



Environment
Canada

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A WEEKLY REVIEW OF CANADIAN CLIMATE

Atmospheric
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atmosphérique

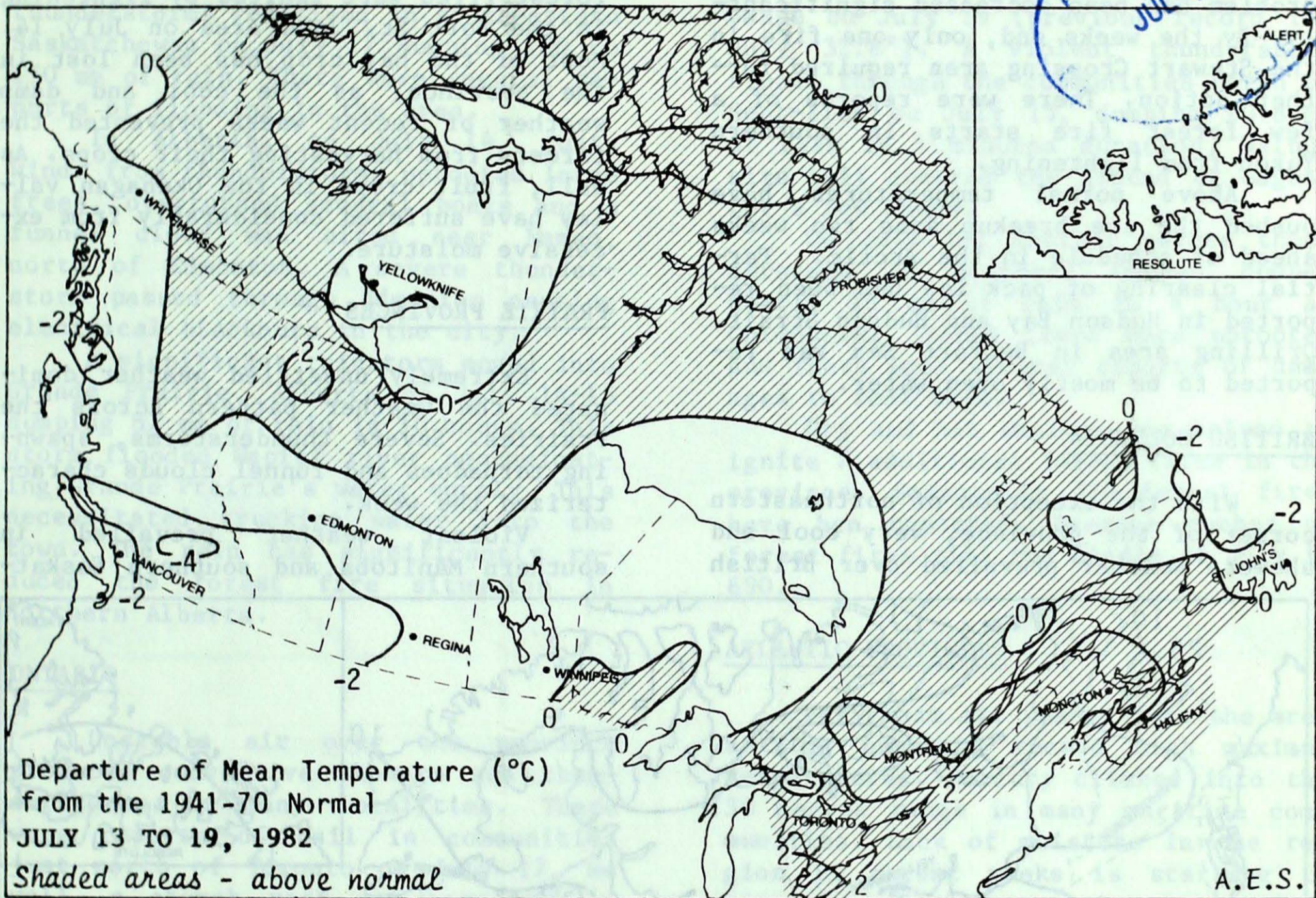
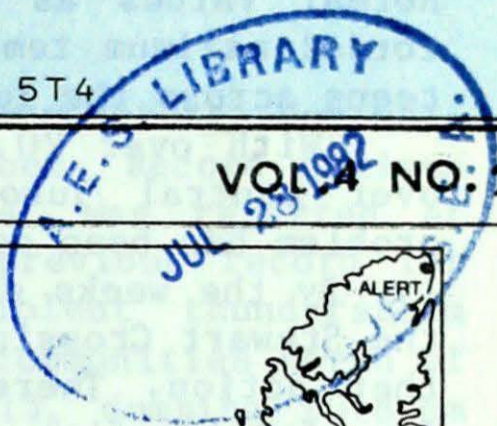
CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

Canada

THE CANADIAN CLIMATE CENTRE,
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT SERVICE,
4905 DUFFERIN ST., DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3H 5T4

JULY 23 1982

(Aussi disponible en français)



WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD - JULY 13-19, 1982

Severe thunderstorms strike prairie provinces

Outbreak of tornadoes associated by violent winds, up to baseball size hail and heavy downpour passed through communities in southwestern Manitoba. There were reports of damages to mobile homes and barns, as well as a few granaries were levelled.

A significant rainstorm flooded Wapiti river and contaminated Grande Prairie's water supply in Alberta. In addition, severe thunderstorms uprooted large trees and caused power blackouts in and near Edmonton, Alberta.

There were similar reports of damages to roof tops and trees both in Ontario and Québec from violent thunderstorms.

Most of the hay crop in British Columbia has been lost due to the recent cool and showery weather.

Temperatures ranged from a high of 35° at Chatham, New Brunswick to a low of -4° at Cape Hooper, Northwest Territories. Greatest precipitation of the week, equalling 115 mm, fell at Brandon, Manitoba.

NOTE: The data shown in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian and 115 northern United States Synoptic stations.

YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The abnormally high temperatures of the past few weeks dropped to near normal values as most localities recorded maximum temperatures in the mid teens across the Yukon.

With over 20 mm of rain recorded over central Yukon, the forest fire problem has been decreased significantly. By the weeks end, only one fire in the Stewart Crossing area required further action. There were reports of a few forest fire starts in southern Yukon from lightening.

Above normal temperatures have pushed the ice breakup some two weeks ahead of schedule in the Arctic. Partial clearing of pack ice has been reported in Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait. Drilling area in Beufort Sea was reported to be mostly open water.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

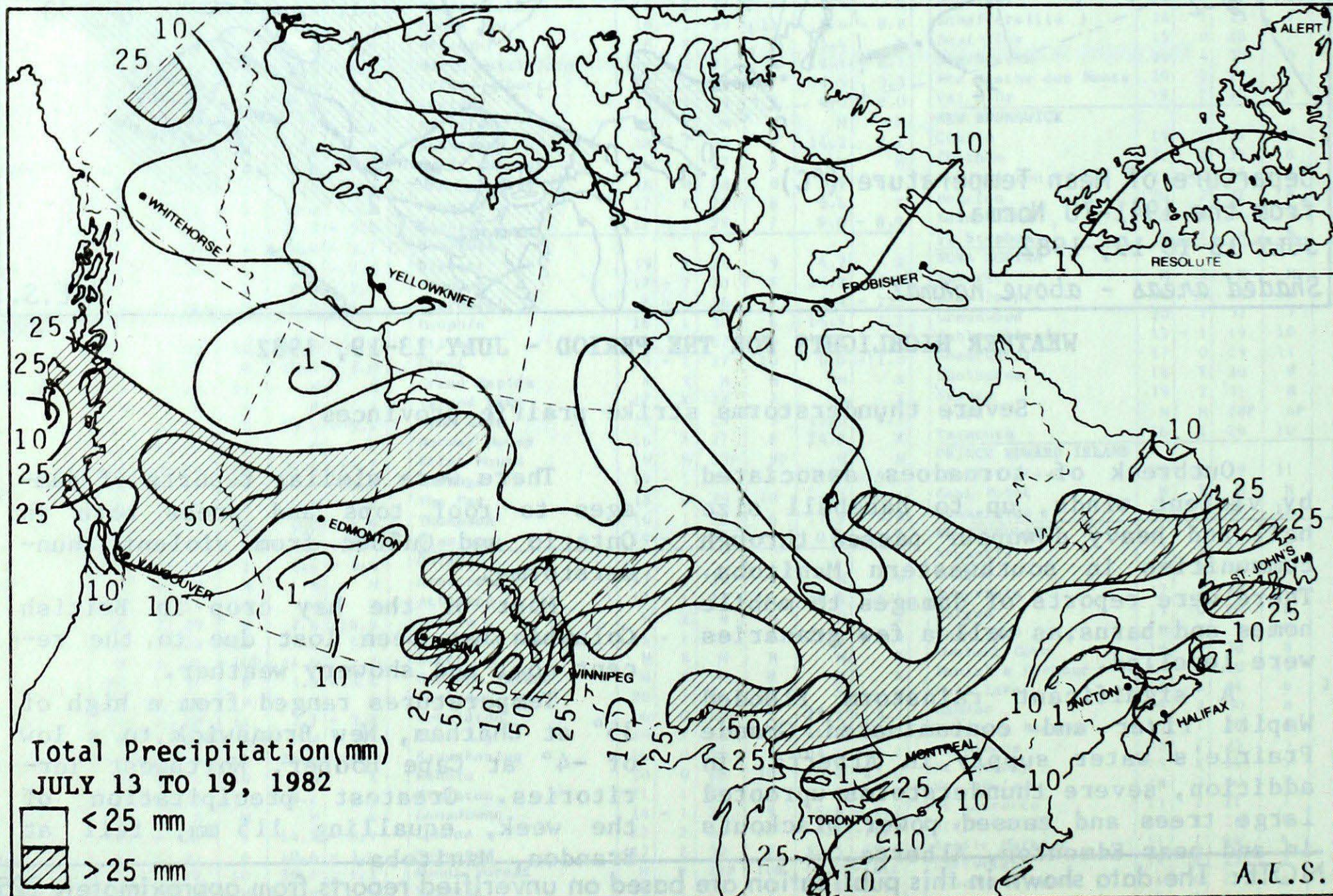
With the exception of northeastern corner of the province, very cool and showery weather prevailed over British

Columbia. While much below normal temperatures over the week set record low minimum temperatures at Penticton and Kamloops on July 14 and 15, extensive cloud cover, on the other hand, set record high minimum temperature at Kamloops on July 12 and 18. Kelowna received 86 mm of rain up to July 18 (previous record 57 mm for July). Some forest fires were ignited by lightening in the Fort St. John area on July 14. Most of the hay crop has been lost in the province, as the cool and damp weather of recent weeks prevented the farmers from harvesting their crops. As well, fruit crops in the Okanagan valley have suffered considerably from excessive moisture.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Extremely unsettled weather dominated the weather pattern across the Prairies. Severe thunderstorms, spawning tornadoes and funnel clouds characterized the week.

Violent weather prevailed in southern Manitoba and southern Saskat-



chewan between July 15 to July 17. Golf ball size hail, gusty winds and heavy downpour were reported in southwestern Manitoba, area south of Brandon reported base ball size hail on July 16. Brandon received over 100 mm of rain. In addition a few tornadoes in southwestern Manitoba damaged mobile homes, barns and uprooted large trees. Severe thunderstorms reactivated in southeastern Saskatchewan on July 17 dumping 100 to 150 mm of rain. There were several reports of flooding in the area.

In Alberta, on July 14, gusty winds from thunderstorms uprooted large trees, overturned several boats and a funnel cloud was sighted near Namao, north of Edmonton. A severe thunderstorm passed through Edmonton causing electrical blackouts in the city.

A significant rainstorm moved into Grande Prairie, Alberta on July 14-15 dumping 87 mm of rain in 30 hours. This storm flooded Wapiti river contaminating Grande Prairie's water supply. This necessitated trucking water into the town. The rain has significantly reduced the forest fire situation in northern Alberta.

ONTARIO

Unstable air over the province produced convective showers and thunderstorms in many localities. There were reports of hail in communities just north of Toronto on July 17, as well, a church roof was torn off in Brockville on July 18.

Toronto International established the lengthiest dry spell for the month of July, 17 consecutive days with no

measurable precipitation. To date, Forest fire season is reported to be one of the quietest this year.

QUÉBEC

Above normal temperatures dominated the week in Québec. Record maximum temperature of 33.4° was reported at Gaspé on July 19 (previous record for July 32.8°). A violent thunderstorm ripped through the communities north of Sept-Îles on July 15, dumping 10.8 mm of rain in 5 minutes duration. Walnut size hail covered the ground at Gagnon for a few hours.

On July 18, another severe thunderstorm in southern Québec dumped nearly 25 mm of rain in ½ hour at Chicoutimi, large trees were uprooted and there were several reports of damages to roof tops.

Dry and hot weather has helped to ignite 7 additional forest fires in the province. Seasonally 736 forest fires have been reported. Average number of forest fires till the middle of July is 690.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Very warm air pushed into the area setting numerous record high maximum temperatures. Mercury climbed into the 30 degree range in many maritime communities. Lack of moisture in the region in recent weeks is starting to have adverse affect on the crop in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Due to dry and hot weather, tobacco crop is doing quite well in Prince Edward Island.

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

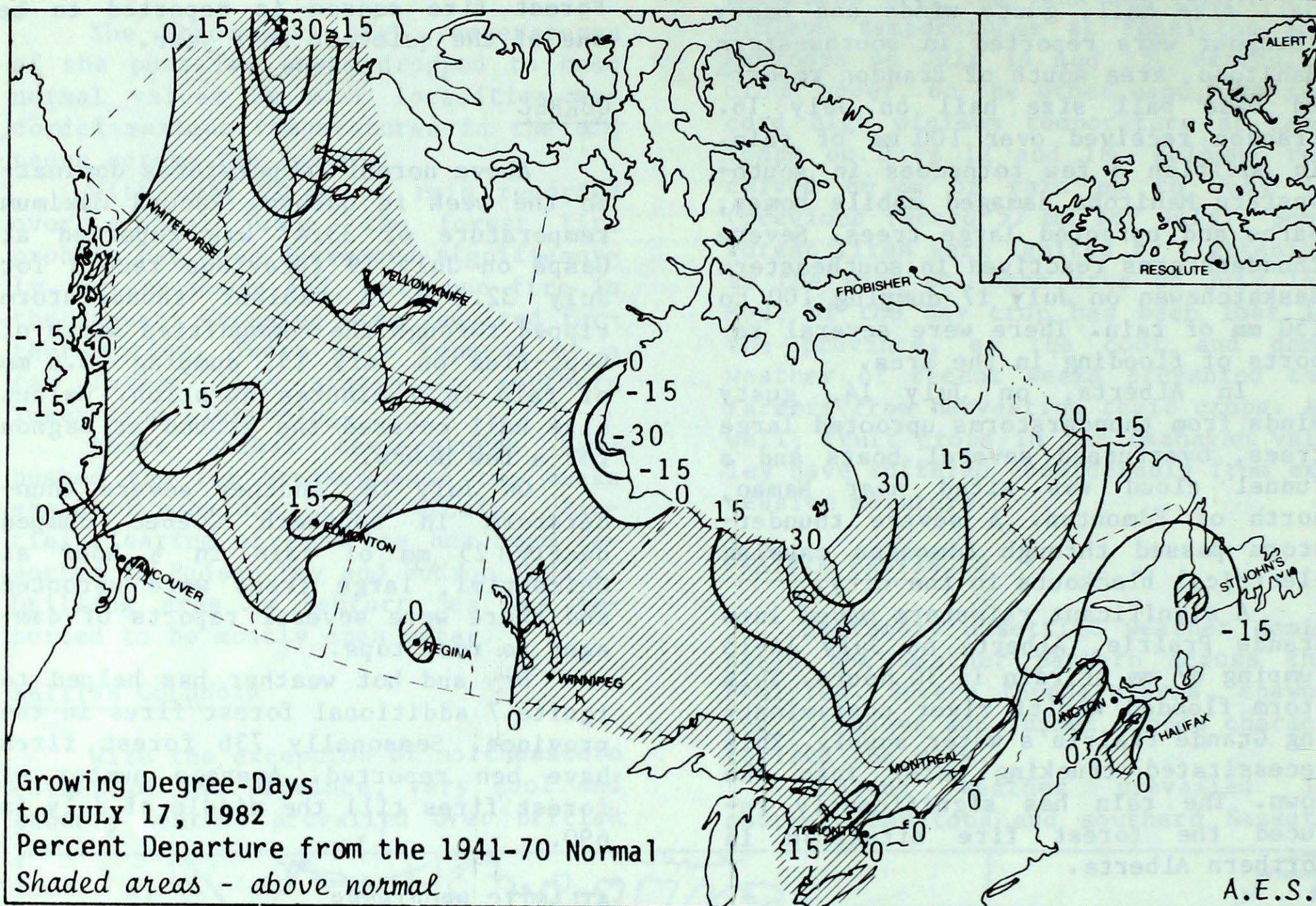
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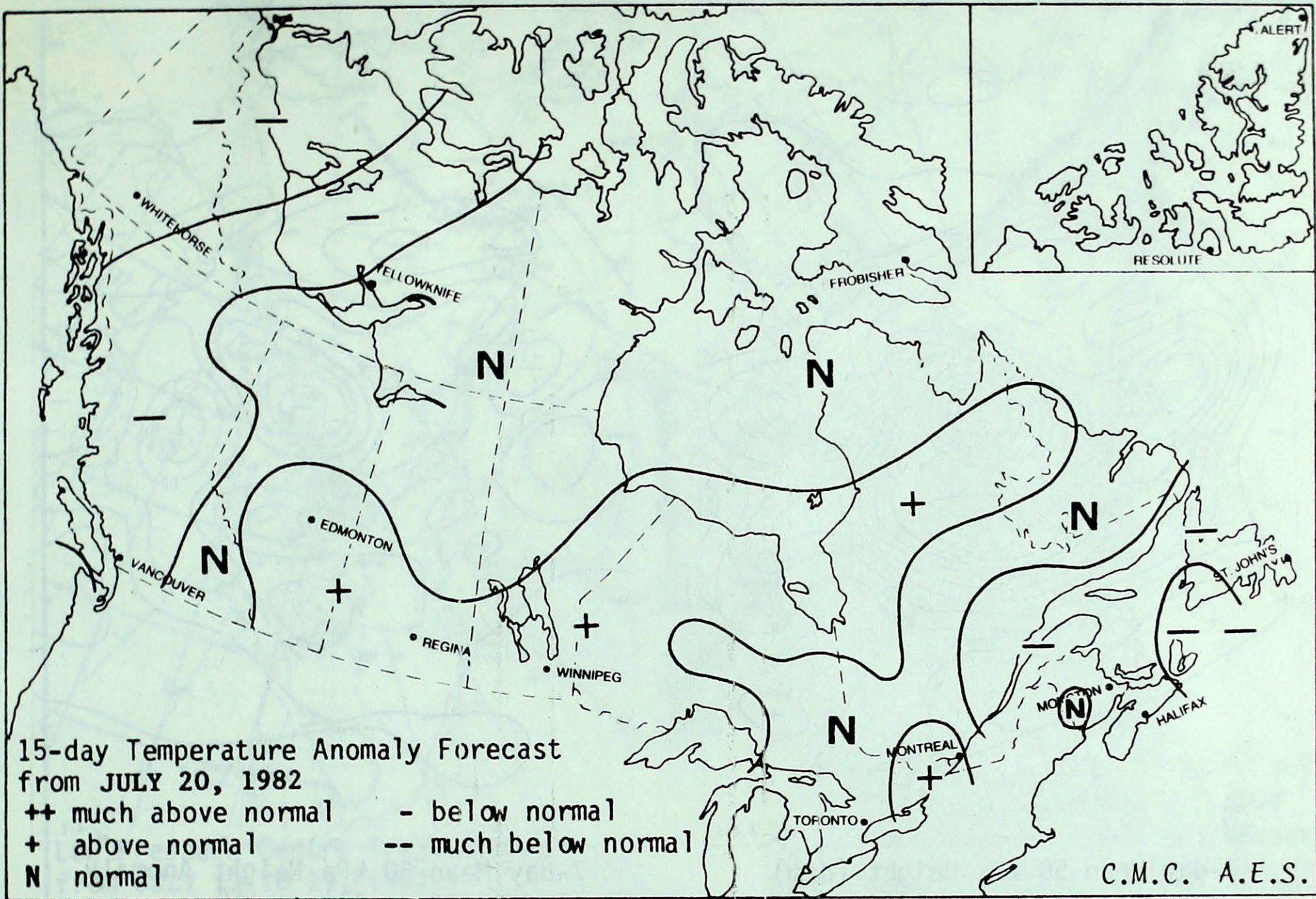
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GROWING DEGREE-DAY SUMMARY TO JULY 17, 1982

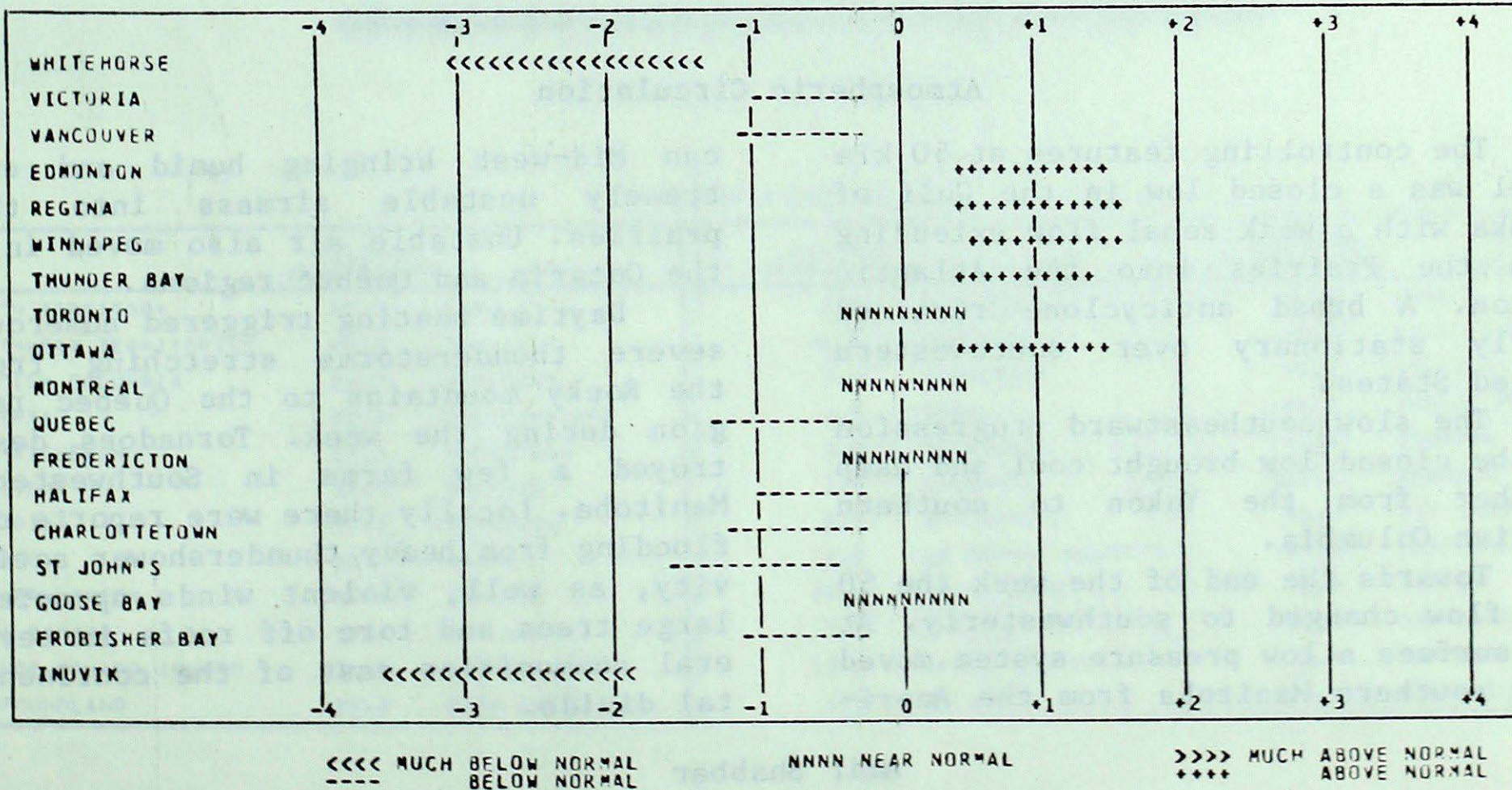


| STATION | MONTHLY CUMULATIVE TOTAL | MONTHLY DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL | SEASONAL TOTAL | SEASONAL DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL | SEASONAL PERCENT OF NORMAL |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Whitehorse | 162.5 | 9.5 | 437.5 | -0.5 | 100 |
| Penticton | 223.0 | -23.0 | 964.5 | -38.5 | 96 |
| Vancouver | 194.0 | -11.0 | 865.0 | -38.0 | 96 |
| Edmonton | 208.0 | 16.0 | 754.5 | 111.5 | 117 |
| Calgary | 170.5 | -19.5 | 600.0 | 11.0 | 102 |
| Regina | 223.5 | -7.5 | 760.5 | 23.5 | 103 |
| Saskatoon | 225.5 | -3.5 | 680.5 | -55.5 | 92 |
| Winnipeg | 254.5 | 9.5 | 835.0 | 46.0 | 106 |
| Thunder Bay | 197.5 | -7.5 | 604.5 | 13.5 | 102 |
| Windsor | 299.5 | 10.5 | 1190.0 | 55.0 | 105 |
| Toronto | 268.0 | 8.0 | 921.0 | -26.0 | 97 |
| Ottawa | 264.5 | 1.5 | 999.0 | 67.0 | 107 |
| Montréal | 262.0 | -8.0 | 992.0 | 40.0 | 104 |
| Québec | 231.0 | -3.0 | 772.5 | 12.5 | 102 |
| Fredericton | 244.0 | 13.0 | 768.0 | 16.0 | 102 |
| Halifax | 206.0 | -9.0 | 546.0 | -83.0 | 87 |
| Charlottetown | 227.5 | 2.5 | 559.0 | -36.0 | 94 |
| St. John's | 183.5 | 14.5 | 273.0 | -89.0 | 75 |

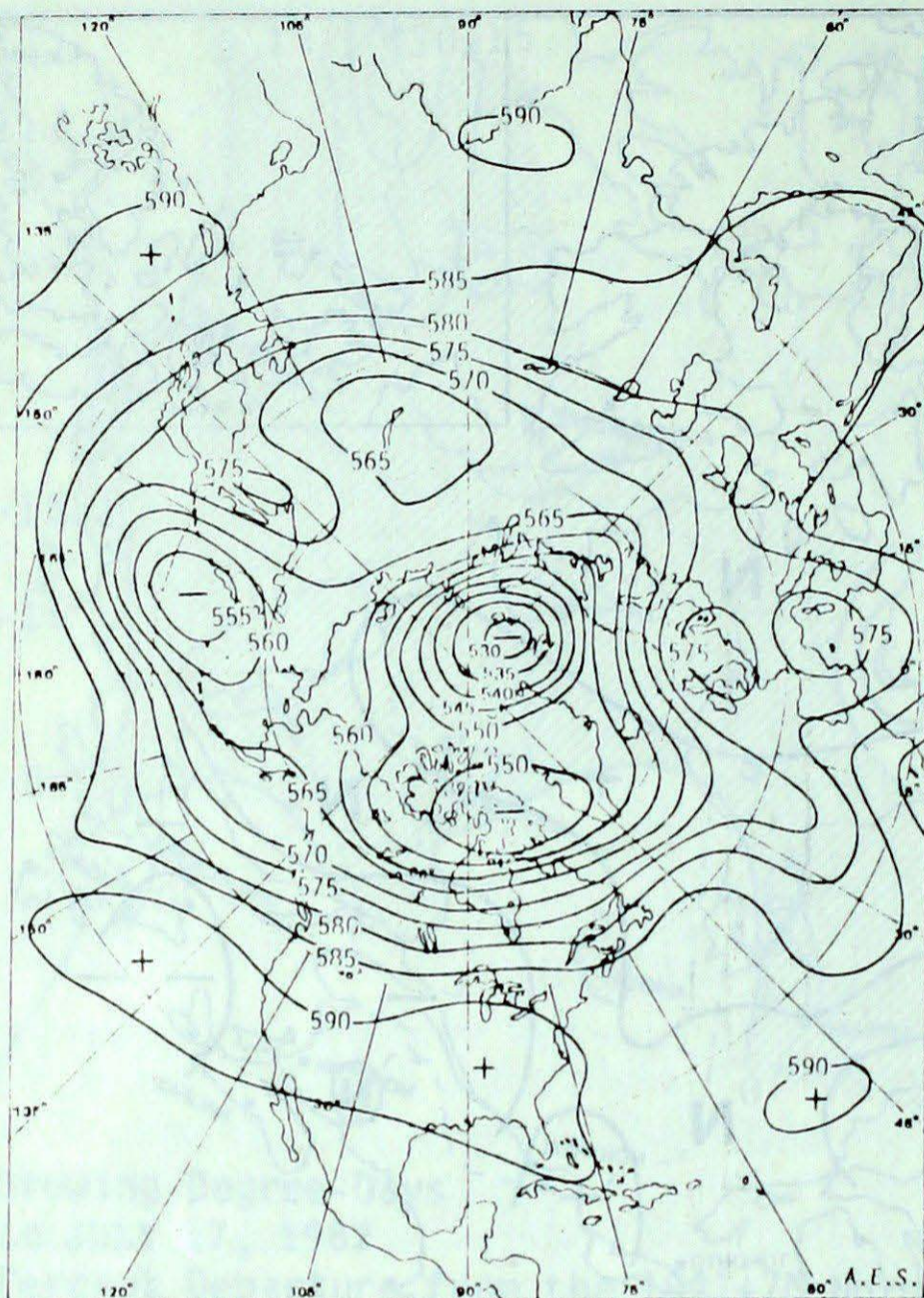
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST



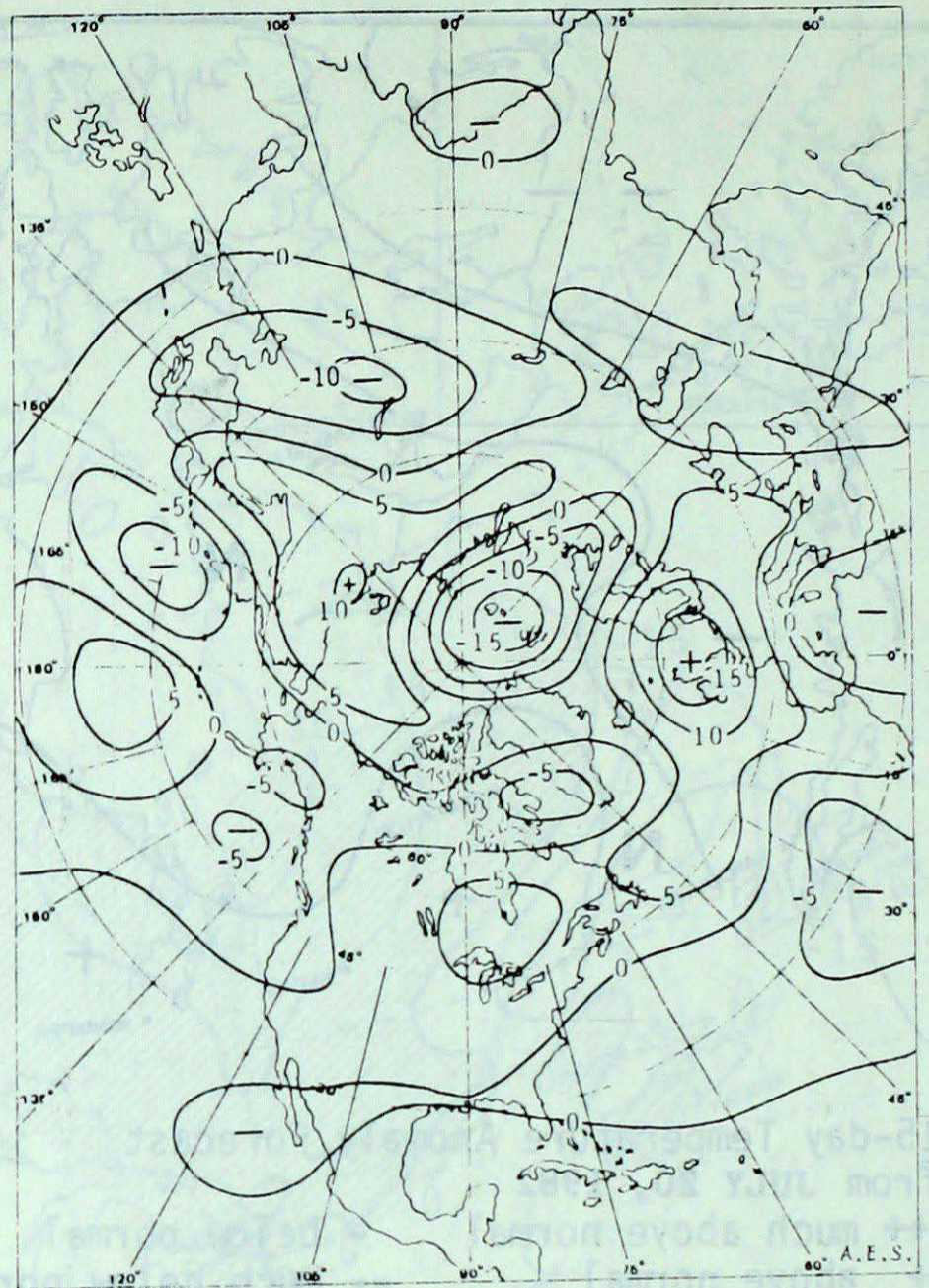
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST FOR JUL 20 1982 TO AUG 3 1982



ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



7-day Mean 50 kPa Height (dam)
JULY 12 TO 18, 1982



7-day Mean 50 kPa Height Anomaly
(5 dam intervals)
JULY 12 TO 18, 1982

Atmospheric Circulation

The controlling features at 50 kPa level was a closed low in the Gulf of Alaska with a weak zonal flow extending from the Prairies into the Atlantic Region. A broad anticyclone remained nearly stationary over southwestern United States.

The slow southeastward progression of the closed low brought cool and damp weather from the Yukon to southern British Columbia.

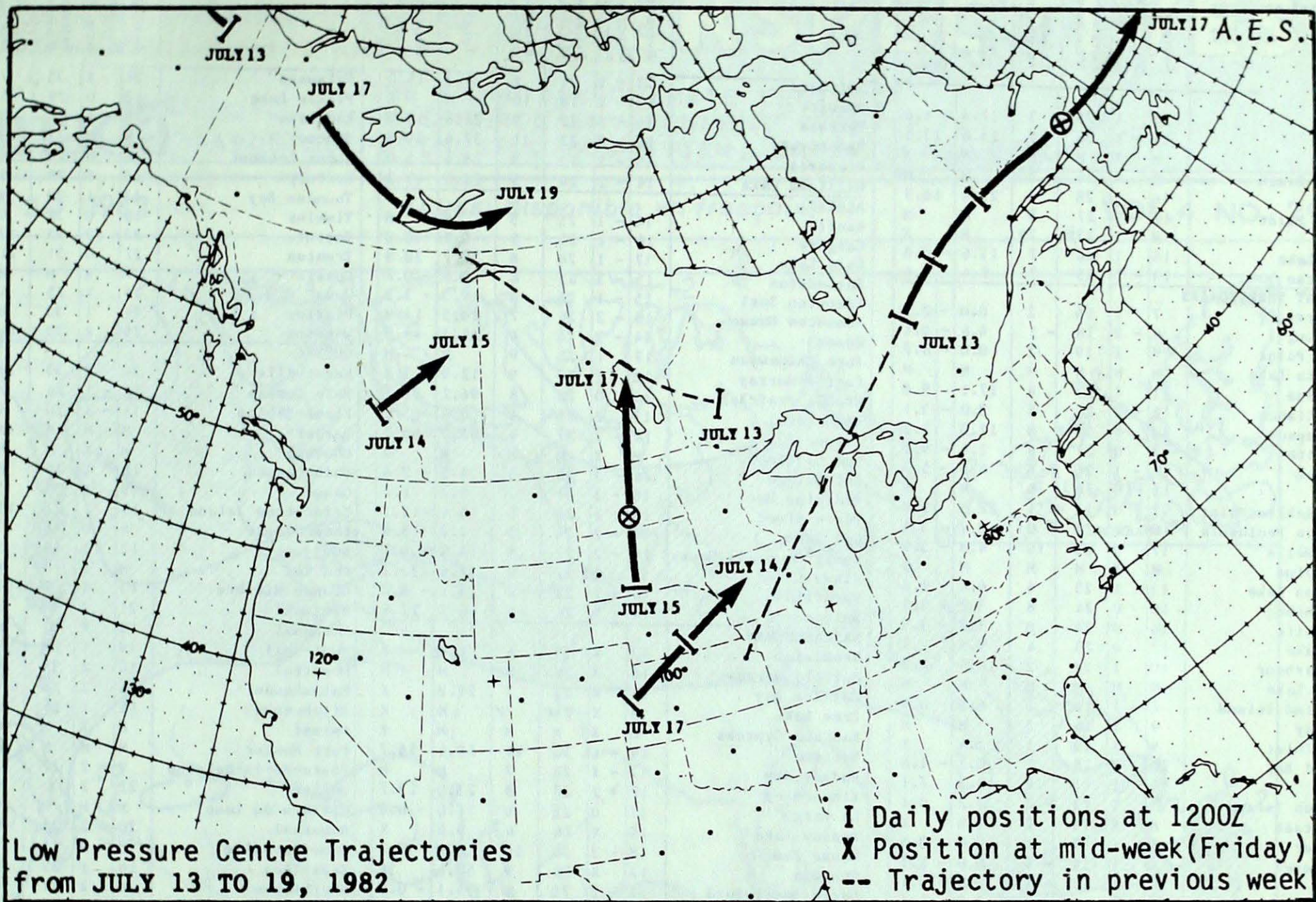
Towards the end of the week the 50 kPa flow changed to southwesterly. At the surface a low pressure system moved into southern Manitoba from the Ameri-

can Mid-west bringing humid and extremely unstable airmass into the prairies. Unstable air also moved into the Ontario and Québec regions.

Daytime heating triggered numerous severe thunderstorms stretching from the Rocky mountains to the Québec region during the week. Tornadoes destroyed a few farms in Southwestern Manitoba. Locally there were reports of flooding from heavy thundershower activity, as well, violent winds uprooted large trees and tore off roofs in several communities east of the continental divide.

Amir Shabbar

LOW PRESSURE CENTRE TRAJECTORIES



EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

| | MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE | LOCATION | MINIMUM TEMPERATURE | LOCATION | GREATEST PRECIPITATION | LOCATION |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| YUKON TERRITORY | 27.5 | MAYO | 2.5 | BURWASH | 25.6 | DAWSON |
| NORTHWEST TERRITORIES | 28.3 | INUVIK | -4.0 | CAPE HOOPER | 22.5 | LADY FRANKLIN POINT |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA | 28.7 | KAMLOOPS | 3.3 | CRANBROOK | 68.3 | WILLIAMS LAKE |
| ALBERTA | 31.3 | MEDICINE HAT | 3.5 | EDSON | 96.2 | GRANDE PRAIRIE |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 29.8 | MOOSE JAW | 3.8 | BROADVIEW | 71.4 | YORKTON |
| MANITOBA | 30.4 | DAUPHIN | 1.9 | THOMPSON | 115.1 | BRANDON |
| ONTARIO | 35.3 | PETAWAWA | 2.0 | ARMSTRONG | 83.6 | BIG TROUT LAKE |
| QUEBEC | 33.4 | GASPE | 1.0 | LA GRANDE RIVIERE | 54.6 | ROBERVAL |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 35.4 | CHATHAM | 10.5 | SAINT JOHN | 7.3 | CHAPLO |
| NOVA SCOTIA | 33.4 | GREENWOOD | 9.4 | SHELBURNE | 10.6 | SHEARWATER |
| PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND | 30.6 | CHARLOTTETOWN | 13.6 | CHARLOTTETOWN | 2.4 | CHARLOTTETOWN |
| NEWFOUNDLAND | 29.3 | DEER LAKE | 1.4 | ST JOHNS | 49.8 | CHURCHILL FALLS |

