it was found that during the last ten years only seven people besides our party climbed to the top of this mountain. Special exhibits from the museum were on display at the Sacramento State Fair for the first time and in addition to this moving pictures and lantern slides of Yosemite scenes and educational work the central feature.

460 - Birds

A spotted owl has been heard quite regularly in the meadows on the floor of the valley, and a Great Gray Owl was observed near Bridal Veil Meadows on the Glacier Point Road. Fox sparrows and Kinglets have come down from the rim to the floor of the valley on their way to winter quarters. Warblers are quite common about the valley floor. Evening Grosbeaks came in during the month in sufficient numbers to clean up the coffee berries which had been overlooked by the Band-tailed Pigeons.

470 - Animals

Daylight feeding platforms were built for the feeding of the bears and visitors may be able to see them at almost any time during the day, sometimes as many as 12 feeding at one time. They appear more gentle as they walk in and among tourists searching for food and no serious accident has been reported. Regular trips to the bear pits after 9 o'clock was discontinued about the middle of the month by the company, although the feeding continued.

The mule deer continue to be common on the floor of the valley. The bucks have completed shedding velvet from their horns, and the lighter coloring of grayish tan is fast being replaced by the darker bluish tinted winter coat.

Coyotes have been seen and heard several times during the month along the Glacier Point road.

500- Use of Park Facilities by the Public

510 - Increase or decrease in travel

Considerable decrease has been noted in the travel for the month of September although 4916 more people entered the park during September 1929 than during September 1928. At the end of the travel season there was a gain of 638 visitors over that of last year's travel season.

520 - General Weather Conditions

The entire month of September was warm, the hottest day being the 16th when the thermometer reached 97°. 1½ inches of rain fell during September 20th and 21st after which the weather was considerably cooler. The mean maximum temperature for the month was 79.66°, and the minimum 43.76°, with a mean of 61.71°.

540-Visitors

Chas. Leidig, the first white boy born in Yosemite Valley, whose father operated the old Leidig Hotel was a visitor at the Museum September 9th.

Professor Eliot Blackwelder, head of the Department of Geology, Stanford University, was in Yosemite through the early part of September working on the moraines of this region.

Mr. J. Clyde Beals of the Sunday Department of the New York Times was a Yosemite visitor on September 5th.

550 - Public Camps

At the close of the month the camp grounds seem to have been practically deserted, with only an occasional camper at Camp #7. However, the large crowds over Labor Day crowded the three remaining camps still open to almost overflowing.

600 - Protection

There was only one case handled by the U.S. Commissioner during the month.

Considering the large crowds handled during Labor Day and Indian Field Days things in general were very orderly.

Outpost patrols have been maintained during the month and will be until the close of the hunting season.

The recent storm removed all danger of fish being stranded in drying streams, as reports indicate that streams that were dry last year at this time, are now flowing. Fish planting has gone ahead in fine shape and it ^{is} believed we have at last found the very best method in handling fry for Park waters.

660 - Sanitation

Analyses of water and milk samples taken during the month have been entirely satisfactory.

Mosquito control was resumed during the month, and at the end of the month fall control measures were completed not to be re-commenced until March.

Ground squirrel poisoning commenced September 3rd and continued 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ days.

900 - Miscellaneous

Hospital and Medical Service

Dr. Guy A. Hunt, assisted by one doctor and one interne handled a total of 241 cases (472 office calls and 29 house calls). There was one birth, no deaths or operations during the month.

Indian Field Days were very successful, there being an attendance for the two days of 4300 people, 176 horses on field, and 169 Indians registered in the two days. However, the attendance seemed to be of those from surrounding Counties only. Through the long friendship of F. R. Brown, U.S. Army, for me, we were able to secure the Presidio of California band for the two days, which contributed very largely to the success and we learned some things that will be of value in the future. This was the first Indian Field Days celebration since August of 1926 but in the future we hope to make it an annual event.

Very respectfully,

Superintendent

MLH

Form A

SUMMARY OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Yosemite National Park

Station or Park

~~XXXX~~
For month ending September 30 19 29.
~~XXXXXX~~

Place	Field Trips		Lectures		Museum	Publications Distributed		Total Persons Served	Park Visitors During Period
	No.	Attend.	No.	Att.	Att.	No.	Sales		
Camp Curry			7	2500				2500	
Bear Pits			3	1325				1325	
Camp 7			5	875				875	
Auto Caravan	4	141						141	
Yos. Museum			7	275	22000	294	81.35	22275	
Mariposa B.T.	19	231			250			481	
Glacier Pt.			1	125				125	
Tuolumne						15	3.75		
Gentry				180		33	12.20	180	
Aspen Valley	1	10				19	12.50	10	
Service Outside Park			11	1225				1225	
Totals	24	382	34	6505	22250	361	109.80	29137	38456

General Memoranda

Submitted Sept. 30, 1929.

Signed: 

Park Naturalist
(Title)

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRAVEL REPORT

Yosemite National Park for the Month of SEPTEMBER, 1929

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase for Travel Year	
					to Oct. 1, 1929	
					Number	Per cent
PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION:						
Cars first entry.	6045	79291	5329	75061	+ 4227	+ 5.6
Cars reentry.	5643	53612	4725	56448	- 2836	- 6%
Motorcycles.	24	199	15	177	+ 22	+ 13.6%
Total motor vehicles. . . .	11712	133102	10069	131686	+ 1413	+ 1%
Persons entering via motor vehicles.	55285	416204	30879	412812	- 2508	- .6%
Persons entering via other private transportation. . . .	92	1017	16	511	+ 505	+ 33%
Total persons entering via private transportation. . . .	55377	417221	30895	413323	- 2102	- .5%
OTHER TRANSPORTATION:						
Persons entering via stages . .	2430	21806	2105	50019	+ 1787	+ 8.5%
Persons entering via trains . .	593	12230	541	11277	+ 958	+ 8.5%
Persons entering otherwise. . .						
Total other transportation. . .	2923	44036	2646	41296	+ 2740	+ 6.2%
GRAND TOTAL ALL VISITORS. . .	58158	461237	33540	455619	+ 658	+ .14%

Gain for month of Sept. 4913 people, or 14.6%.

	This Year	Last Year	Increase	
			Number	Per cent

Automobiles in public camps during month
Campers in public camps during month

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF SALES OF PUBLICATIONS

September 1929

	Number	Value
<u>GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS:</u>		
On hand beginning of month,	1457	\$160.25
Received during month,	---	---
Total,	1457	\$160.25
Sold during month,	112	13.00
On hand at close of month,	1345	\$147.25

NON-GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS:

On hand beginning of month,	
Received during month,	
Total,	:
Sold during month,	
On hand at close of month,	

Cash on hand beginning of month,	\$814.20
Sales during month,	13.00
Total,	\$827.20
Remitted during month,	---
Balance,	\$827.20

UNITED STATES
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REPORT OF PARK REVENUES

Yosemite National Park for the Month of September 1923

	This Year	Last Year
Park revenue on hand beginning of month,	\$ 31.78	
Received,	\$29,480.33	
Total,	\$29,512.11	
Remitted,	\$29,494.52	
On hand close of month,	<u>\$ 17.59</u>	

Park revenues received this year to date,	\$120,705.87
Park revenues received last year to date,	\$ 96,744.33
Increase,	<u>\$ 23,961.54</u>
Percent of increase,	<u>24.77%</u>

UNITED STATES
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*ELECTRICITY GENERATED, SOLD, USED, ETC.

YOSEMITE

SEPTEMBER, 1929

..... National Park for the Month of

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase for Travel Year	
					Number	Percent
	472920	2721650	354690	2625130	96520	+ 3
Current generated,	256944	943701	137454	795394	148307	+ 19
Sold to park operators, . . .	126200	1280200	57800	1359200	59000	- 4
Sold to others,	1100	3703	1339	3491	212	+ 6
Furnished to other Governmental agencies,						
Used by National Park Service, lost in transit, etc., . . .	181876	587246	158117	487045	100201	+ 21
	472920	2721650	354690	2625130	96520	+ 3
Total current generated, . .						

In Valley (1929) 5448.34

Amount receivable from the sale of electricity, (1928) \$ 2697.45

* Indicated by K. W. H.

Purchased from S.J.L. & P.Co. 93,200 K.W.H.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS

YOSEMITE National Park for the Month of SEPTEMBER 1929

	This Month	This Month Last Year	Increase	Percent Increase
LOCAL BUSINESS				
Miles of circuit maintained,	340	340	00	0
No. of telephones connected,	292	361	- 69	- 19
No. of measured service calls,	1062	736	+326	+ 44
No. of other local calls,	38898	32869	+6029	+ 18
Total No. of local calls,	39960	33605	+ 6355	+ 19
Peak load in calls per day,	1913	2001	- 88	- 4
Receipts from measured service calls,	\$ 167.25	\$ 139.85	27.40	+ 19
" " coin boxes,	19.75	16.25	3.50	+ 19
" " telephone rental,	504.88	585.65	- 80.77	- 11
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 691.88	\$ 721.75	29.87	+ 4
LONG DISTANCE BUSINESS				
No. Outbound calls,	1225	1130	+ 95	+ 8
No. Inbound calls,	829	744	+ 85	+ 11
TOTAL LONG DISTANCE CALLS	2054	1874	+ 180	+ 9
Peak load in calls per day,	95	100	- 5	- 5
Receipts from Long Distance business,	\$ 575.12	\$ 524.72	+ 50.40	+ 9
TELEGRAPH BUSINESS				
Messages via Western Union,	1748	1264	+ 484	+ 38
Messages via P.T. & T.	77	96	- 19	- 20
TOTAL MESSAGES	1825	1360	+ 465	+ 34
Receipts from telegraph business,	\$ 434.61	\$ 311.68	+ 122.93	+ 39
No. of money transfer messages,	35	36	- 1	- 3
" " " " receipts,	\$ 23.45	19.92	+ 353.00	+ 16
TOTAL RECEIPTS TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH DEPTS.	\$1742.96	\$1578.07	164.89	+ 10

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATUS OF PERSONNEL

Yosemite National Park for the Month of September, 1929

	This Month	This Month Last Year
Number of employees beginning of month	418	295
Number of additions	36	69
Total	454	364
Number of separations	149	148
Number of employees close of month	305	216
Number of promotions during month	2	0
Aggregate amount of annual leave taken	89	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Aggregate amount of sick leave taken	-	2
Aggregate amount of leave without pay	13	10

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

COOPERATING OBSERVERS: METEOROLOGICAL RECORD:

Month of Sept., 1921, Station, Yosemite Nat. Park, Calif.

State, Calif.

Latitude, 31; Longitude, 119; Hour of Observation, 4 P.M.

DATE.	TEMPERATURE.			PRECIPITATION.					CHARACTER OF DAY, SUNRISE TO SUNSET.	† MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.
	MAX. MOD.	MIN. MOD.	RANGE.	* SET MAX. BEGINNING.	TIME OF ENDING.	TIME TAKEN.	IN INCHES.	DEPTH OF SNOW OR GROUND AT TIME OF OBSERVATION.		
1.	86	46							Clear	
2.	83	45								
3.	84	46								
4.	80	47								
5.	79	43								
6.	79	42								
7.	78	42								
8.	82	49								
9.	85	48							P. Cloudy	
10.	89	45							Clear	
11.	91	53								
12.	94	50								
13.	95	53								
14.	94	51								
15.	97	57								
16.	94	54								
17.	89	49								
18.	84	57							Cloudy	
19.	74	55					.49			
20.	80	52					.48		P. Cloudy	
21.	74	40							Clear	
22.	78	37								
23.	75	38								
24.	71	33								
25.	71	33								
26.	70	33								
27.	71	33								
28.	71	32								
29.	74	32								
30.										
31.										
SUM.										
MEAN.										

* Reading of maximum thermometer immediately after setting.
† Including rain, hail, sleet, and melted snow.
‡ Thunderstorms, halos, auroras, etc.
(IN TRIPLICATE)
Office of Chief Range Supervisor,
Yosemite National Park, Calif.
Post-Office Address, B-32

TEMPERATURE.

79.66

Mean maximum, 43.76

Mean minimum, 61.71

Mean, 97 16th

Maximum, 32; date, 29th

Minimum, 44; date, 4th

Greatest daily range, 44

PRECIPITATION.

Total, 1.5 .53 20th inches.

Greatest in 24 hours, .53; date, 20th

SNOW.

Total snowfall, 0 inches; on ground 15th, 0 inches;

at end of month, 0 inches.

NUMBER OF DAYS—

With .01 inch or more precipitation, 3

Clear, 26; partly cloudy, 2; cloudy, 2

DATES OF—

Killing frost, 19th

Thunderstorms, Sept. 16, 19, 20th

Hail, 19th

Sleet, 19th

Auroras, 19th

REMARKS: