

Fig. 2. It may be noted that on the letter

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#### AN UNUSUAL SNOWFALL AT SRINAGAR ON 12 AND 13 APRIL 1955

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The occurrence of snowfall in April at Srinagar is an unusual feature. Heavy rainfalls with low temperatures have been experienced on a few occasions which were accompanied with a thin sleet lasting for only a few minutes. But snowfalls of measurable thickness, lasting on ground and roofs for hours together, were experienced to a great surprise on 12 and 13 April 1955.

The weather was practically dry till the 9th, the sky being covered with 2 to 3 oktas of generally high clouds and on the 10th the sky was overcast in the afternoon and slight drizzle, lasting for about 10 minutes, occurred at about 1910 IST. In the afternoon of 11 April, after about 1400 IST, intermittent thundery conditions with drizzle and rainfall were recorded and the total precipitation recorded on 12th morning was 41 cents.

At 0830 IST on the 12th, the wind direction was northwesterly with a speed of 5 miles per hour and the atmospheric pressure was 8.7 mb below normal. The temperature started falling quite rapidly and the wind became S to SE. Rainfall commenced at 1630 IST which was followed by heavy snow flakes of an abnormal size, in volume and weight. These did not melt and the accumulation started immediately. The snowfall continued till 2145 IST and no further precipitation was recorded during the night. The snow accumulation was of measurable depth of about 2" and did not melt till the sunrise of 13 April 1955.

On the 13th, the sky was overcast with *St* and *Cu* clouds and the rainfall commenced at about 1050 IST. This slight rainfall also was accompanied by a snowfall between 1145 and 1400 IST. The precipitation being mixed, no accumulation of snow occurred. Had not the snow melted due to the rain accompanying it, it would have caused an approximate snow accumulation of about 3" on the ground.

The day temperatures were remarkably low and the maximum was 43°F, being 24° below normal.

The night following 13 April was very cold, recording a temperature of 33°F, that is, about 12°F below normal.

The total precipitation, occurred from 10 to 15 April 1955 was 2.26" against the monthly normal of 3.65".

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May 23, 1955.*