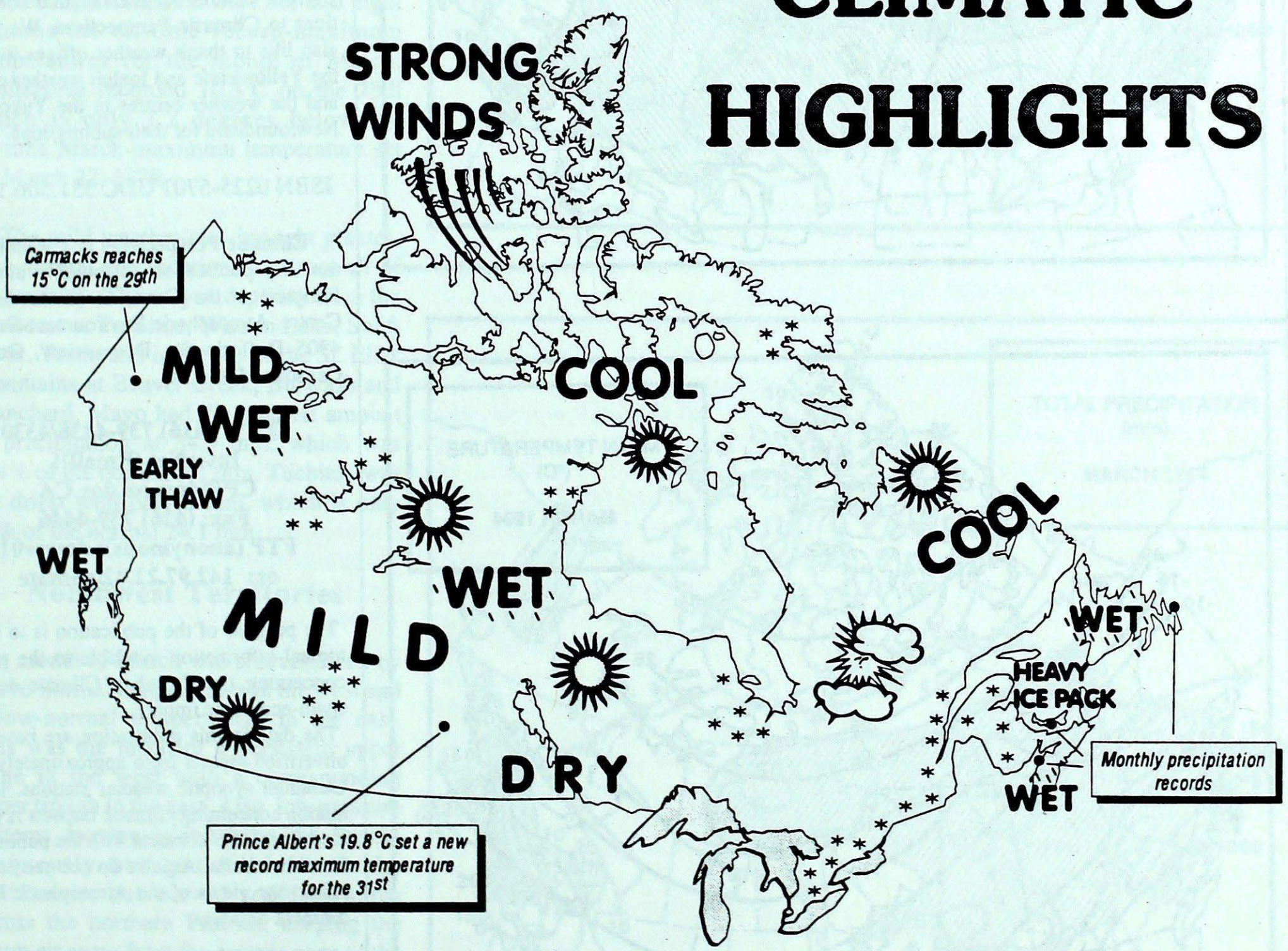
CANADA'S GREEN PLAN

Climatic Perspectives

Monthly Review **March - 1994** *Vol. 16*

CLIMATIC HIGHLIGHTS



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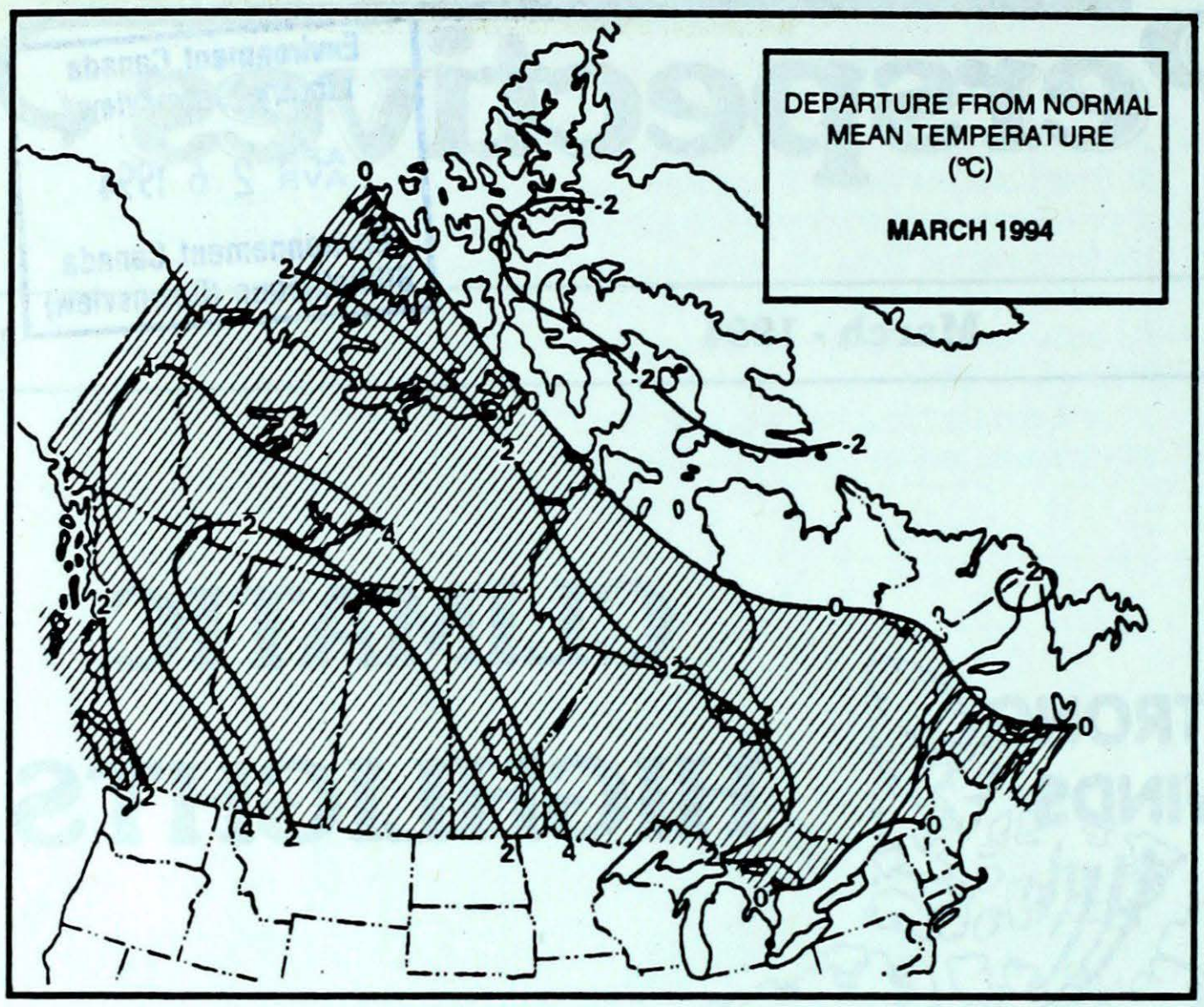

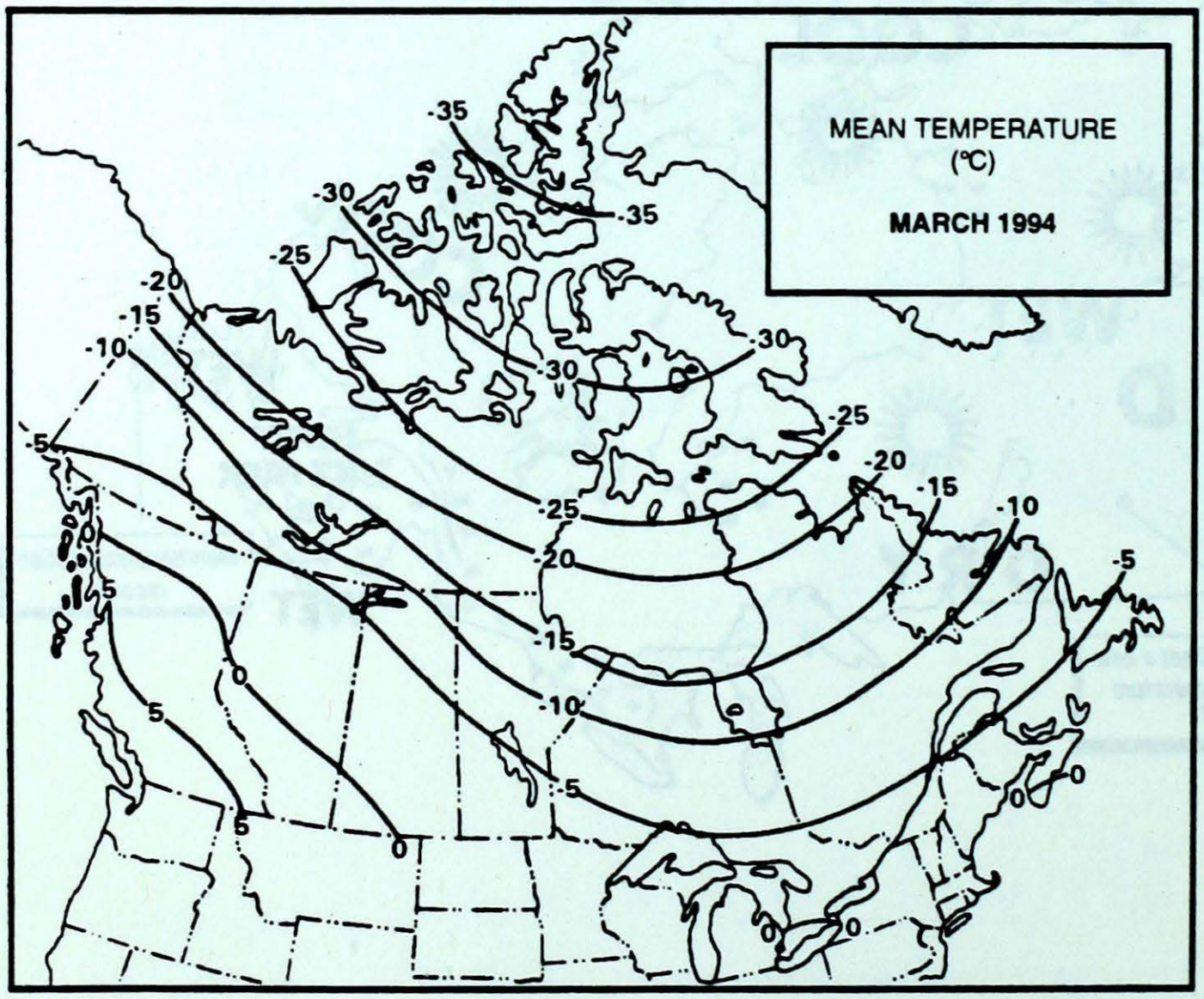

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES
VOLUME 16

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The purpose of the publication is to make topical information available to the public concerning the Canadian Climate and its socio-economic impact.

The data in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Information concerning climatic impacts is gathered from AES contacts with the public and from the media. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Atmospheric Environment Service.

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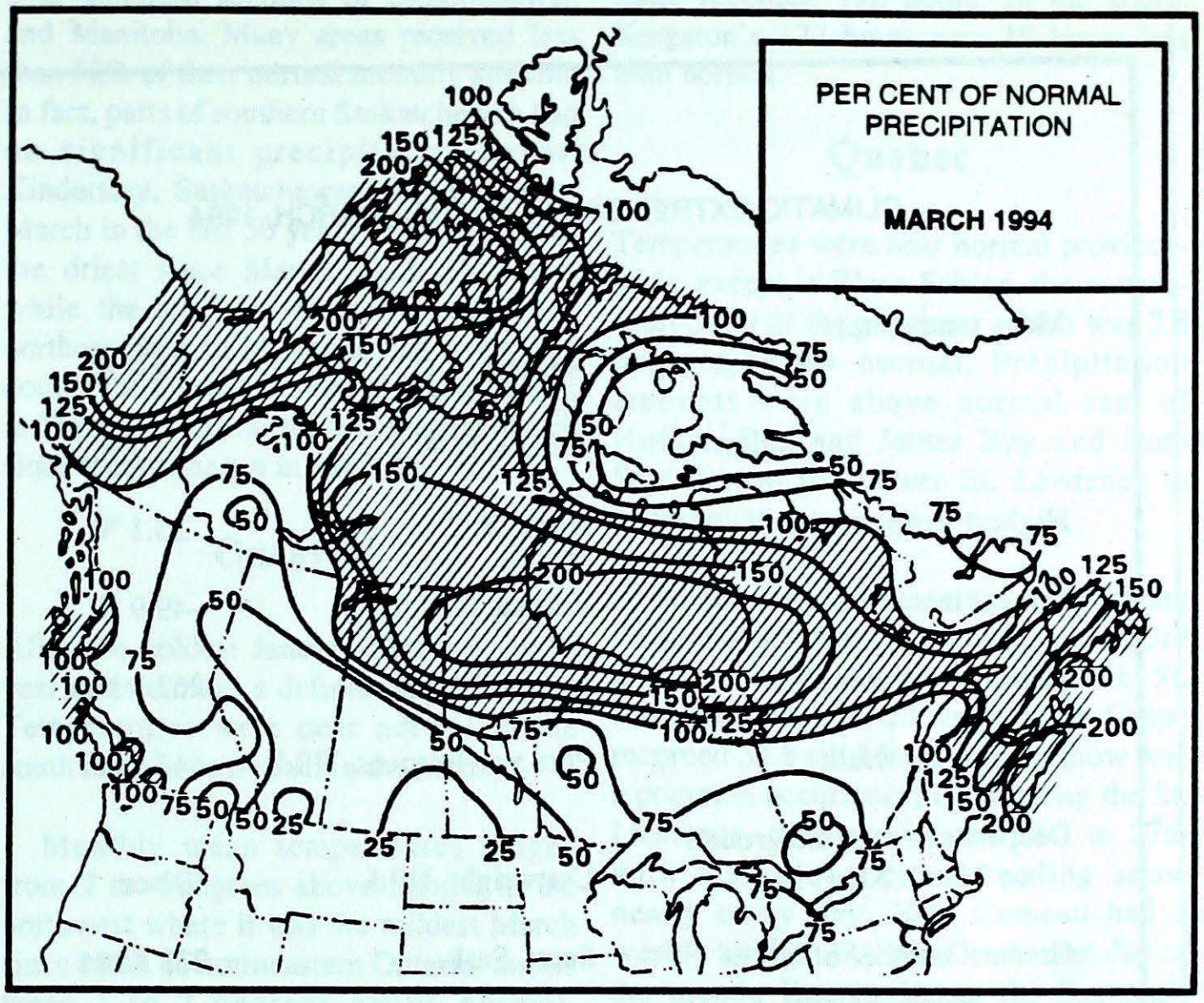
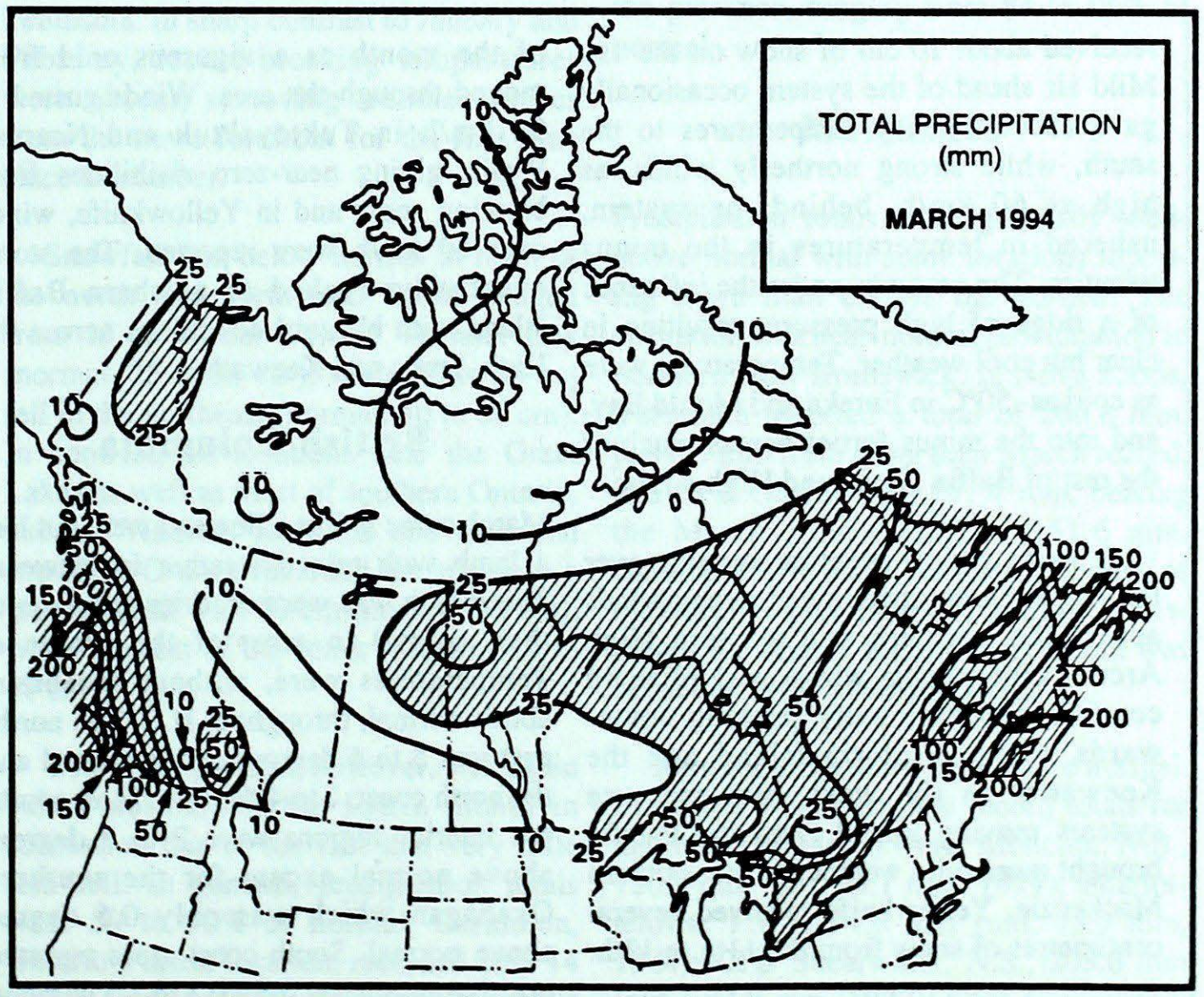
Across the country

Yukon

The Yukon was very mild and wet after a cold, dry February. A southwesterly flow developed over the territory at the end of February and remained in place for almost the entire month of March. Mean temperatures ranged from 0.8 degrees above normal at Eagle Plains to 7.6 degrees above normal at Ogilvie. Carmacks recorded the highest maximum temperature with a 15°C reading on the 29th. The coldest temperature, despite being above normal for the month was -46°C at Ogilvie on the 23rd. On the 29th and 30th, numerous record maximums were set and eight stations set all-time record-maximum temperatures for the month of March. Whitehorse recorded 10.5°C on the 29th which is only 1.2 degrees below the all-time March maximum temperature set on March 22, 1979.



The mild weather also brought greater-than-normal precipitation to almost all of the territory. The only exceptions were the southeast at Tuchitua, Watson Lake, Swift River, Teslin and in the lee of the St. Elias Mountains at Beaver Creek, Burwash and Blanchard. Mayo had the greatest amount of precipitation at 34.9 mm, which was 384% of the normal 9.1 mm. Tuchitua was the driest with only 5 mm, which is only 21% of the normal 24.1 mm.



Northwest Territories

The month of March was characterized by above-normal temperatures in the west and below-normal temperatures in the east. This was the result of a persistent upper ridge in the west with a corresponding upper trough in the east. Also, low pressure systems moving inland from the Pacific frequently brought mild air to the Mackenzie, but moved southeastwards across the northern Prairies, keeping the warm air away from the eastern parts of the territories.

The first week of the month saw several systems tracking across the southern Mackenzie or northern Prairies. Hay River

CLIMATIC EXTREMES IN CANADA - MARCH, 1994

Mean temperature:		
Highest	Agassiz, B.C.	8.9 ℃
Coldest	Eureka, N.W.T.	-37.7 ℃
Highest temperature:	Hope, B.C.	25.1 ℃
Lowest temperature:	Eureka, N.W.T.	-49.9 ℃
Heaviest precipitation:	Halifax Int'l A.	263.3 mm
Heaviest snowfall:	Port-aux-Basques, Nfld.	143.4 cm
Deepest snow on the ground on March 31, 1994	Cartwright, Nfld.	101 cm
Greatest number of bright sunshine hours:	Scott, Sask.	238 hours

received about 10 cm of snow on the 1st. Mild air ahead of the system occasionally gave above-freezing temperatures to the south, while strong northerly winds, as high as 60 km/h, behind the system, ushered in temperatures in the minus twenties. The east was under the influence of a ridge of high pressure, resulting in clear but cool weather. Temperatures were as cold as -50℃ in Eureka and Mould Bay, and into the minus forties across much of the rest of Baffin Island and High Arctic.

A series of low pressure systems over the Arctic Ocean maintained strong winds across the northern and western High Arctic with strong winds and blizzard conditions occasionally pushing southwards across Victoria Island and the Keewatin. In the west, low pressure systems moving inland from the Pacific brought more mild weather to the southern Mackenzie. Yellowknife received several centimetres of snow from the 11th to 13th.

Above-freezing temperatures in the Mackenzie Valley and the Mackenzie Delta came to an abrupt end the last week of the month as a vigorous cold front moved through the area. Winds gusted to 90 km/h in Tuktoyaktuk and Norman Wells, giving near-zero visibilities from blowing snow and in Yellowknife, winds over 60 km/h were reported. The storm eventually tracked to northern Baffin Island with blizzard conditions across the High Arctic and Keewatin.

British Columbia

March came in like a lion and went out like a lamb with mixed weather in between. The month was warmer, drier and sunnier than normal in most of the province. Temperatures were, without exception, above normal, throughout B.C. The northeast was 5 to 6 degrees above normal and the north coast, 2 to 4 degrees. Most southern interior regions were 2 to 3 degrees above normal except for the southern Okanagan which was only 0.5 degree above normal. South coast areas reported positive anomalies from 0.5 to 1.5 degrees. Mild temperatures have accelerated spring growth. In southern coastal areas, many vegetable farms began spring planting and controlled burning of grass began in the southern interior.

During the last week of the month, 19 locations set new record-high temperatures for March including: Abbotsford, 24.9℃ (old, 22.8℃, 1947); Fort St. John, 18.0℃ (old, 13.9℃, 1947); and Victoria, 21.4℃ (old, 20.0℃, 1941 and 1942).

While most of the province reported below-normal precipitation, there were exceptions. The North Coast Mountain areas, stretching from Terrace southwards to the northern end of Vancouver Island, reported 120 to 140% of average and the extreme northeast corner of the province near 110%. As well, the extreme southern tip of Vancouver Island, the eastern Fraser Valley and extreme South Coast Mountains reported 110 to 125% of average. The driest area of the province was the southern interior with 40 to 75% of average. Snowfall was generally 20 to 50% of average in the south and some interior locations recorded no snow. Sunshine totals ranged from 120 to 160% of average across the province.

Alberta

The month started out mild as a brisk southwesterly flow pushed temperatures well-above seasonal values for the first four days. Gusty winds approaching 100 km/h persisted in the Lethbridge region until late on the 2nd. Temperatures reached into the mid-teens in the south and to 10℃ in north-central regions. Fears of a fast melt and resultant flooding were put to rest on the 5th as winds shifted to northwesterly, sweeping in much cooler air. Daytime highs were held below the freezing mark until the 7th, when a westerly flow pushed warmer air into the foothills and across the province. The northeast, however, continued cold with daytime highs remaining below minus 20 at some locations. By the 10th, the last of the arctic air had been forced from the province by a brisk westerly flow of dry air. Again, winds in the foothills topped 100 km/h as record temperatures in the teens occurred in all regions. On the 14th, an arctic front crept into northeastern regions and progressed southwards to lie over the south by the

19th. Snowfalls of 5 to 25 cm were measured in central regions and in the mountain parks on March 18-19. Seasonal temperatures returned on the 20th, except for the northeast where arctic air was still entrenched. The cold air occassionally dipped southwards and on the 28th it covered the entire province, pushed by winds of 75 to 95 km/h. On the 29th, warm air from B.C. resulted in record temperatures in the high teens at several central and northern locations and topped 20°C in the south.

Many stations set a March record for least number of days with measurable precipitation. Several sites had only one day with precipitation while anything more than three days was rare, except in the mountain parks and the northeast. Accordingly, most sites saw more than 200 hours of bright sunshine with the sunniest regions being Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. By month's end, there was no measurable snow on the ground for most of the southern half of the province and snow depths in the north ranged from 5 to 15 cm. The only areas with significant amounts of snow remaining were the foothills and mountain parks.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba

March was a mild month as temperatures averaged up to 8 degrees above normal. The first week was mild as temperatures were consistently well-above freezing across the south. Twenty-one new record-high maximum temperatures were set in the first five days of the month. During the middle of the month, temperatures were seasonal but March ended with a return to above-normal readings. The last day of the month was the warmest in most areas with seven record-high daily maximum temperatures being set across southern and central areas. On March 31, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan's temperature was 19.8°C, which shattered the old daily record of 16.7°C set in 1906. However, the final few days of March were abnormally cold in northern Manitoba, where on the 31st, Churchill was experiencing a temperature of -20°C.

Precipitation was well-below normal over southern sections of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Many areas received less than 50% of their normal monthly amount. In fact, parts of southern Saskatchewan had no significant precipitation event. Kindersley, Saskatchewan, had the driest March in the last 50 years and Regina was the driest since March 1978. However, while the southern areas were dry, the northern parts of Manitoba had more than double the normal amount of precipitation; in Thompson, it was the 2nd wettest March since records began in 1968.

Ontario

After the coldest January-February in 75 years, March was a definite improvement. Temperatures were near normal in the south and above normal in the north.

Monthly mean temperatures ranged from 2 to 4 degrees above normal in the northwest where it was the mildest March since 1985. In northeastern Ontario, means were 1 to 2 degrees above normal. Temperatures were near normal south of a line stretching from Petawawa to the Bruce Peninsula. In sharp contrast to January and February, record-breaking temperatures were absent, removing weather stories from the news forefront for the first time since December.

Snowfall was below normal in most of the north and northwest. Totals ranged from 15 to 20 cm west of Thunder Bay (normal, 25 to 35 cm), while 30 to 55 cm fell in the northeast (normal, 40 to 60 cm). In contrast, all locations near the Great Lakes as well as most of southern Ontario, except Windsor, recorded above-normal snowfall; Ottawa recorded the province's greatest total with 60 cm (normal, 32 cm), while the rest of the south recorded 20 to 40 cm.

Total precipitation, however, was again below normal for the fourth month in succession due to the fact that very little rain fell. In general, precipitation totals were 50 to 90% of normal. Geraldton, Ontario's driest location, recorded only 14 mm of total precipitation for the 2nd driest March on record. The northwest led the way with the greatest sunshine totals; Red Lake recorded 190 hours. In the south, Kingston's 127 hours was 18 hours less than normal.

Quebec

Temperatures were near normal province-wide, except in Blanc Sablon, the eastern-most point of the province, which was 2.8 degrees below normal. Precipitation amounts were above normal east of Hudson Bay and James Bay and from Sept-Îles on the Lower St. Lawrence to Natashquan.

Southern Quebec received a significant amount of snow and high winds on the 3rd and 4th; many locations along the St. Lawrence recorded 20 cm or more. Gaspé recorded 54.8 cm March 3 to 5. Snow was a common occurrence, again along the St. Lawrence, the week of the 21st to 27th with many locations recording snow nearly every day. Baie Comeau had a weekly total of 29.0 cm. On the last day of the month, Bagotville, on the Saguenay River, received 18.2 cm of snow. Hours of bright sunshine were below normal across the province, ranging from 84 to 96% of normal.

Maritimes

Precipitation totals were generally well-above normal with some locations reporting more than double the normal. The exception was near-normal precipitation in northern New Brunswick. In Nova Scotia, Yarmouth reported a total of 266.8 mm, just 6.3 mm from tying their March record, and CFB Greenwood, 197.4 mm, beating the March 1956 record of 151.6 mm. Charlottetown, P.E.I., reported 22 days of measurable precipitation, setting a new record for March; the previous record was 20, set in 1949, 1968 and 1972.

Rainfall totals were well-above normal. Locations which set new record totals for the month of March were: Moncton, N.B., 130.8 mm (old, 94.1 mm, 1979); Charlottetown, P.E.I., 94.6 mm (old, 75.9 mm, 1984); CFB Shearwater, N.S., 203.6 mm (old, 182.9 mm, 1972); CFB Greenwood, N.S., 152.0 mm (old, 110.2 mm, 1986; and

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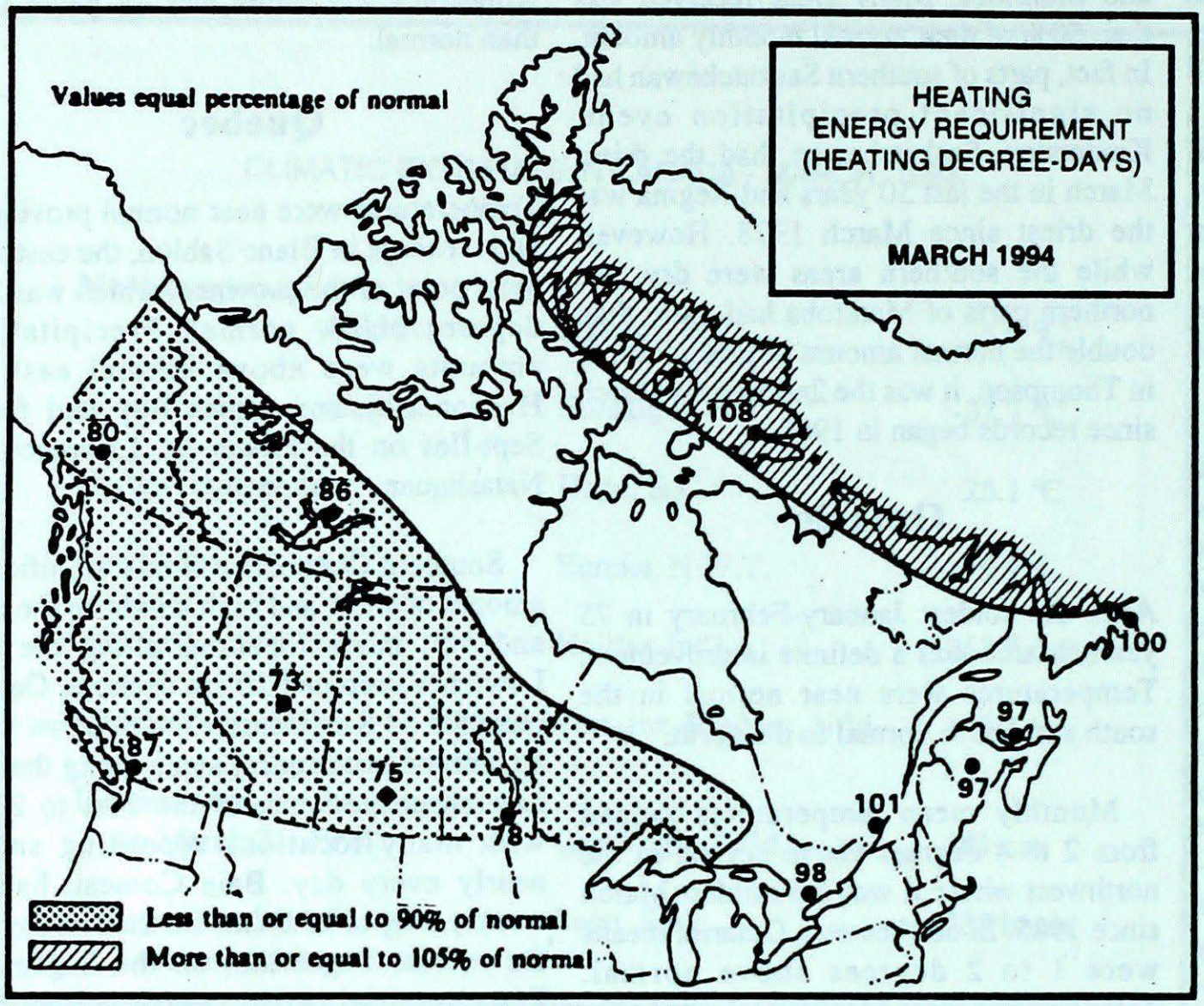
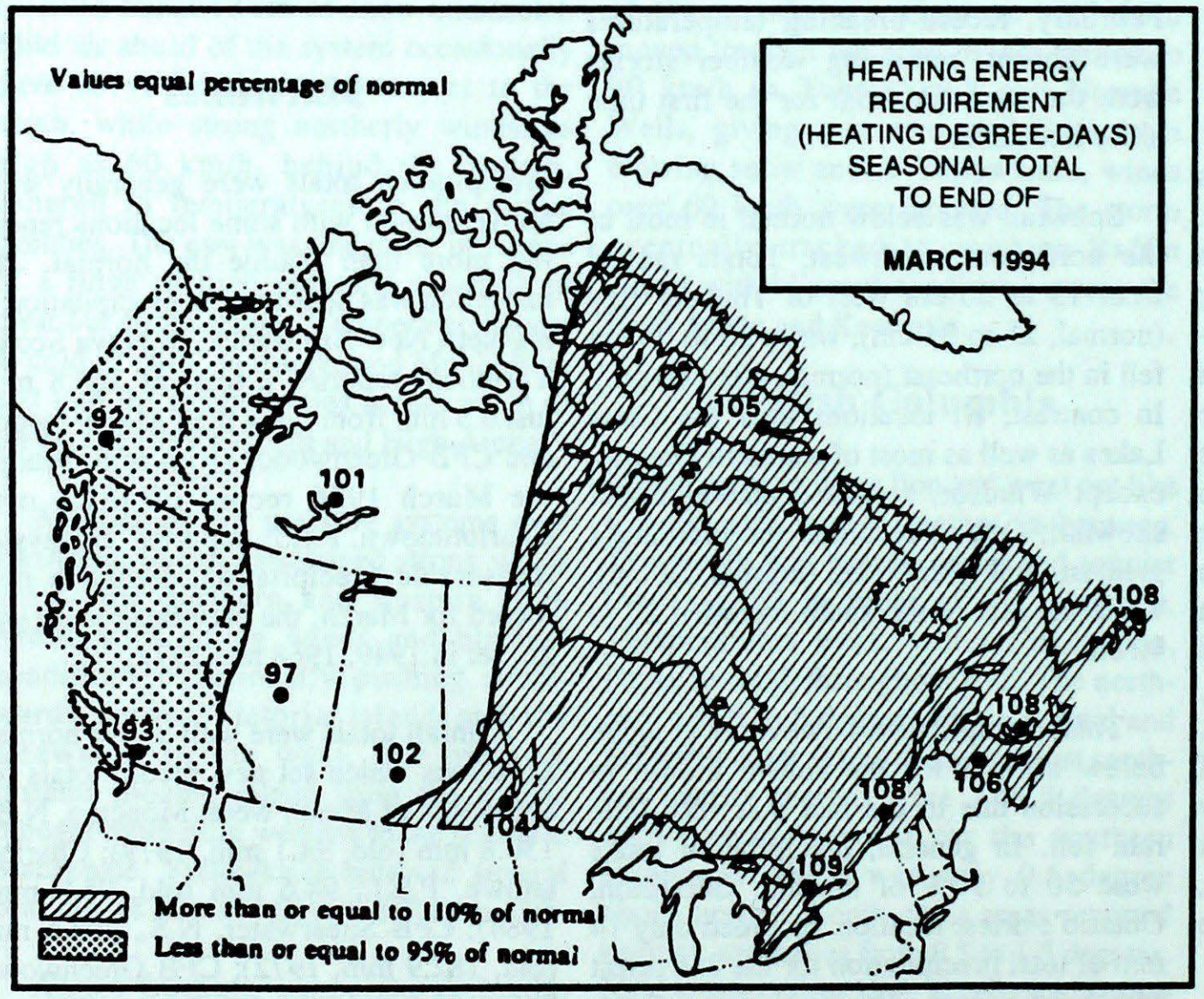


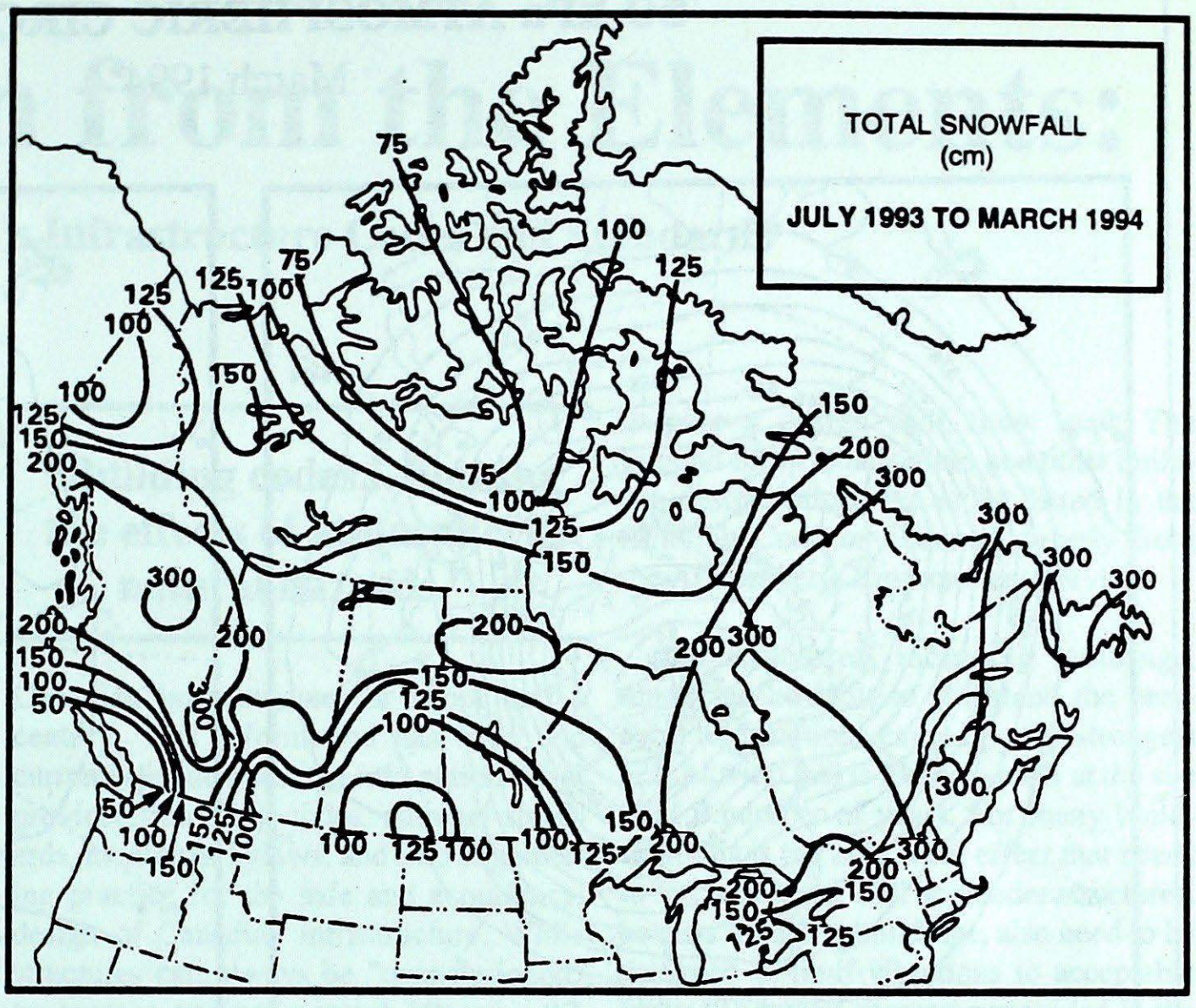


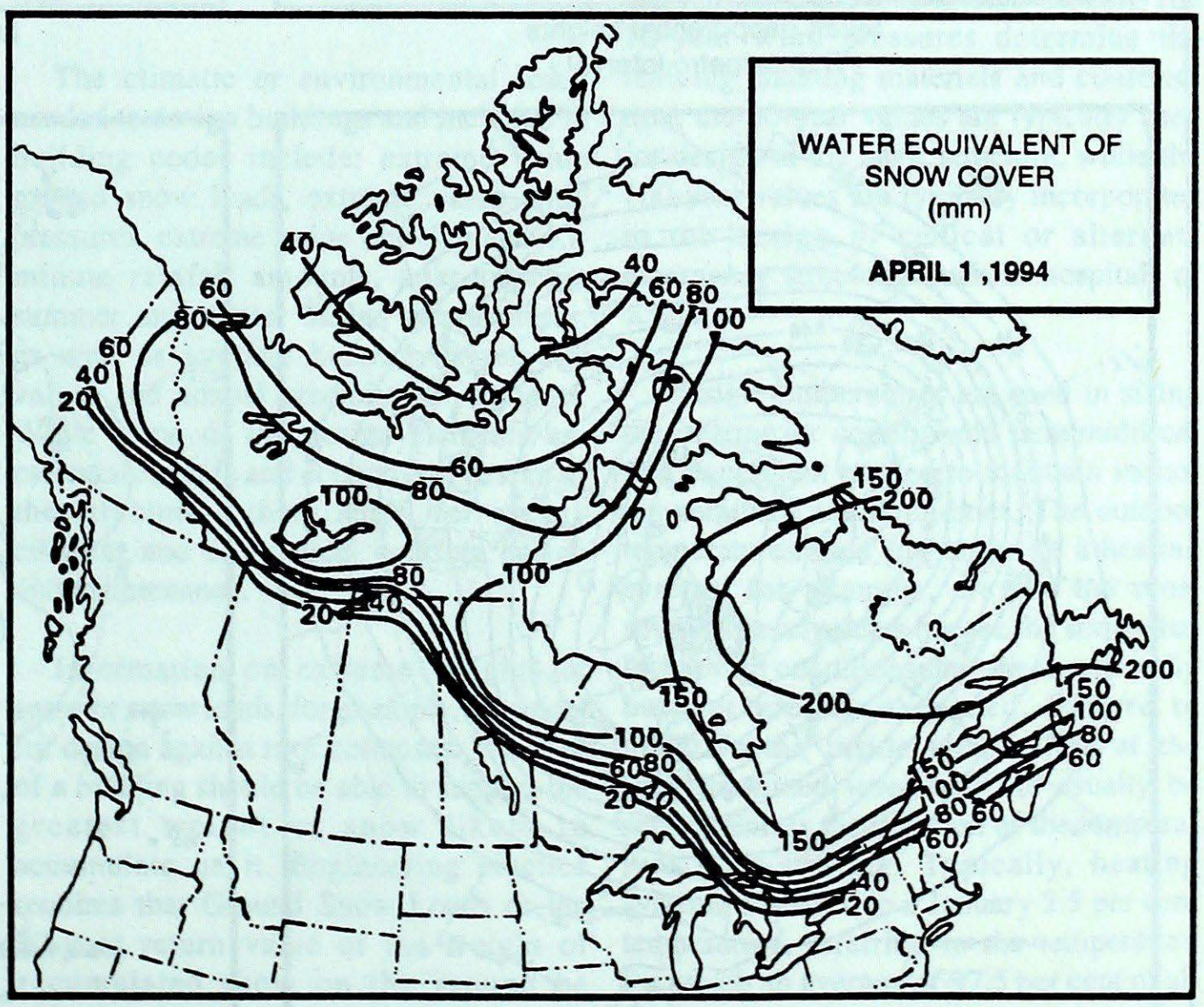
SEASONAL TOTAL OF HEATING DEGREE-DAYS TO END OF MARCH

	1994	1993	NORMAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA			
Kamloops	2931	3586	3271
Penticton	2809	3196	2984
Port Hardy	2594	2797	2879
Vancouver	2271	2477	2454
Victoria	2302	2512	2500
YUKON TERRITORY			
Whitehorse	5412	5775	5909
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES			
Iqaluit	8262	8612	7854
Inuvik	7744	7682	8306
Yellowknife	7235	6606	7184
ALBERTA			
Calgary	4291	4540	4478
Edmonton Mun.	4554	4599	4704
Grande Prairie	4976	5247	5268
SASKATCHEWAN			
Estevan	5195	4970	4727
Regina	5170	5033	5054
Saskatoon	5434	5245	5242
MANITOBA			
Brandon	5547	5394	5276
Churchill	7853	7325	7360
Dauphin	5418	5070	5266
Winnipeg	5295	5190	5116
ONTARIO			
Kapuskasing	5728	5472	5406
London	3744	3585	3484
Ottawa	4352	4157	4037
Sudbury	5028	4697	4590
Thunder Bay	5198	4877	4829
Toronto	3785	3576	3487
Windsor	3344	3113	3114
QUEBEC			
Baie Comeau	5195	5237	4935
Montréal	4237	4093	3907
Québec	4698	4556	4361
Sept-Îles	5434	5506	5035
Sherbrooke	4559	4497	4409
Val-d'Or	5675	5444	5176
NEW BRUNSWICK			
Fredericton	4174	4192	3951
Moncton	4181	4203	3884
NOVA SCOTIA			
Sydney	*	3837	3514
Yarmouth	3325	3540	3236
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			
Charlottetown	4052	4073	3746
NEWFOUNDLAND			
Gander	4374	4520	3962
St. John's	3989	4045	3683

SEASONAL SNOWFALL TOTALS (cm)
TO END OF MARCH

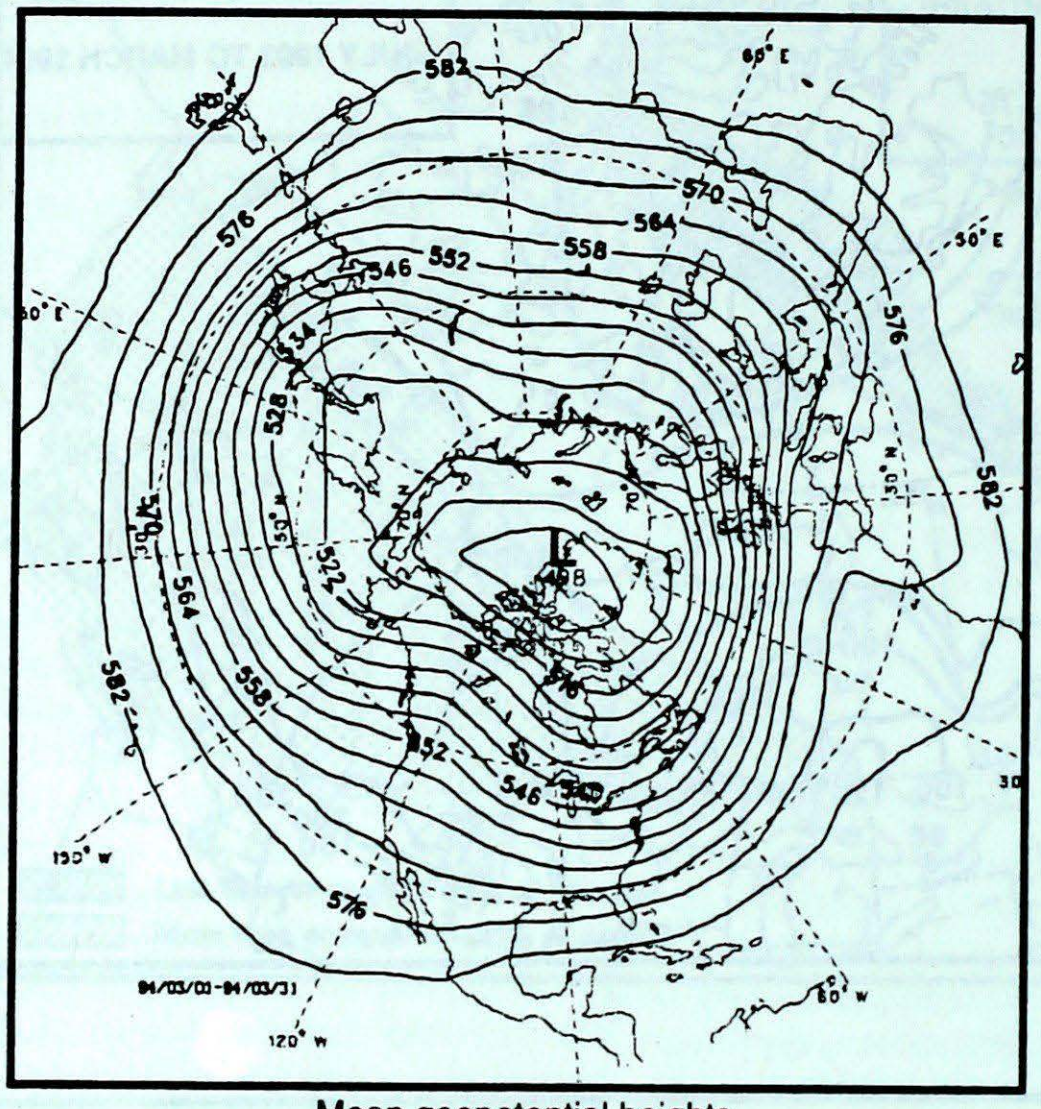
	1994	1993	NORMAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA			
Kamloops	41	91	91
Port Hardy	37	37	71
Prince George	238	233	230
Vancouver	14	68	60
Victoria	23	46	50
YUKON TERRITORY			
Whitehorse	166	183	122
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES			
Iqaluit	144	147	129
Inuvik	148	186	145
Yellowknife	143	122	122
ALBERTA			
Calgary	72	136	116
Edmonton Mun.	137	103	117
Grande Prairie	103	96	164
SASKATCHEWAN			
Estevan	153	100	98
Regina	106	104	102
Saskatoon	*	67	102
MANITOBA			
Brandon	67	77	104
Churchill	*	128	150
The Pas	127	87	145
Winnipeg	73	112	112
ONTARIO			
Kapuskasing	212	251	285
London	102	214	199
Ottawa	261	303	218
Sudbury	217	190	229
Thunder Bay	144	170	193
Toronto	105	136	124
Windsor	125	131	113
QUEBEC			
Baie Comeau	308	168	337
Montréal	257	201	224
Québec	411	217	326
Sept-Îles	388	304	388
Sherbrooke	404	280	289
Val-d'Or	267	196	285
NEW BRUNSWICK			
Fredericton	239	206	268
Moncton	314	320	311
NOVA SCOTIA			
Sydney	311	156	287
Yarmouth	288	243	201
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			
Charlottetown	336	364	301
NEWFOUNDLAND			
Gander	492	420	342
St. John's	305	258	312



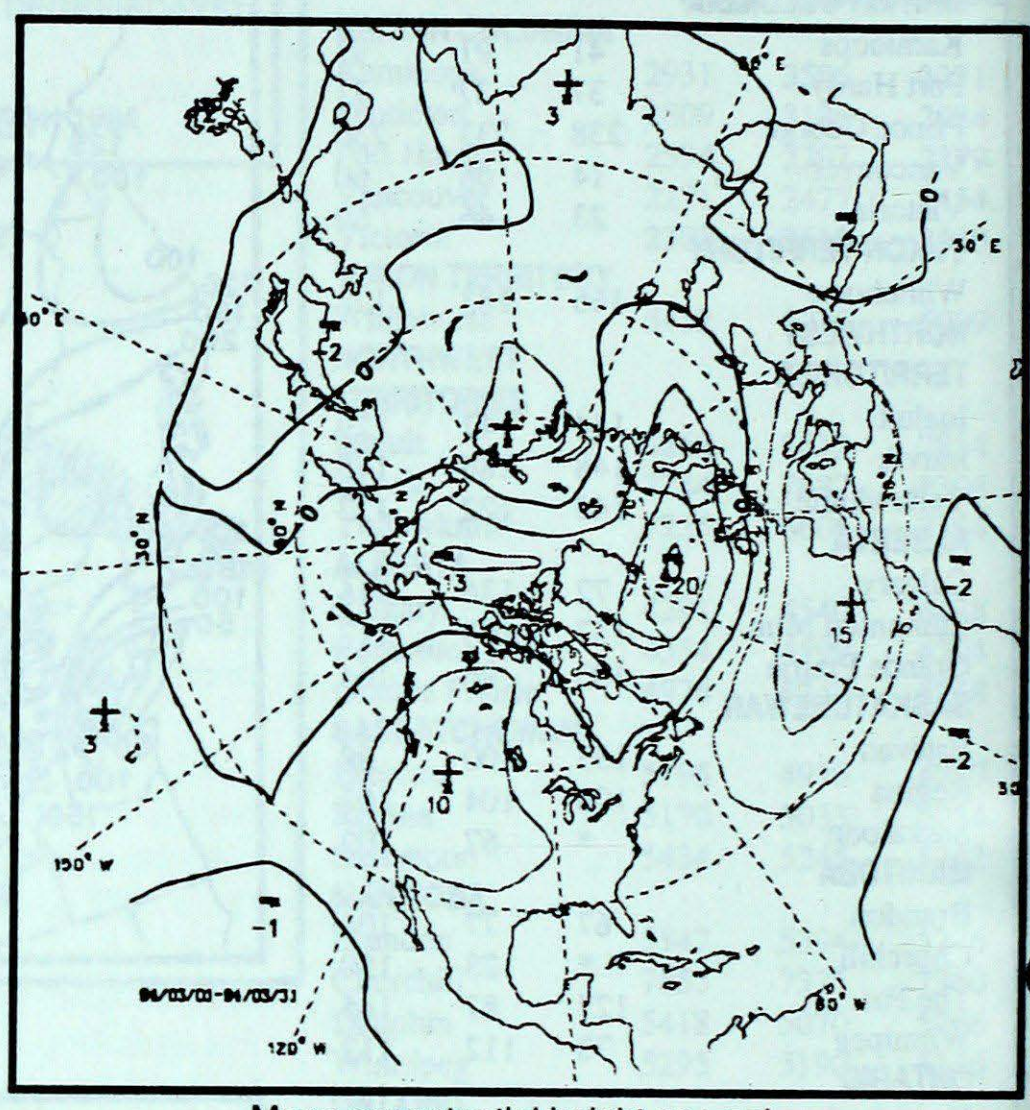


50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

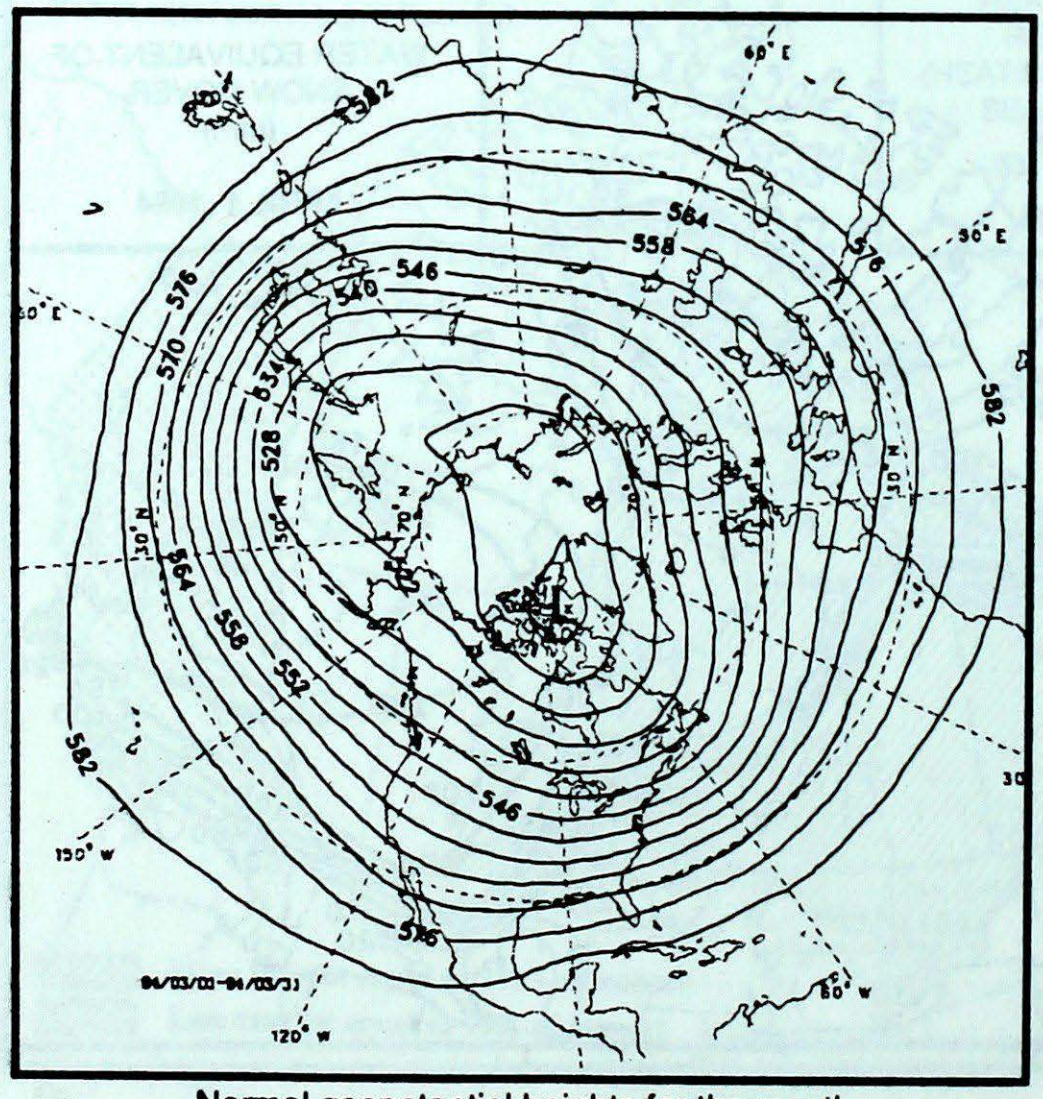
March 1994



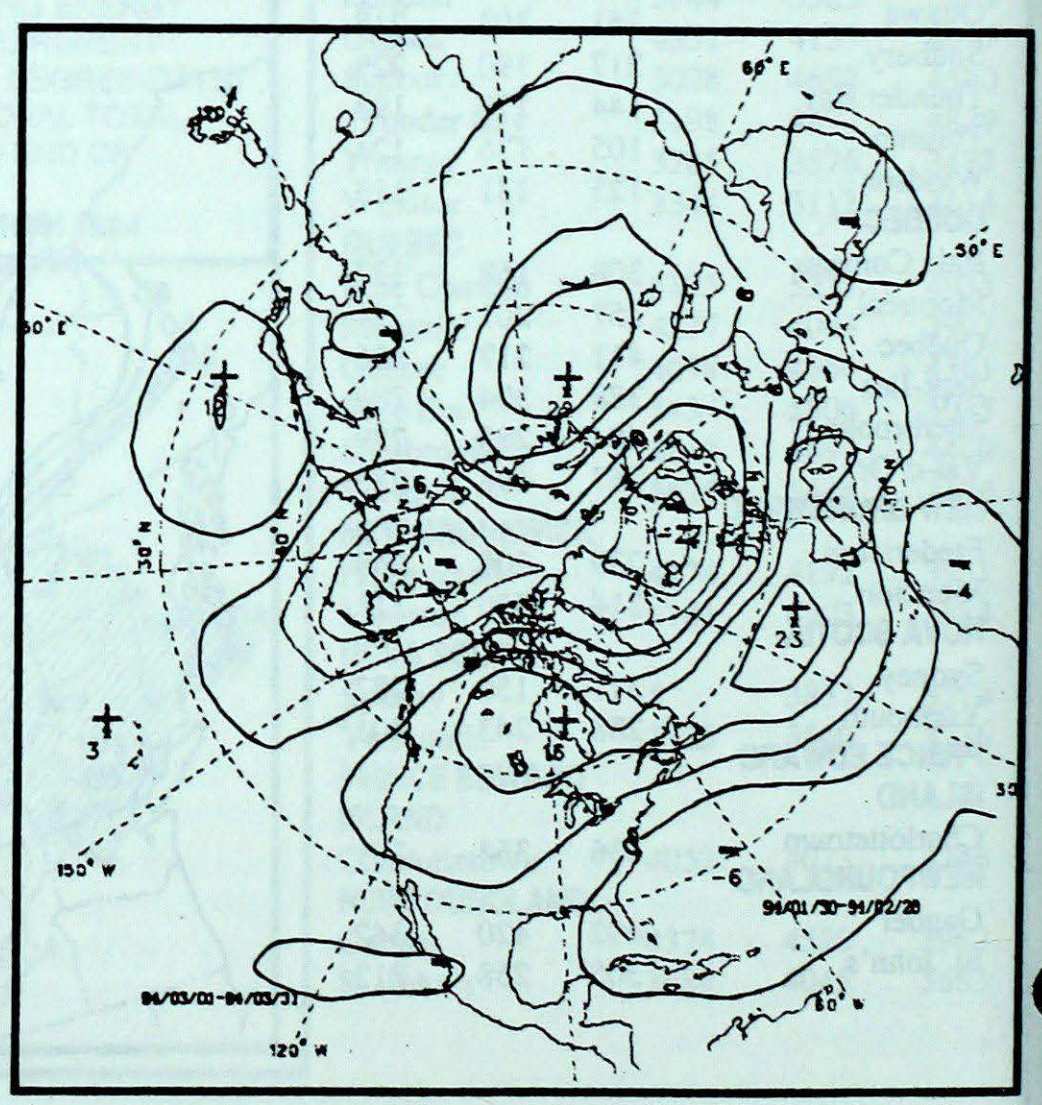
Mean geopotential heights
- 5 decametre interval -



Mean geopotential height anomaly
- 5 decametre interval -



Normal geopotential heights for the month
- 5 decametre interval -



Mean heights difference w/r to previous month
- 5 decametre interval -

Protection from the Elements:

Canada's Infrastructure Codes and Standards

"Extreme events of atmospheric violence can in minutes or hours snuff out lives and destroy structures with enormous impacts to society. These extremes are part of our climate system. ... Usually very little can be done after... disasters strike except for burying the dead, binding the wounds, and clearing the debris. But, in many instances, while the weather cannot be stopped in its tracks, much damage can be prevented by climatological analysis."(H.E. Landsberg, Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, 1984, p. 1081)

While natural atmospheric disasters, or forces of nature over which we have no control, may be inevitable, the losses and damages these hazards engender need not be. Building codes and other infrastructure standards that set minimum specifications for design and construction offer one of the most effective approaches to limiting the effects of atmospheric natural hazards.

When a structure is designed, constructed, and maintained to resist a hazard, then the hazard has minimal impact. Economically designing a structure to withstand these hazards, however, is not a simple matter. Determining what forces the structure will encounter, how construction materials will perform, and how the building elements will interact are problems essentially left to engineers and meteorologists.

The Atmospheric Environment Service of Environment Canada has provided climatic design information to prevent or minimize weather hazard damage to the Canadian infrastructure for about half a century. This information has been and currently is incorporated into national and provincial building codes, national standards, municipal bylaws, and into engineering practice for the safe and economical design of Canadian infrastructure. While structures can always be "over-designed" to protect against natural hazards, the economic costs to society can be prohibitive.

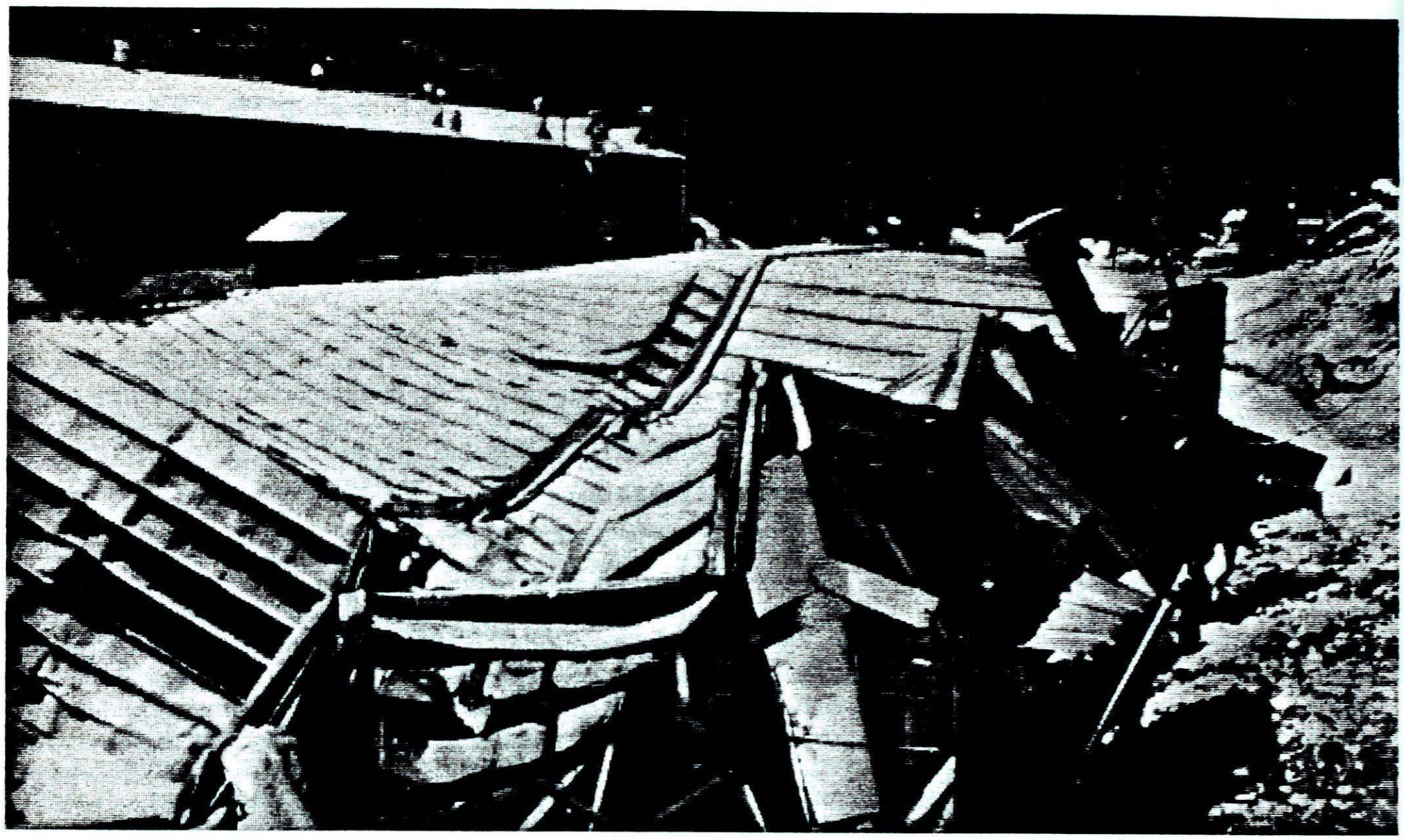
"Building codes... limiting the effects of atmospheric natural hazards."

The climatic or environmental loads needed to design buildings and included in building codes include: extreme value ground snow loads, extreme value wind pressures, extreme value one-day and 15-minute rainfall amounts, near-extreme summer and winter design temperatures, as well as average heating degree-day values and annual precipitation amounts. While some of the design elements are essential for safe and economical design of the structure, others apply for energy efficient and economical building design and maintenance.

Information on extreme weights of snow or snow loads, for example, is critical for design against roof collapses. The roof of a building should be able to support the greatest weight of snow likely to accumulate on it. Engineering practice requires that Ground Snow Loads or the 30-year return value of the weight of accumulated snow on the ground be adjusted according to the roof in question to give a design roof snow load. The Ground Snow Load values and other building design values are either listed in the Building Code or obtained directly from the Atmospheric Environment Service.

All structures, including buildings, must also be built to withstand the pressures and suctions caused by the strongest gust of wind that is likely to blow at the site over a number of years. For many buildings, this is the only wind effect that needs to be considered. Tall or slender structures, such as high-rise buildings, also need to be designed to limit vibrations to acceptable limits. The wind pressures provided in the Building Code include the 10-year, 30-year, and 100-year return values. The 10-year wind pressures determine the building cladding materials and construction, the 30-year values are typically used for design of the basic structure, while the 100-year values are typically incorporated in the design of critical or alternate emergency structures such as hospitals or schools.

Design temperatures are used in sizing the heating or cooling and dehumidification equipment needed to maintain indoor temperatures and humidities. The outdoor temperatures used for design of a heating system, for example, are not the most severe in many years but are the somewhat less severe conditions that are occasionally but not greatly exceeded. Failure to maintain the inside temperature at the pre-determined level will not usually be serious unless the duration of the temperature drop is long. Typically, heating systems are sized to a January 2.5 per cent temperature, referring to the temperature for which an average of 97.5 per cent of all January hourly outside temperatures are



warmer than the design value. In special cases, such as for hospitals or nursing homes, where control of inside temperatures is more critical, the 1 per cent value may be used. Summer design temperatures refer to the July 2.5 per cent temperature and its coincident 2.5 per cent wet bulb temperature.

Rainfall information is required for the design of adequate roof drainage systems and for determination of appropriate building materials and components. While the extreme 15-minute rainfall values determine the sizing of roof drainage systems, the one-day rainfall return values can determine the strength of the roof required should the roof drainage system become ineffective. In some parts of Canada and for some roof designs, the load of the design one-day rainfall can exceed the snow load. The annual precipitation values, which indicate the "moisture" associated with the climate, can be used to specify the limitations of a building material (e.g. a certain roofing material should be limited for use in geographical areas with annual precipitation not exceeding 500 mm).

Heating-degree day information is used to determine the potential average energy consumption of a building. The rate of consumption of fuel or energy required to keep the interior of a small building at 21°C when the outdoor air temperature is below 18°C is roughly proportional to the accumulated difference between 18°C and the outdoor temperature. In addition to outdoor temperatures, solar radiation, wind speed, summer heat and humidity conditions, and internal heat sources also affect the energy required and need to be considered for energy-efficient design. Two National Energy Efficiency Codes, one for residential buildings and another for all other buildings, are planned for publication in 1995 and require use of additional climate information. The National Energy Efficiency Codes also are designed to incorporate the environmental costs of various heating and cooling energy options. In essence, these Codes require implementation of energy efficiency measures for environmental and cost effectiveness reasons. With the incorporation of climate and environmental information, buildings can be designed to withstand the weather elements in the most economical and energy-efficient manner while bringing least harm to the environment.

Enormous social and economic benefits accrue from application of preventative climatology to the housing construction sector. In 1990, the value of housing construction work purchased in Canada amounted to $106 billion or 16% of Gross Domestic Expenditures (GDE) (Statistics Canada, 1992, Canada Year Book, p. 185). If the value of the machinery and equipment protected from the elements by buildings is considered, the proportion of GDE associated annually with housing construction work increases significantly.

The design and construction of other components of Canada's infrastructure, including telecommunication towers, transmission and telephone lines, and

highways and bridges are covered by Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standards. These structures are highly sensitive to wind loads and vibrations and to icing accretion amounts due to freezing precipitation, wet snow, and cloud moisture. Highways and bridges are also sensitive to winter and summer extremes of temperature.

The cost of constructing telecommunication towers reliable against weather hazards is strongly influenced by the climate. For example, construction costs for a small 40 m high guyed tower built in 1991 for the Haliburton Highlands area of southern Ontario would amount to about $60,000-70,000. The costs for constructing a similar tower for Newfoundland sites having twice the icing accretion amounts and wind loading would roughly double.

In conclusion, preventative climatology is truely an activity worthy of research and practice. The economic and social benefits of a safe, reliable, and economically designed infrastructure capable of withstanding the stresses imposed by the elements cannot be overstated.

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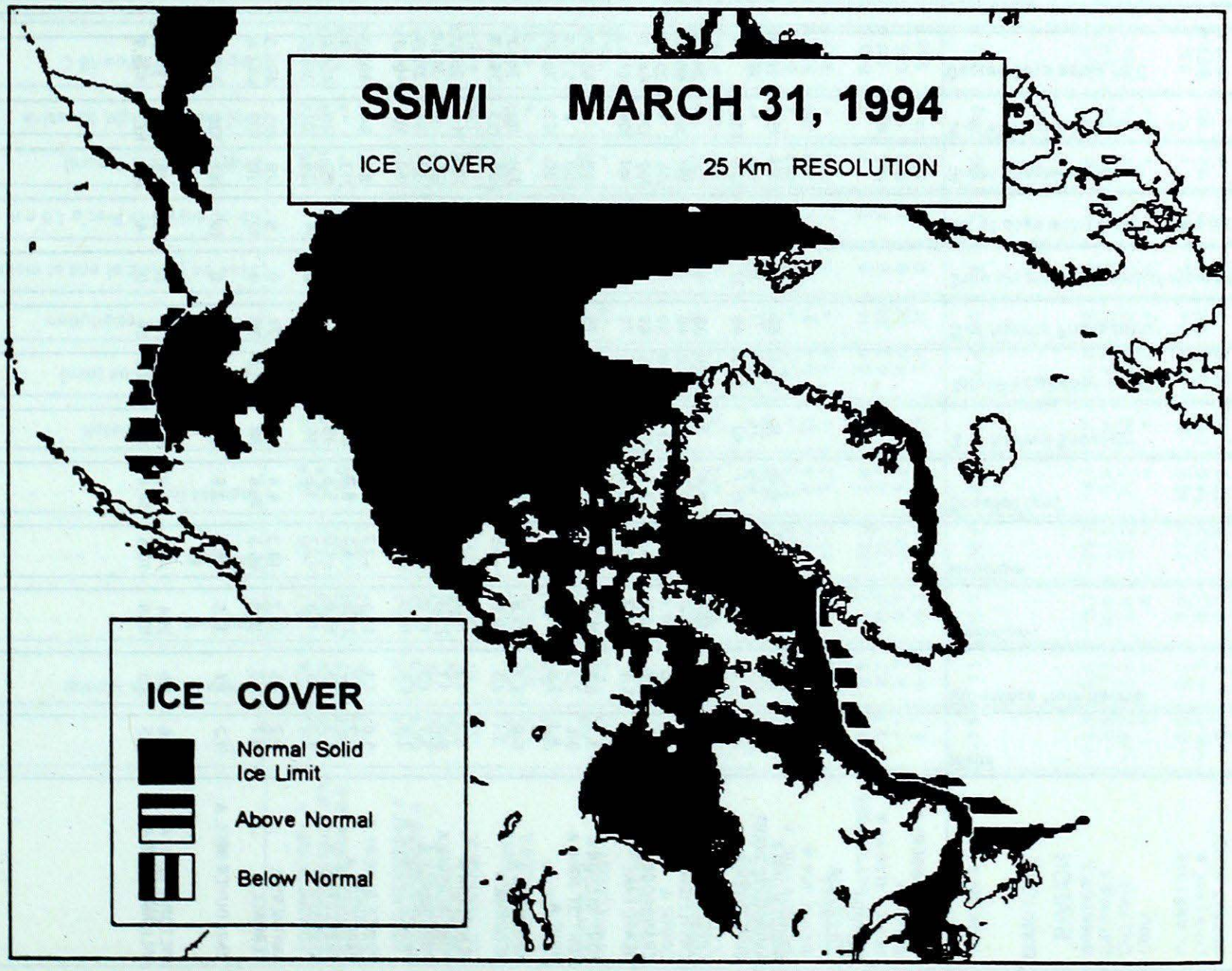
End Of March Ice Image

The long-standing ice pattern on the East Coast continues through the month of March. The slightly-below-normal temperatures experienced on the Coast during March have perpetuated the above-normal sea ice cover. Data gaps that are occurring in the Greenland and North Greenland Seas are indirectly due to a recorder malfunction aboard the satellite.

Arvids Silis
Climate Processes and Observations
Research Division (Arctic)



MARCH 1994

STATION	Temperature C				Snowfall (cm)	% of Normal Snowfall	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	% of Normal Bright Sunshine	Degree Days below 18 C
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
BRITISH COLUMBIA													
ABBOTSFORD A	8.3	2.7	24.9	-2.8	0.0	0	118.0	85	0	12	171	152	301.3
AMPHITRITE POINT	7.7	1.5	15.7	0.0	1.4	31	244.4	71	0	15	*	*	320.8
BLUE RIVER A	2.0	3.0	19.4	-17.5	15.7	42	33.2	49	37	8	128	133	*
CAPE SCOTT	6.8	1.4	17.2	-0.2	0.4	3	242.9	88	0	14	*	*	346.6
CASTLEGAR A	5.1	2.1	20.4	-7.9	2.4	9	23.0	40	0	7	181	147	400.6
COMOX A	6.6	1.6	17.1	-1.9	3.2	31	100.8	90	0	12	155	*	354.0
CRANBROOK A	3.6	2.8	20.0	-9.0	5.5	36	11.6	69	6	5	202	123	446.0
DEASE LAKE	-1.8	5.6	14.2	-18.1	32.0	120	17.6	79	42	5	141	106	613.3
FORT NELSON A	-3.3	6.5	16.6	-20.7	24.4	83	18.4	75	26	4	193	*	659.7
FORT ST JOHN A	0.6	7.2	18.0	-17.8	7.3	22	7.1	24	3	1	200	*	537.9
HOPE A	8.1	2.5	25.1	-2.4	3.0	19	197.7	134	0	15	130	129	307.4
KAMLOOPS A	6.8	3.3	22.8	-5.6	0.3	7	7.0	72	0	2	221	151	346.7
KELOWNA A	5.1	2.5	20.8	-8.6	0.4	6	11.2	56	0	5	206	153	393.9
PENTICTON A	5.1	1.2	18.7	-9.3	0.0	0	14.4	83	0	3	201	144	389.1
PORT ALBERNI A	6.8	1.7	23.3	-4.0	4.4	35	195.4	91	0	13	124	*	349.1
PORT HARDY A	5.7	1.3	19.8	-2.8	0.0	0	171.1	120	0	15	133	132	379.3
PRINCE GEORGE A	2.8	4.6	18.3	-8.7	9.4	31	20.2	55	0	7	162	117	469.4
PRINCE RUPERT A	5.0	1.9	18.5	-2.7	4.8	19	215.3	112	0	17	88	94	402.3
PRINCETON A	4.7	3.7	23.5	-9.5	8.9	68	17.6	93	0	5	213	*	*
REVELSTOKE A	3.3	2.5	18.8	-9.0	5.6	18	60.8	87	0	13	152	149	456.4
SANDSPIT A	5.3	1.4	11.8	-2.7	1.6	14	83.6	84	0	14	129	107	392.0
SMITHERS A	2.2	3.5	17.3	-10.3	9.4	42	19.6	77	0	5	128	105	490.3
TERRACE A	3.7	2.2	16.9	-5.5	14.6	33	111.6	134	0	12	111	102	444.4
VANCOUVER INT'L A	7.2	1.4	17.5	-1.8	2.6	39	103.2	102	0	10	167	130	334.9
VICTORIA INT'L A	7.6	1.9	21.4	-1.8	4.2	69	85.2	119	0	12	178	124	321.7
WILLIAMS LAKE A	2.5	3.5	18.9	-10.6	14.6	67	14.3	64	0	4	167	103	479.9

STATION	Temperature C				Snowfall (cm)	% of Normal Snowfall	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	% of Normal Bright Sunshine	Degree Days below 18 C
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
YUKON TERRITORY													
DAWSON A	-9.5	*	11.1	-33.2	29.0	*	21.6	*	49	11	*	*	*
MAYO A	-6.3	5.4	*	*	*	*	33.7	327	*	*	*	*	*
WHITEHORSE A	-3.1	5.1	10.5	-26.8	24.0	146	13.9	103	3	5	138	90	653.9
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES													
BAKER LAKE A	-25.3	2.6	-12.4	-37.9	12.8	154	9.7	128	34	3	155	82	1340.9
CAMBRIDGE BAY A	-28.3	3.0	-11.5	-41.4	8.6	159	6.8	145	24	3	155	84	1435.9
CLYDE A	-30.2	-3.8	-16.1	-43.1	8.0	133	7.2	120	50	2	209	130	1497.7
COPPERMINE A	-23.5	3.6	-3.8	-34.8	10.2	98	11.0	112	32	6	100	62	1285.0
CORAL HARBOUR A	-26.3	-1.1	-26.3	-40.3	2.2	20	2.2	20	26	0	207	104	1374.2
EUREKA	-37.7	-0.3	-21.4	-49.9	2.2	92	2.0	91	6	1	105	89	1724.7
FORT SIMPSON A	-10.4	4.5	16.1	-31.7	7.8	37	6.4	34	13	2	130	81	881.4
FORT SMITH A	-8.2	6.6	8.0	-35.0	11.6	73	11.2	78	29	5	199	112	810.3
IQALUIT	-26.1	-3.4	-12.1	-39.7	14.0	55	12.2	52	32	2	218	123	1368.7
HALL BEACH A	-31.2	-1.7	-17.0	-43.3	5.4	44	4.2	36	28	2	*	*	1523.7
HAY RIVER A	-11.7	4.6	11.2	-33.0	15.8	82	15.8	86	54	3	*	*	921.7
INUVIK A	-21.9	3.1	4.5	-42.5	31.6	211	26.1	217	51	14	103	59	1237.2
NORMAN WELLS A	-17.3	2.5	7.0	-34.5	12.0	88	12.4	96	11	6	163	96	1094.4
POND INLET A	-32.8	*	-18.4	-47.8	3.6	*	3.6	*	8	2	189	*	1573.9
RESOLUTE A	-33.7	-2.3	-19.6	-48.9	11.8	381	10.8	360	24	4	122	84	1602.0
YELLOWKNIFE A	-14.0	4.9	1.7	-36.9	31.6	219	20.4	165	42	8	172	88	993.8
ALBERTA													
BANFF	1.2	4.6	17.0	-15.5	22.4	90	22.6	108	0	9	*	*	523.2
CALGARY INT'L A	2.5	6.5	18.9	-13.0	12.6	63	8.1	50	0	1	231	143	481.7
COLD LAKE A	-1.7	5.9	14.3	-23.6	11.4	54	8.5	42	13	2	199	116	609.7

MARCH 1994

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	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
EDMONTON INT'L A	-1.1	5.6	15.7	-18.1	3.0	16	3.0	19	0	1	210	122	592.1
EDMONTON MUNICIPAL	1.0	6.0	15.9	-12.0	5.6	*	5.2	28	0	1	211	126	525.7
EDMONTON NAMAO A	0.0	5.6	16.3	-15.3	9.8	57	6.4	36	0	1	*	*	555.4
EDSON A	0.7	5.4	19.5	-16.5	7.8	24	7.0	31	0	1	*	*	537.2
FORT MCMURRAY A	-1.4	7.8	16.3	-24.7	29.6	122	20.8	100	5	4	171	104	599.6
GRANDE PRAIRIE A	-0.9	6.3	11.7	-21.6	7.8	34	8.0	38	17	2	212	*	586.4
HIGH LEVEL A	-3.6	7.4	13.7	-29.5	10.8	51	14.6	74	10	4	185	106	670.6
JASPER	1.8	4.5	18.6	-13.2	10.4	71	20.0	125	0	8	170	*	502.9
LETHBRIDGE A	3.6	5.7	20.6	-11.2	1.2	5	1.2	5	0	0	231	138	448.5
MEDICINE HAT A	3.4	6.2	21.3	-8.9	4.2	23	5.6	30	0	3	202	125	455.2
PEACE RIVER A	-1.7	6.8	10.8	-21.1	4.3	21	5.9	34	6	3	*	*	613.1
RED DEER A	-0.3	5.9	17.1	-17.0	14.2	70	13.0	67	0	4	*	*	568.2
SUFFIELD A	3.0	*	21.1	-9.5	4.4	*	5.5	*	0	2	223	*	465.2
WHITECOURT A	1.3	7.2	18.8	-14.0	6.7	26	5.9	25	0	3	*	*	517.8
SASKATCHEWAN													
BROADVIEW	-2.2	5.9	12.3	-21.7	2.2	12	2.4	15	2	0	201	116	626.8
ESTEVAN A	-1.6	4.3	15.6	-22.0	0.0	0	0.2	1	0	0	193	104	609.6
KINDERSLEY	-2.6	4.0	16.8	-23.4	0.6	4	0.2	1	3	0	224	*	636.5
LA RONGE A	-4.2	6.5	12.7	-27.7	25.8	118	25.4	137	10	5	*	*	685.1
MEADOW LAKE A	-3.3	*	14.4	-32.8	17.0	*	15.6	*	6	2	193	*	660.5
MOOSE JAW A	0.7	6.3	18.5	-18.0	6.0	32	5.4	31	0	1	201	120	538.5
NIPAWIN A	-3.1	*	16.8	-23.5	6.2	*	4.0	*	1	2	180	*	653.7
NORTH BATTLEFORD A	-2.7	5.9	16.2	-25.0	2.4	11	3.0	14	0	1	*	*	640.8
PRINCE ALBERT A	-2.1	8.2	19.8	-25.7	6.7	34	6.3	33	0	2	180	109	617.9
REGINA A	-1.5	6.3	17.3	-20.7	5.0	27	4.0	22	0	1	185	119	605.5
SWIFT CURRENT A	0.7	6.4	19.2	-15.4	4.8	23	7.4	37	0	3	225	144	538.1
YORKTON A	-2.5	7.1	15.7	-20.7	4.0	15	4.4	17	0	1	182	110	777.2
MANITOBA													
BRANDON A	-2.3	6.4	15.1	-20.2	4.1	21	4.0	20	0	1	216	*	628.5
DAUPHIN A	-2.0	7.1	14.4	-21.3	7.4	30	8.0	33	0	2	192	109	618.1
GILLAM A	-14.2	2.3	0.4	-31.2	71.9	230	37.5	190	58	9	*	*	999.5
GIMLI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ISLAND LAKE	-9.0	3.0	7.3	-29.0	18.8	34	16.8	54	5	4	*	*	837.7
LYNN LAKE A	-10.4	4.3	6.3	-30.9	54.6	219	50.6	331	32	8	152	82	883.4
NORWAY HOUSE A	-8.1	*	9.7	-30.0	42.6	*	33.8	*	23	12	*	*	809.4

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	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
THE PAS A	-5.6	5.6	10.5	-28.6	30.0	106	19.6	83	4	6	157	90	730.3
THOMPSON A	-10.9	3.3	8.0	-32.9	47.8	165	43.2	209	56	10	144	74	896.2
WINNIPEG INT'L A	-2.4	5.8	13.0	-20.4	4.2	20	6.0	26	0	3	213	121	631.3
ONTARIO													
EARLTON A	-5.5	2.1	10.1	-18.8	31.1	70	33.2	57	13	7	*	*	728.5
GERALDTON A	-6.3	*	6.9	-25.1	16.0	*	14.3	*	4	3	*	*	751.6
HAMILTON RBG	0.2	*	17.0	-10.5	25.6	*	63.4	*	0	10	148	*	*
HAMILTON A	-1.2	-0.4	16.3	-11.1	35.8	178	58.7	76	0	9	*	*	595.8
KAPUSKASING A	-6.0	3.4	8.0	-23.6	37.5	79	30.6	55	12	11	*	*	744.7
KENORA A	-3.2	3.9	10.5	-19.1	15.2	52	14.8	49	*	6	*	*	652.2
KINGSTON A	-2.5	-0.9	9.3	-17.4	39.8	123	56.6	66	1	8	127	89	634.0
LONDON A	-1.3	-0.4	16.5	-15.0	34.4	123	60.4	80	0	14	123	102	599.9
MUSKOKA A	-3.6	0.2	10.6	-18.4	19.6	53	22.6	34	6	9	*	*	668.8
NORTH BAY A	-4.2	1.1	8.5	-18.6	19.8	51	20.4	33	26	8	155	104	688.1
OTTAWA INT'L A	-2.6	0.4	11.7	-16.9	59.8	168	62.6	93	3	7	165	112	637.5
PETAWAWA A	-4.2	0.1	12.1	-24.4	20.2	67	23.9	36	*	7	*	*	685.7
PETERBOROUGH A	-2.2	0.3	13.9	-18.8	38.8	167	50.2	70	*	12	*	*	622.5
PICKLE LAKE	-7.3	3.4	8.6	-24.7	17.0	44	16.0	38	13	4	*	*	782.9
RED LAKE A	-5.8	2.9	11.0	-25.0	27.0	113	23.4	81	12	6	190	*	739.5
ST CATHARINES A	0.2	-0.9	17.6	-11.6	23.4	131	58.0	71	0	11	147	*	553.1
SARNIA A	0.1	-0.2	16.7	-13.4	26.2	119	59.5	88	0	12	137	107	557.4
SAULT STE MARIE A	-4.4	0.5	9.2	-19.5	37.1	122	37.0	63	5	10	134	89	696.1
SIOUX LOOKOUT A	-5.1	3.2	10.8	-22.2	23.0	71	22.6	65	16	4	*	*	713.5
SUDBURY A	-4.9	1.1	7.3	-18.9	27.2	78	38.2	69	18	5	145	95	710.8
THUNDER BAY A	-2.9	3.4	10.7	-17.5	39.0	114	33.6	75	5	7	172	99	652.7
TIMMINS A	-5.7	2.7	9.6	-22.3	54.0	100	48.9	83	29	6	*	*	715.1
TORONTO	1.0	*	14.2	-9.7	28.8	*	55.0	*	0	7	*	*	528.9
TORONTO INT'L A	-0.9	0.1	15.2	-13.0	29.0	130	49.2	81	0	9	*	*	581.5
TORONTO ISLAND A	0.2	*	11.7	-9.8	26.4	124	46.2	*	0	8	*	*	533.0
TRENTON A	-1.3	-0.3	12.3	-16.0	30.6	115	57.0	79	*	11	*	*	543.7
WATERLOO WELLINGTON	-2.0	-0.1	14.9	-13.4	34.0	140	59.8	73	0	10	*	*	619.9
WAWA A	-6.0	*	4.3	-22.2	51.8	*	58.0	*	44	8	*	*	744.1
WIARTON A	-3.3	-0.5	10.8	-18.6	41.3	96	50.9	78	6	10	158	115	664.7
WINDSOR A	1.9	0.7	20.4	-10.3	13.8	69	60.6	85	0	9	*	*	498.9

MARCH 1994

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QUEBEC													
BAGOTVILLE A	-6.1	0.4	5.5	-25.9	77.2	161	56.8	110	38	13	*	*	746.2
BAIE COMEAU A	-5.9	0.8	4.1	-23.2	75.4	125	72.8	94	57	12	144	96	740.7
BLANC SABLON A	-8.6	-2.8	1.9	-24.4	84.6	102	89.2	79	20	16	105	*	822.8
GASPE A	-5.5	*	6.4	-25.7	115.5	*	139.7	*	97	15	*	*	729.5
KUUJJUAQ A	-19.4	-1.7	1.6	-34.1	31.2	116	31.2	120	36	9	174	106	1157.9
KUUJJUARAPIK A	-16.2	0.9	2.3	-40.6	52.2	258	49.2	234	36	13	142	84	1061.6
LA GRANDE IV A	-15.0	*	5.2	-42.7	43.0	*	37.6	*	60	14	149	*	1023.2
LA GRANDE RIVIERE A	-13.5	*	1.7	-32.6	41.8	*	41.8	*	85	10	149	*	976.9
MONT JOLI A	-4.7	0.3	4.8	-20.7	73.6	116	74.4	103	22	12	136	105	702.3
MONTREAL INT'L A	-3.0	-0.5	8.7	-20.6	47.2	132	64.4	88	0	11	142	92	651.4
MONTREAL MIRABEL I/	-3.7	*	9.2	-23.4	40.0	*	51.0	*	10	12	177	*	671.5
NATASHQUAN A	-7.6	-1.4	4.5	-27.3	76.0	133	99.6	123	65	14	130	91	796.5
QUEBEC A	-3.7	0.8	6.1	-21.6	51.4	95	63.8	78	64	9	119	85	671.7
ROBERVAL A	-6.3	0.6	6.4	-24.9	36.7	62	38.4	63	2	10	146	*	754.0
SEPT-ILES A	-7.2	-0.6	3.4	-27.5	94.4	135	115.8	140	57	13	141	92	782.4
SHERBROOKE A	-3.9	0.1	10.2	-28.1	90.6	170	78.4	99	47	10	109	*	678.5
ST HUBERT A	-3.1	-0.7	9.5	-22.2	43.2	*	65.0	82	2	10	139	*	653.5
VAL D'OR A	-7.6	0.7	9.2	-25.3	49.8	104	43.4	74	43	10	135	87	793.7
NEW BRUNSWICK													
CHARLO A	-5.1	0.4	7.5	-23.3	95.7	126	87.6	95	25	13	117	79	719.4
FREDERICTON A	-2.1	0.3	7.7	-20.5	67.5	139	167.0	197	1	15	*	*	622.3
MONCTON A	-2.5	0.4	9.8	-19.4	86.6	128	218.4	195	9	16	90	66	636.2
SAINT JOHN A	-2.1	0.4	8.3	-20.1	75.0	150	216.2	189	0	16	89	62	622.1

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NOVA SCOTIA													
GREENWOOD A	-0.3	0.6	15.5	-17.9	39.8	83	197.4	235	0	15	*	*	568.5
HALIFAX INT'L A	-1.1	0.5	12.5	-15.7	52.9	116	263.3	205	0	20	*	*	589.9
SABLE ISLAND	1.1	0.4	11.4	-13.6	19.6	69	215.6	185	0	17	86	74	525.2
SHEARWATER A	-0.5	0.3	11.1	-15.4	40.9	105	243.2	208	0	18	108	73	571.5
SYDNEY A	-2.6	-0.1	10.4	-21.1	53.7	84	194.0	148	4	18	113	90	637.6
YARMOUTH A	0.2	-0.1	11.0	-11.6	32.8	100	266.8	271	0	16	111	81	550.1
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND													
CHARLOTTETOWN A	-2.6	0.5	8.3	-19.6	63.9	104	154.9	163	2	16	*	*	638.7
NEWFOUNDLAND													
BONAVISTA	-3.1	-0.4	10.0	-16.0	69.0	176	162.2	186	25	13	*	*	654.3
BURGEO	-2.9	-0.3	5.3	-18.0	49.4	103	217.2	143	17	18	*	*	647.9
CARTWRIGHT	-9.9	-1.8	7.2	-28.3	42.0	49	52.8	57	101	16	145	116	862.8
COMFORT COVE	-4.8	-1.2	9.4	-22.4	81.6	118	135.2	135	75	15	*	*	706.8
DANIELS HARBOUR	-4.9	-0.4	10.5	-19.0	60.5	99	102.6	136	14	16	121	106	721.1
DEER LAKE A	-5.5	-1.0	8.4	-28.2	89.0	164	113.7	143	40	15	*	*	717.0
GANDER INT'L A	-4.8	-1.3	9.1	-20.8	115.2	159	154.2	140	43	17	104	100	707.8
GOOSE A	-9.8	-1.2	8.2	-31.0	58.2	78	67.1	93	20	11	155	121	860.1
MARY'S HARBOUR	-8.4	-1.9	3.7	-26.3	31.4	42	42.8	47	65	10	*	*	816.7
PORT AUX BASQUES	-2.4	0.3	5.4	-16.5	143.4	279	244.6	234	14	20	83	*	645.5
ST ANTHONY	-7.0	-0.3	1.5	-23.0	87.1	141	91.7	88	53	15	*	*	791.1
ST JOHN'S A	-2.5	-0.2	12.7	-17.8	45.7	70	222.4	169	13	17	106	*	633.1
ST LAWRENCE	-2.1	-0.3	6.7	-17.0	21.7	49	210.8	178	7	13	*	*	621.7
STEPHENVILLE A	-3.8	-1.0	7.2	23.3	81.5	139	129.5	159	28	15	*	*	667.0
WABUSH LAKE A	-13.0	0.8	-3.7	-36.0	57.7	*	52.8	93	49	8	168	*	961.4

AGROCLIMATOLOGICAL STATIONS — MARCH 1994

STATION	Temperature C				Snowfall (cm)	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	Degree days above 5 C	
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum							This month	Since jan. 1st
BRITISH COLUMBIA												
AGASSIZ	8.9	2.8	24.5	-1.0	1.0	170.8	116	0	14	157	122.3	180.1
SUMMERLAND	*		18.5	-6.5	0.0	11.0	74	0	4	207	56.5	59.3
ALBERTA												
BEAVERLODGE	0.2	6.3	14.5	-17.0	3.0	2.4	10	7	2	214	5.3	5.3
LACOMBE	0.2	6.2	18.0	-15.0	5.1	5.1	27	0	3	**	6.2	6.2
SASKATCHWAN												
INDIAN HEAD	-1.8	6.1	14.0	-21.0	2.2	1.8	8	0	1	**	0.3	0.3
MELFORT	-5.2	5.0	16.0	-26.0	4.2	4.8	27	0	2	157	2.5	2.5
SCOTT	-4.7	4.2	12.0	-26.0	0.4	0.4	2	10	0	238	0.0	0.0
SWIFT CURRENT	0.8	5.5	19.0	-15.5	2.6	6.0	39	0	4	180	9.0	9.0
MANITOBA												
BRANDON	-1.9	6.5	15.2	-20.9	2.0	2.4	10	0	0	**	0.6	0.6
MORDEN	-1.2	7.8	13.0	-17.0	12.6	15.0	63	3	***	3	*.*	*.*
GLENLEA	-3.0	3.7	13.0	-22.0	3.2	3.2	11	0	1	197	0.0	0.0
ONTARIO												
DELHI	-0.8	-0.5	14.5	-17.0	35.2	74.4	88	0	13	**	7.6	13.7
ELORA	0.0	2.7	*****	*.*	0.0	6.7	9	***	***	**	*.*	*.*
HARROW	0.8	-0.4	19.0	-13.0	31.4	85.8	115	0	10	169	13.1	18.6
KAPUSKASING	-6.6	3.0	6.5	-24.0	42.0	39.4	73	11	11	131	1.5	1.5
OTTAWA	-2.7	0.2	11.4	-20.3	51.0	57.0	96	9	8	165	2.9	5.6
SMITHFIELD	-0.6	0.8	13.0	-13.5	39.2	67.2	79	0	10	**	2.5	2.7

Courtesy of Agriculture Canada

STATION	Temperature C				Snowfall (cm)	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	Degree days above 5 C	
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum							This month	Since jan. 1st
QUEBEC												
LA POCATIERE	-3.9	0.5	6.0	-25.0	46.9	50.0	74	9	12	130	0.0	3.5
NORMANDIN	-8.6	0.1	3.7	-29.1	*.*	41.0	69	35	15	149	0.0	0.0
NEW BRUNSWICK												
FREDERICTON	-1.7	0.8	8.0	-20.0	80.6	147.0	181	3	11	101	0.0	10.0
NOVA SCOTIA												
KENTVILLE	-0.1	0.9	13.5	-17.0	36.9	226.5	230	0	15	84	5.6	11.0
NAPPAN	-1.5	0.8	11.0	-21.0	65.5	203.5	226	0	16	95	2.0	6.5
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND												
CHARLOTTETWN	*.*	*.*	*.*	*.*	*.*	*.*	**	***	***	**	*.*	*.*
NEWFOUNDLAND												
ST.JOHN'S WEST	-2.0	0.0	12.5	-17.0	30.4	203.6	135	5	16	99	0.0	0.0

Courtesy of Agriculture Canada

... continued from page 5

Halifax, 213.8 mm (old, 186.5 mm, 1979). The heavy rains combined with melting snow and ice-jams causing a number of rivers in Nova Scotia to overflow and subsequent severe flooding in a number of areas. Snowfall totals were generally above normal in New Brunswick but were close to normal in Nova Scotia and P.E.I.

Temperatures were near normal, while sunshine hours were well-below normal. Saint John, New Brunswick, reported only 88.6 hours, 56.9 hours below normal and the lowest March sunshine total since records began in 1953. The previous record was 91.3 hours, set in 1958.

Newfoundland and Labrador

In Newfoundland, March was a month of above-normal precipitation, near-normal sunshine and variable temperatures. Precipitation was heavy at times in the south and east with monthly totals of 143 to 234% of normal. In St. John's, a record 67.5 mm of rain was measured on the 11th, with the total monthly precipitation of 222.4 mm being a record for March. Snowfall totals in central and western locations ranged from 80 to 115 cm, about 25 cm above normal.

Temperatures varied during the month with a maximum of 12.7°C at St. John's and a minimum of -32°C at Badger. Prevailing westerly winds maintained a 50 km open water lead along the east coast, however, the west coast and Gulf of St. Lawrence remained congested with heavy pack ice.

In Labrador, frequent sunshine, light precipitation and below-normal temperatures highlighted the month's weather. Light snow was common early in the month, whereas sunny skies dominated the latter part of the month as high pressure prevailed. Total monthly snowfall was 30 to 40 cm at coastal locations, about 50% of normal. Goose Bay recorded 58.2 cm, 20 cm below normal.

Temperatures varied during the month with the warm spot being Goose Bay at 8.2°C and the cold spot being Wabush lake at -36.0°C. Overall, mean temperatures for the month were close to normal. Sunshine was frequent, especially during the latter half of the month, with totals near 160 hours, about 25 hours above normal.