

Climatic Perspectives

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May 29 to June 4, 1989

A weekly review of Canadian climate

Vol. 11 No. 23

What a difference a year makes!

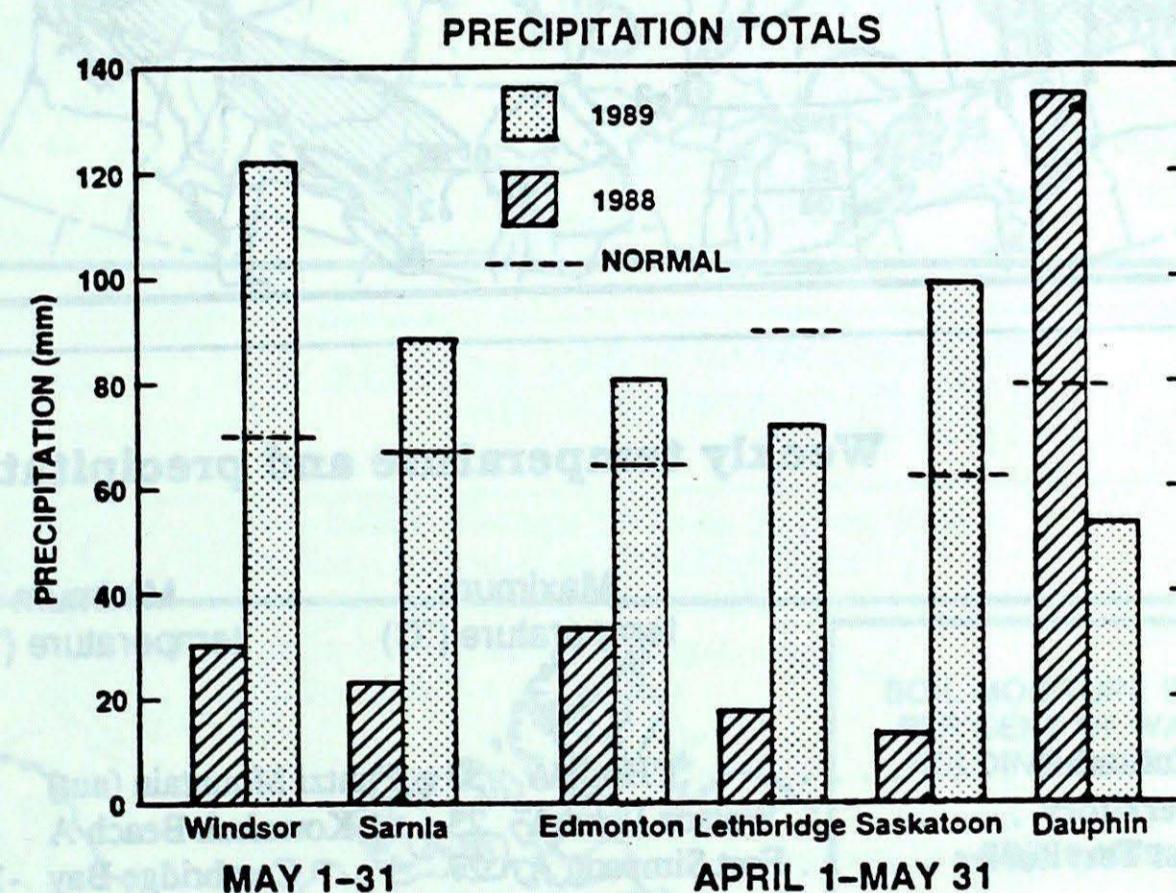
Last year at this time, in southwestern Ontario, a shortage of precipitation was the major concern, whereas this year, surplus precipitation is causing problems.

Showers and thundershowers continued to churn through Ontario. Many southern Ontario locations have received more precipitation in the first four days of June than was received for all of June 1988. Agricultural work has been brought to a standstill in southwestern Ontario, as many fields look like rice paddies due to standing-water. Some flooded fields may require replanting of some crops, if and when fields become workable again. In areas where rainfall has been merely abundant, rather than torrential, crops are doing very well.

The heaviest rains have occurred south of Windsor along the north shore of Lake Erie. At Harrow Research Station, 203.8 mm of rain has fallen since May 1st. Rainfall has been in the form of downpours.

The heavy rains have caused problems for farmers, and drying conditions are needed. Standing-water in the fields is drowning tomatoes, but cultivating could save the plants. Both the tomato and potato crops are being affected by the Colorado beetle, but the fields are too wet for accessing in order to spray. With so much moisture, plants do not put down enough roots. If the weather should turn hot and dry in July, plants would not have roots which go deep enough to obtain moisture, and crops could die.

The wet weather has hampered spraying operations for fruit growers. Bacterial diseases are expected this summer on



peaches and apricots. The strawberry crop which should be ready within a week, is showing fruit rot.

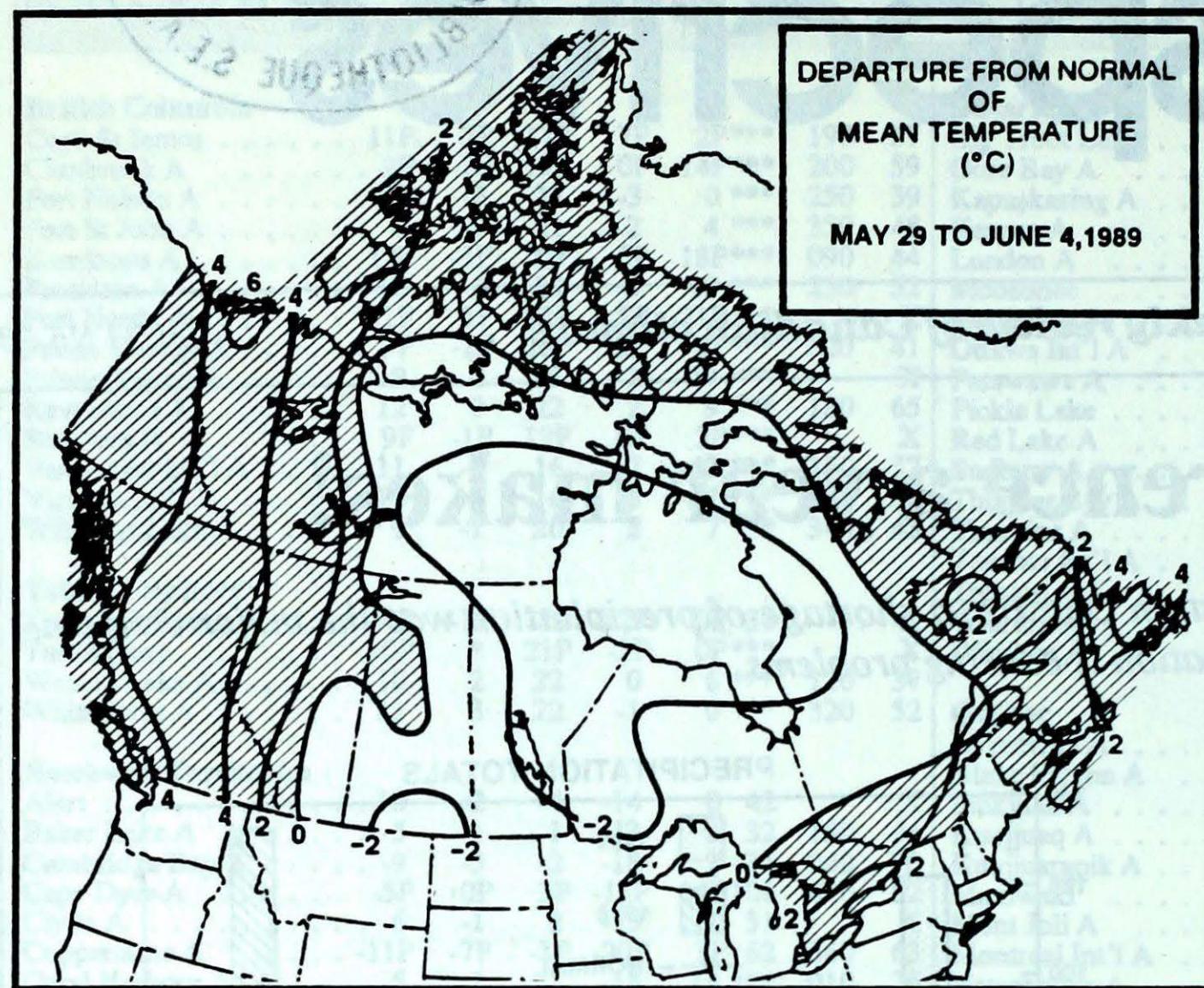
The heavy rains have also caused soil compaction which has allowed the crusting over of soils, affecting the soya bean crop. Poorly-drained, heavy soils in Essex and Kent Counties have not been planted which could lead to a repeat of 1968, when a number of fields could not be planted due to too much moisture.

Clement Fisher, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Harrow Research Station

A look ahead...

For the week of June 12, all of Ontario, and the southern half of Québec will experience near-normal temperatures, while the Atlantic provinces will be cool. Elsewhere across the country, above-normal temperatures are expected. The largest departures above normal are expected over the Arctic islands. An upper atmospheric ridge over the Northwest Territories and the Prairies will keep these areas warm and dry.

— prepared June 6, 1989
A.Gergye, Canadian Climate Centre



Across the country...

May 29th saw a return to snow in southwestern Saskatchewan. Eastend recorded 10.4 mm of mixed rain and snow, and a high of only 3°C. On June 2nd, a funnel cloud was reported over Briercrest, Saskatchewan. Heavy rain in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, has resulted in some river bank collapses along the Goulais River. Flooding was reported upriver from the blockages caused by the collapses. Inuvik, Northwest Territories set a new maximum record on May 31st, reaching 24.9°C, beating the old record of 23.4°C, set in 1983. There is a flood watch at Aklavik, waiting for the Mackenzie River ice break-up. Early swimmers are braving a few of the lakes around Yellowknife, while other nearby lakes are predominantly ice-covered. Golf courses remain busy, as Northerners take advantage of the long days of summer.

Weekly temperature and precipitation extremes

	Maximum temperature (°C)	Minimum temperature (°C)	Heaviest precipitation (mm)
British Columbia	Hope A 33	Puntzi Mountain (aut) -2	Prince Rupert A 13
Yukon Territory	Watson Lake A 23	Komakuk Beach A -1	Watson Lake A 3
Northwest Territories	Fort Simpson A 27	Cambridge Bay -14	Iqaluit A 36
Alberta	Grande Prairie A 30	Banff (aut) -6	Lethbridge A 13
Saskatchewan	Estevan A 25	Prince Albert A -2	Moose Jaw A 17
Manitoba	Winnipeg Int'l A 27	Churchill A -5	Island Lake 5
Ontario	Windsor A 29	Winisk (aut) -3	Windsor A 70
Québec	Montréal Int'l A 26	La Grande Rivière A -6	Natashquan A 70
New Brunswick	Chatham A 25	St Stephen (aut) 2	St-Léonard A 41
	Fredericton A 25		
Nova Scotia	Western Head (aut) 26	Truro 6	Shearwater A 42
Prince Edward Island	Summerside A 23	Charlottetown A 6	Charlottetown A 10
Newfoundland	Comfort Cove 26	Nain A, Lab. -4	St Lawrence 48

Across The Country...

Highest Mean Temperature	Kamloops A(BC) 21
lowest Mean Temperature	Gladman Point A(NWT) -6

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES
VOLUME 11

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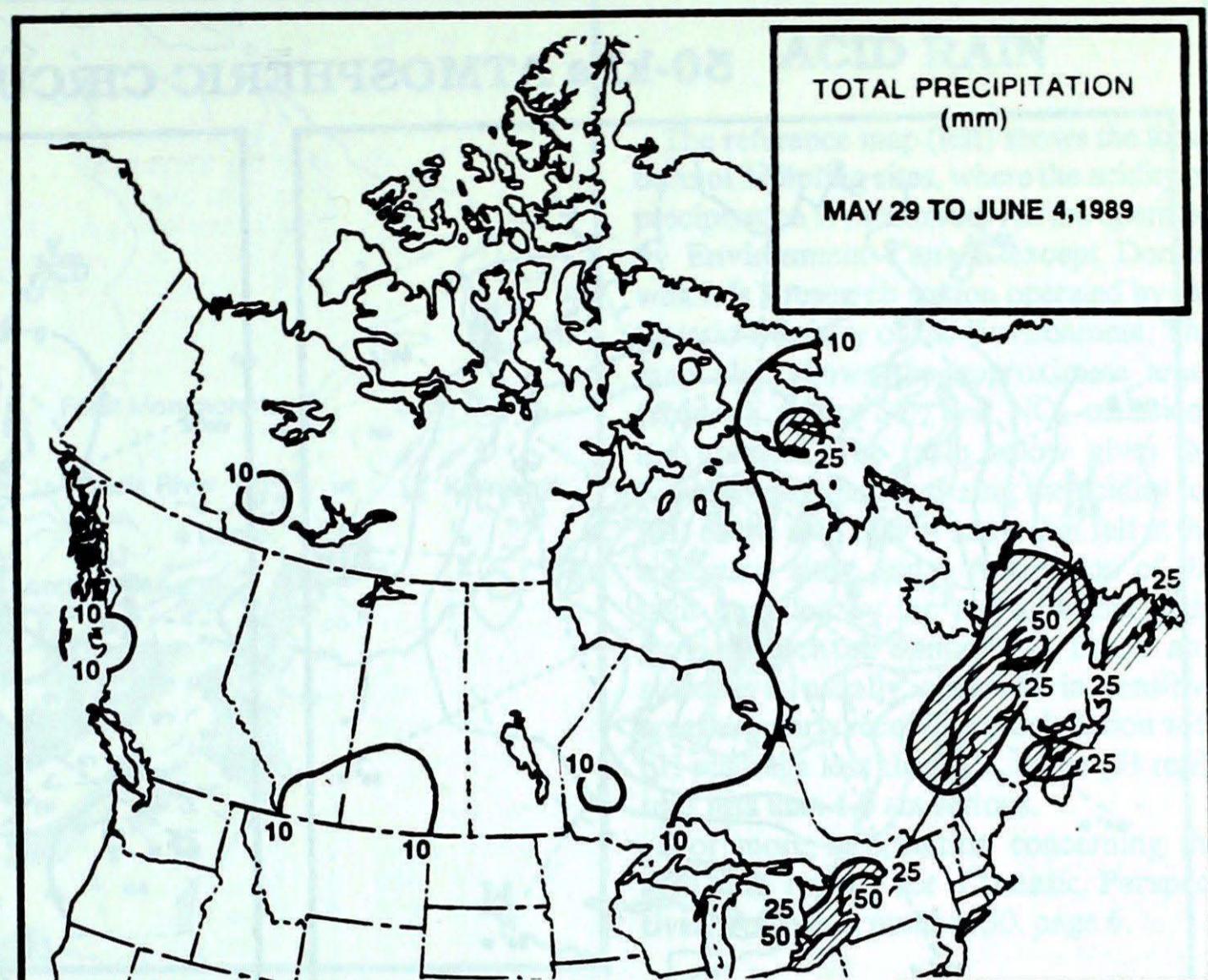
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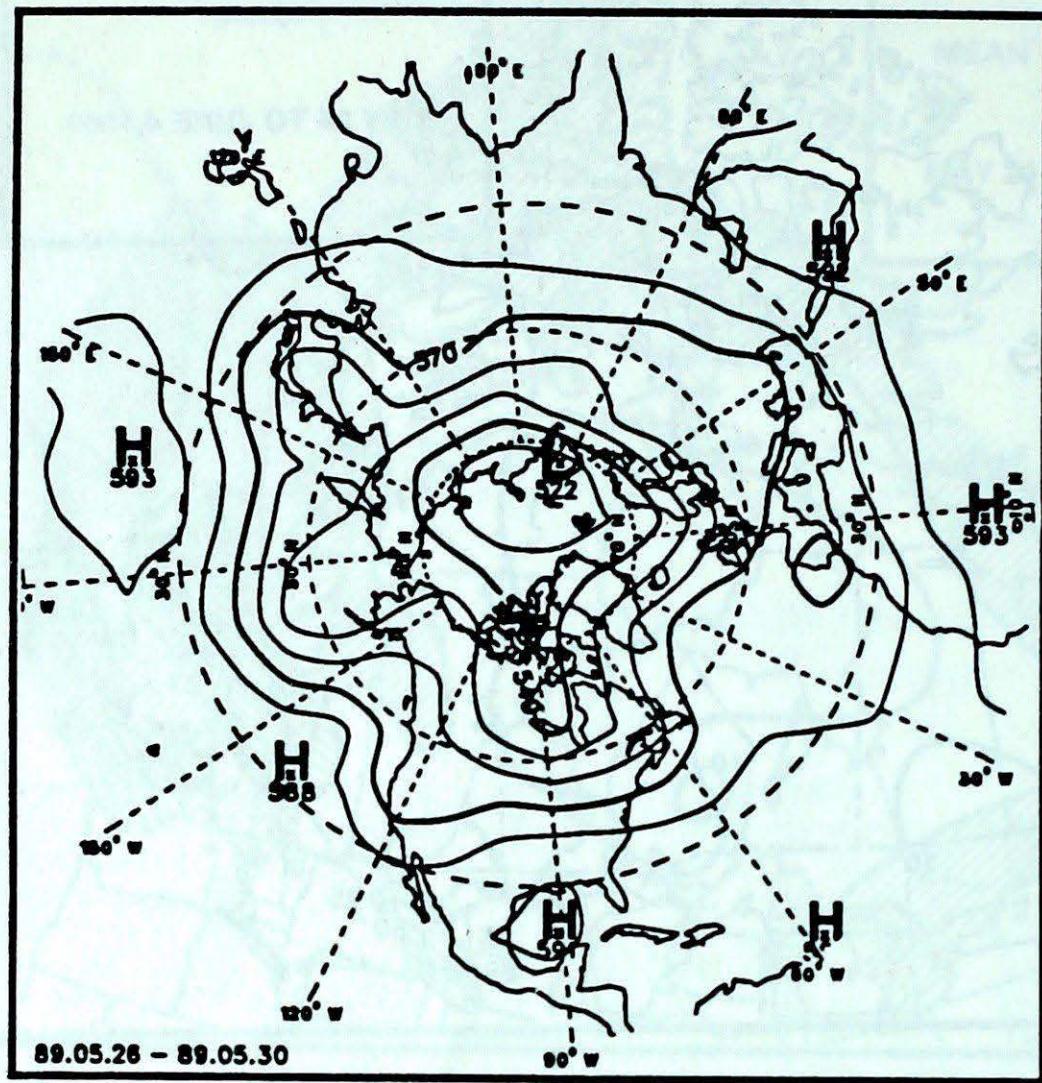
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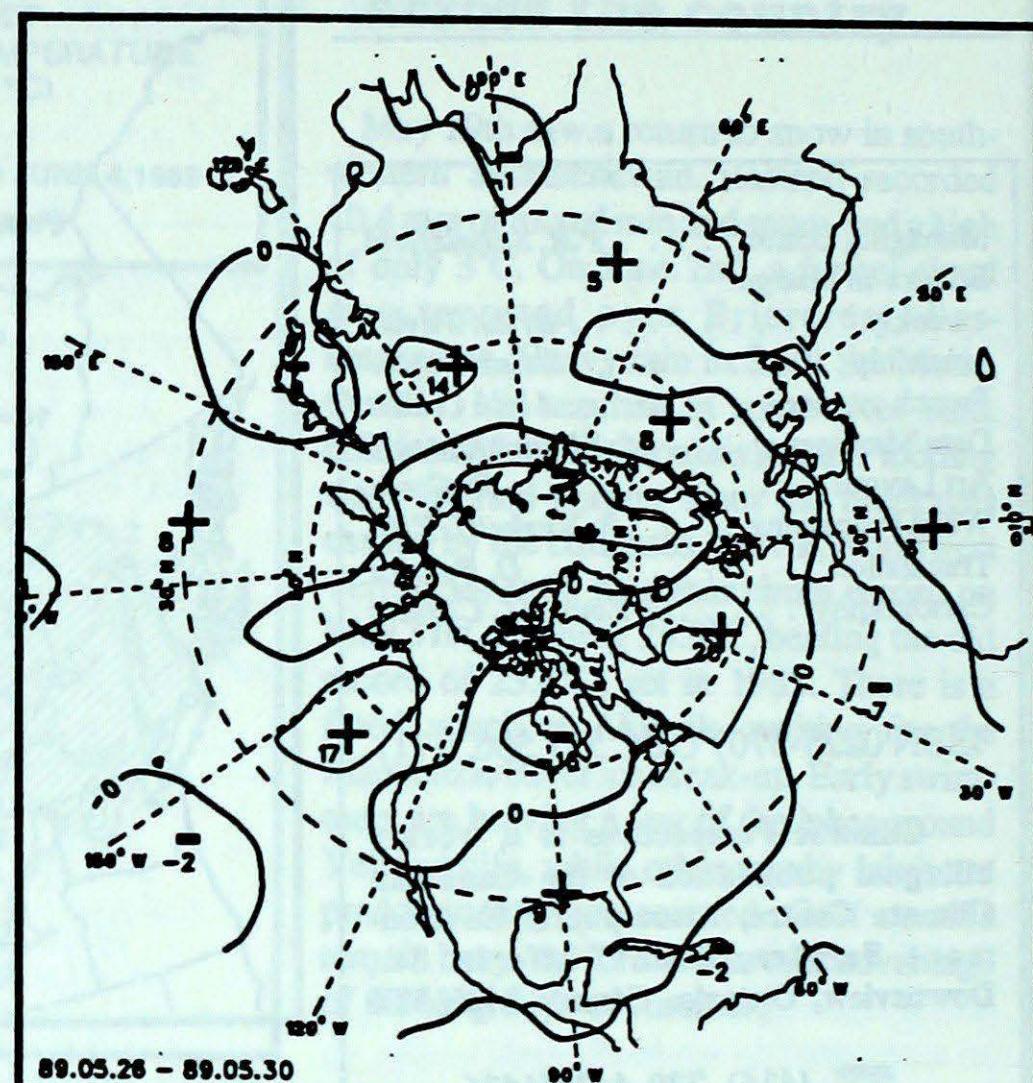
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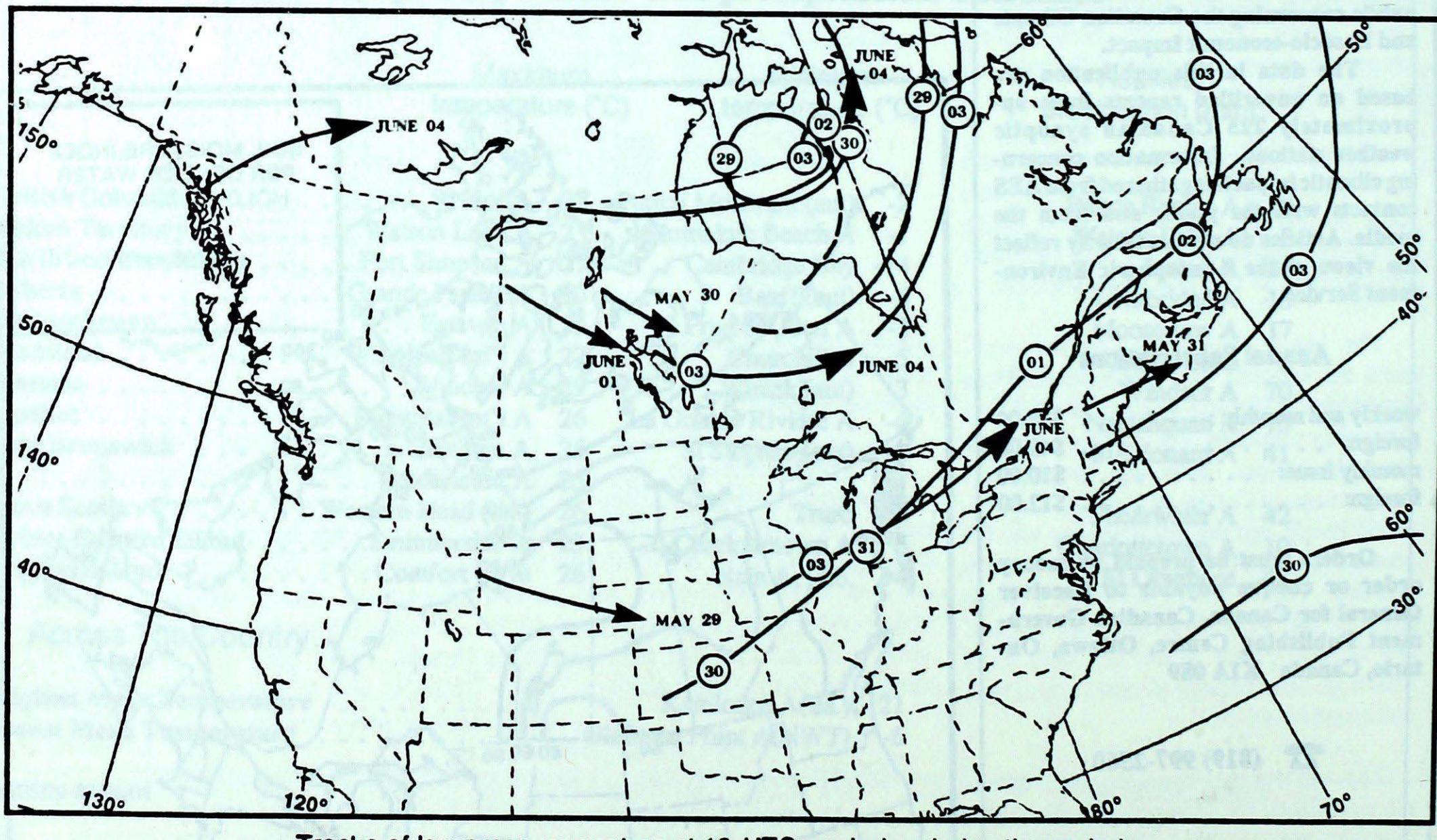
50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



Mean geopotential height
50-kPa level (10 decametre intervals)



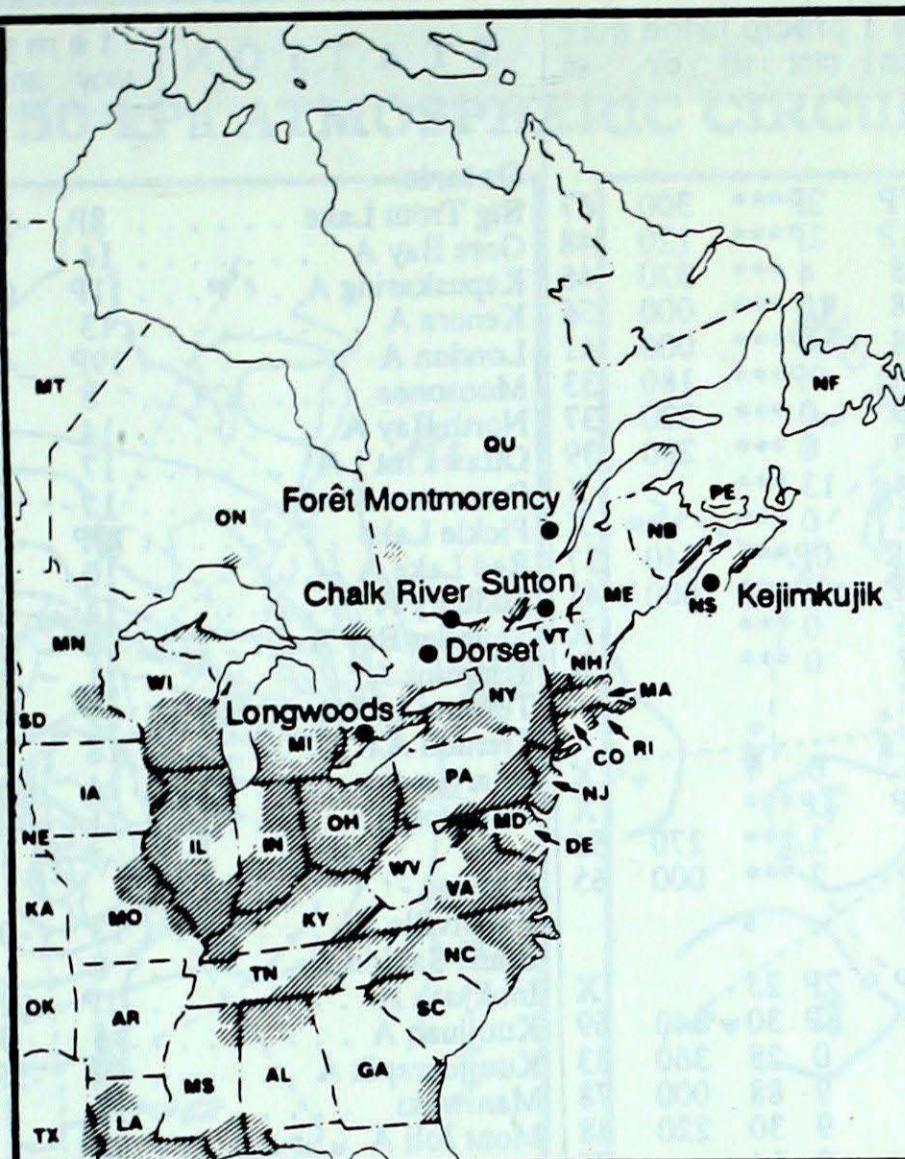
Mean geopotential height anomaly
50-kPa level (10 decametre intervals)



Tracks of low pressure centres at 12 UTC each day during the period.

ALABAMA
ARKANSAS
CONNECTICUT
DELAWARE
FLORIDA
GEORGIA
ILLINOIS
INDIANA
IOWA
KANSAS
KENTUCKY
LOUISIANA
MAINE
MANITOBA
MARYLAND
MASSACHUSETTS
MICHIGAN
MINNESOTA
MISSISSIPPI
MISSOURI
NEBRASKA
NEW BRUNSWICK
NEWFOUNDLAND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW JERSEY
NEW YORK
NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH DAKOTA
NOVA SCOTIA
OHIO
OKLAHOMA
ONTARIO
PENNSYLVANIA
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
QUÉBEC
RHODE ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
SOUTH DAKOTA
TENNESSEE
TEXAS
VERMONT
VIRGINIA
WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN

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WI



ACID RAIN

The reference map (left) shows the locations of sampling sites, where the acidity of precipitation is monitored. All are operated by Environment Canada except Dorset, which is a research station operated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. The map also shows the approximate areas (shaded), where SO₂ and NO_x emissions are greatest. The table below gives the weekly report summarizing the acidity (or pH) of the acid rain or snow that fell at the collection sites, and a description of the path travelled by the moisture laden air. Environmental damage to lakes and streams is usually observed in sensitive areas regularly receiving precipitation with pH readings less than 4.7, while pH readings less than 4.0 are serious.

For more information concerning the acid rain report, see Climatic Perspectives, volume 5, number 50, page 6.

SITE	day	pH	amount	AIR PATH TO SITE
From May 28 to June 3, 1989				
Longwoods	29	3.9	11	R Ohio, Indiana, Southern Michigan, Southern Ontario
	30	4.3	4	R Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Southern Ontario
	31	4.3	6	R Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Southern Ontario
	1	4.1	13	R Illinois, Indiana, Southern Ontario
	3	3.5	10	R Indiana, Ohio
Dorset*	29	3.5	1	R Pennsylvania, New York, Southern Ontario
	30	3.7	1	R Ohio, Southern Ontario
	31	4.6	2	R Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Southern Ontario
	3	4.5	7	R Michigan, Central Ontario
Chalk River	30	3.7	1	R Southern Ontario, Central Ontario
	31	4.5	10	R Ohio, Southern Ontario
	3	4.5	11	R Michigan, Central Ontario
Sutton	30	3.6	7	R Southern Ontario, New York
	1	3.5	8	R New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York
	2	4.5	13	R Central and Eastern Ontario, Northeastern New York
	3	3.8	2	R Southern Ontario, New York
Montmorency	29	4.3	8	R Northeastern Ontario, Northwestern Quebec
	31	4.6	15	R Eastern Ontario, Southern Quebec
	2	3.6	2	R Quebec
	3	4.6	14	R Central Ontario, Central Quebec
Kejimkujik	30	4.0	6	R New Jersey, Southern New England, Atlantic Ocean
	2	4.5	30	R Atlantic Ocean

r = rain (mm), s = snow (cm), m = mixed rain and snow (mm)

S T A T I O N	temperature					precip.	wind	max	moy	anom	max	min	ptot	st	dir	vit	S T A T I O N	temperature					precip.	wind	max	moy	anom	max	min	ptot	st	dir	vit
British Columbia																																	
Cape St James	11P	1P	16P	7P	2P***	300	67																										
Cranbrook A	15P	2P	27P	-1P	2P***	120	48																										
Fort Nelson A	18	6	29	8	4 ***	320	46																										
Fort St John A	17	5	29	8	10 ***	000	156																										
Kamloops A	21	4	33	8	0 ***	000	41																										
Penticton A	20P	5P	31P	9P	0P***	180	33																										
Port Hardy A	14	3	24	5	0 ***	320	37																										
Prince George A	16	4	30	3	0 ***	280	39																										
Prince Rupert A	11	1	17	4	13 ***	X																											
Revelstoke A	18	3	31	1	0 ***	X																											
Smithers A	15P	4P	29P	3P	0P***	340	37																										
Vancouver Int'l A	16P	2P	25P	8P	0P***	000	41																										
Victoria Int'l A	16	2	31	6	0 ***	X																											
Williams Lake A	16	5	29	2	0 ***	X																											
Yukon Territory																																	
Komakuk Beach A	4	4	13	-1	0 7	X																											
Teslin (aut)	12P	*	22P	1P	1P***	X																											
Watson Lake A	13	2	23	1	3 ***	270	56																										
Whitehorse A	13	4	22	0	2 ***	000	65																										
Northwest Territories																																	
Alert	-3P	3P	3P	-8P	2P 25	X																											
Baker Lake A	-3P	-3P	1P	-7P	8P 30	340	69																										
Cambridge Bay A	-4	-1	3	-15	0 28	360	33																										
Cape Dyer A	-2	0	4	-7	9 88	000	78																										
Clyde A	-3	-1	4	-9	9 30	220	48																										
Coppermine A	-3	-1	9	*	2 14	X																											
Coral Harbour A	-1	1	3	-6	1 26	000	67																										
Eureka	-1	3	4	-9	1 1	290	41																										
Fort Smith A	12	1	23	-2	4 ***	000	33																										
Hall Beach A	-2	3	1	-4	3 41	500	48																										
Inuvik A	14P	8P	25P	3P	7P***	X																											
Iqaluit A	1	0	6	-4	36 2	000	56																										
Mould Bay A	-2P	2P	3P	-7P	0P 12	190	48																										
Norman Wells A	16P	5P	24P	8P	4P***	000	56																										
Resolute A	-4P	2P	2P	-12P	0P***	030	54																										
Yellowknife A	13P	3P	22P	3P	2P***	060	37																										
Alberta																																	
Calgary Int'l A	13	0	26	-2	7 ***	350	52																										
Cold Lake A	13	-1	23	0	3 ***	290	43																										
Edmonton Namao A	14	0	26	1	8 ***	000	67																										
Fort McMurray A	13	1	23	-1	3 ***	360	37																										
High Level A	15	3	26	2	1 ***	000	43																										
Jasper	13	2	27	-1	0 ***	X																											
Lethbridge A	13	-1	25	-2	13 ***	350	56																										
Medicine Hat A	13	-2	25	1	6 ***	300	50																										
Peace River A	16	4	27	4	2 ***	000	56																										

mean = mean weekly temperature, °C

max = maximum weekly temperature °C

max = maximum weekly temperature, °C
min = minimum weekly temperature, °C

min = minimum weekly temperature, °C
 anom = mean temperature anomaly, °C

p_{tot} = weekly precipitation total in mm

st = snow thickness on the ground in cm

st = snow thickness on the ground in cm
dir = direction of max wind deg. from north

dir = direction of max wind
vit = wind speed, in km/s

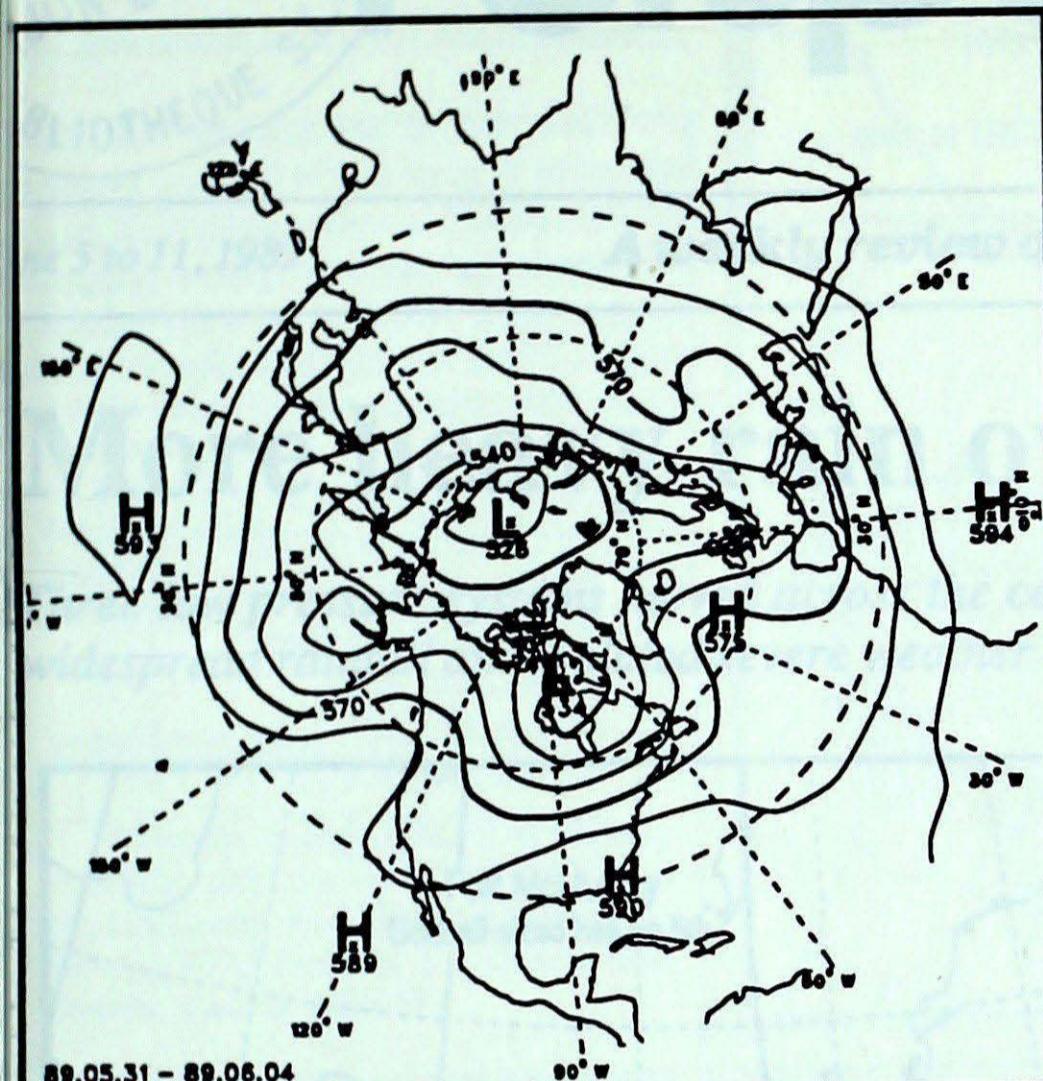
— Annotations —

X = no observation

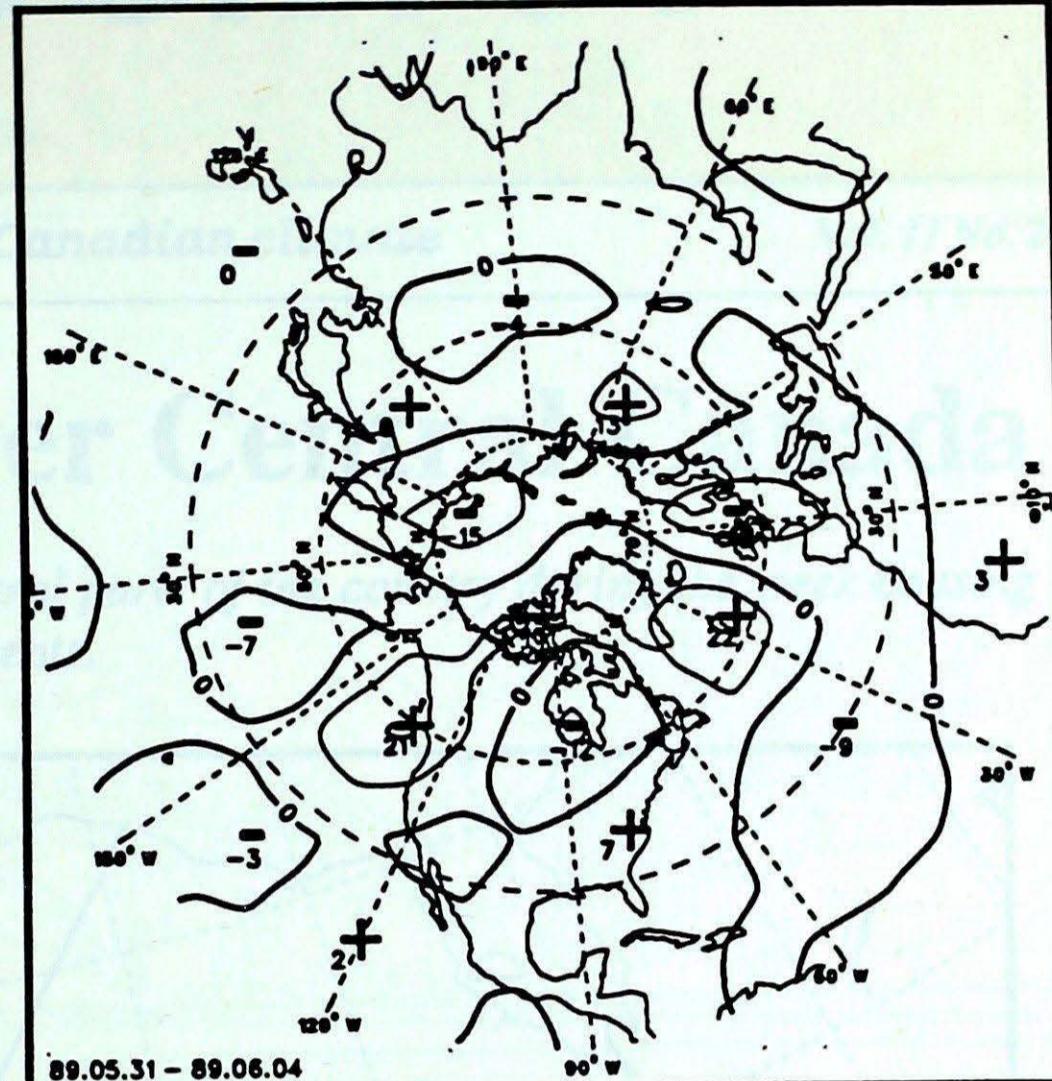
B = less than 7 days of data

P = less than 7 days of data
T = missing data when going to vacation

50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



Mean geopotential height
50-kPa level (10 decametre intervals)



Mean geopotential height anomaly
50-kPa level (10 decametre intervals)



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Canada

Environnement
Canada

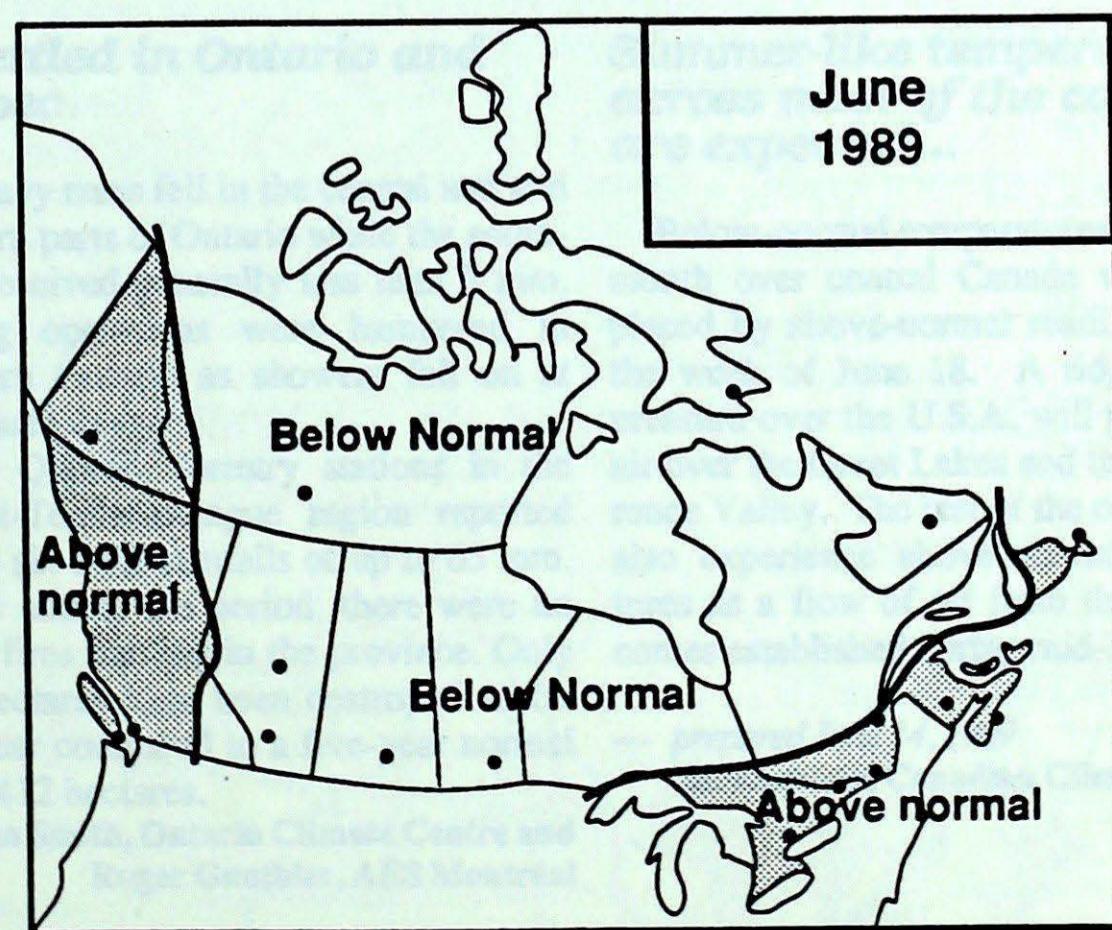
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MONTHLY TEMPERATURE FORECAST

Normal temperatures for June, °C

Whitehorse	12	Toronto	18
Yellowknife	13	Ottawa	18
Iqaluit	3	Montréal	18
Vancouver	15	Québec	16
Victoria	14	Fredericton	16
Calgary	13	Halifax	14
Edmonton	15	Charlottetown	15
Regina	16	Goose Bay	11
Winnipeg	17	St. John's	11



Canada