

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

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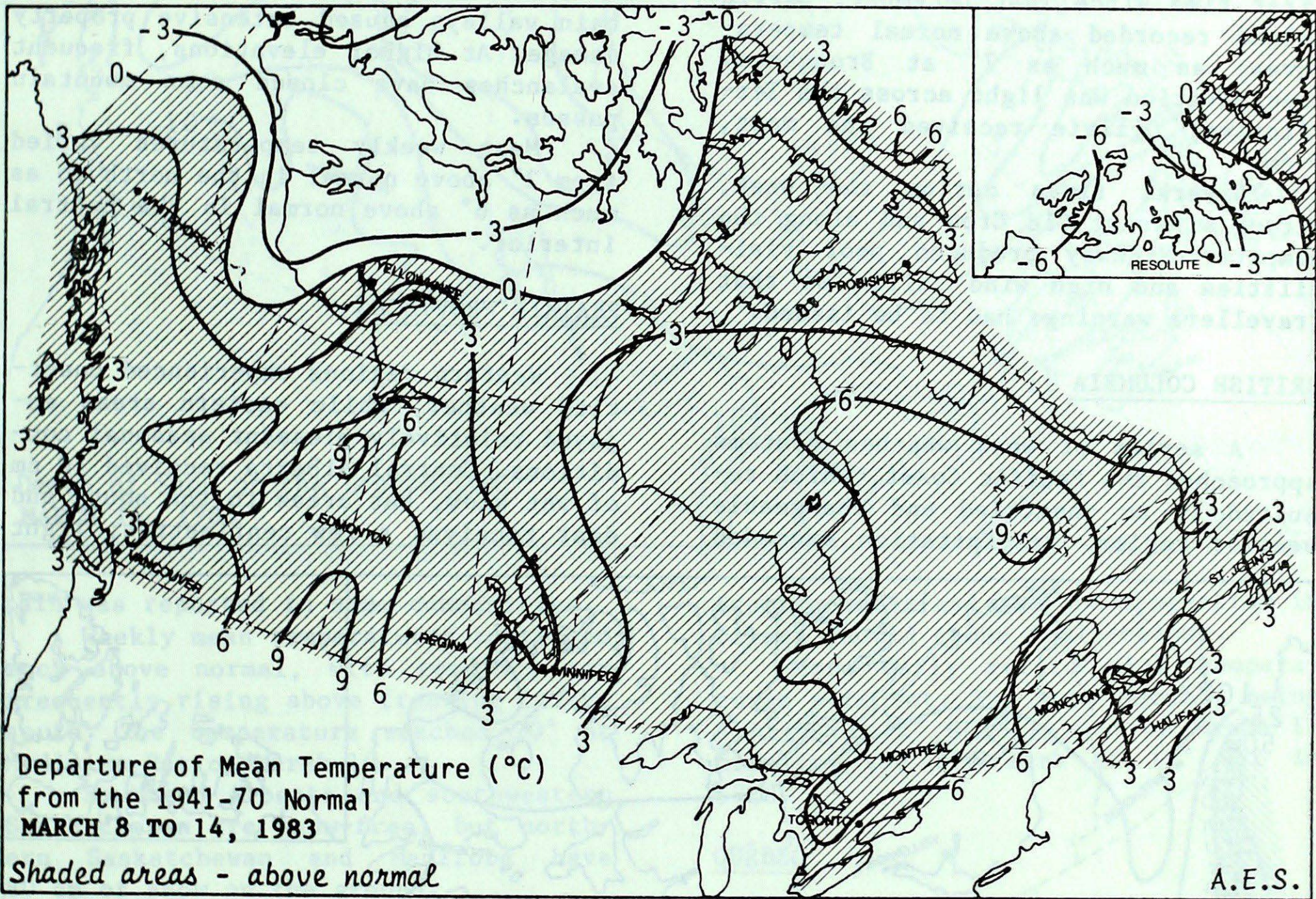
MAR 29 1983

Canada

MARCH 18, 1983

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WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD - MARCH 8-14, 1983

- * Temperatures climb above normal for the first time since November in Baffin Island... page 2
- * Risk of serious flooding greatly reduced in Ontario because of the dearth of deep snow... 3
- * Balmy temperatures averaged 3 to 10 degrees above normal except in the extreme Northwest... 2
- * Heavy rains cause numerous mud slides in Kootenay region... 2
- * Stormy weather continues on the East Coast... 7

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 THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Spring-like weather arrived in the southern Yukon; temperatures averaged 5 to 7 degrees above normal. On March 10, the temperature at Ross River climbed close to 8°. In contrast, frigid Arctic air covered Mackenzie District, where below normal readings resulted in several daily record low minimums. For the first time since last December, Baffin Island recorded above normal temperatures; as much as 7° at Broughton. Precipitation was light across the Territories; Ogilvie received the most, 7 cm.

Several times during the week, strong winds at Old Crow and along the Dempster Highway produced poor visibilities and high wind chills so that travellers warnings had to be issued.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

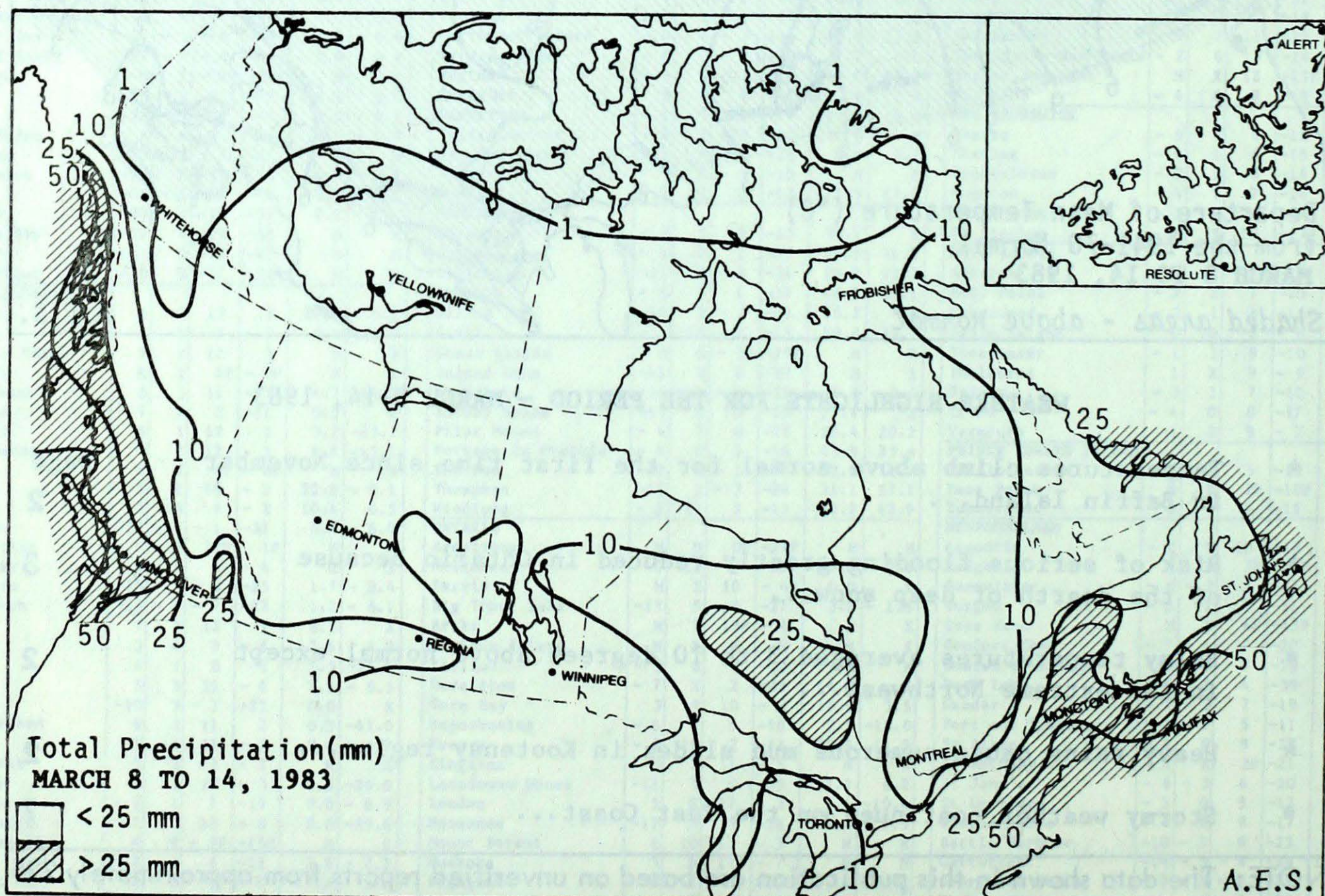
A series of weak weather systems approached the Pacific Coast, which resulted in an unsettled and changeable weather regime. Precipitation exceeded

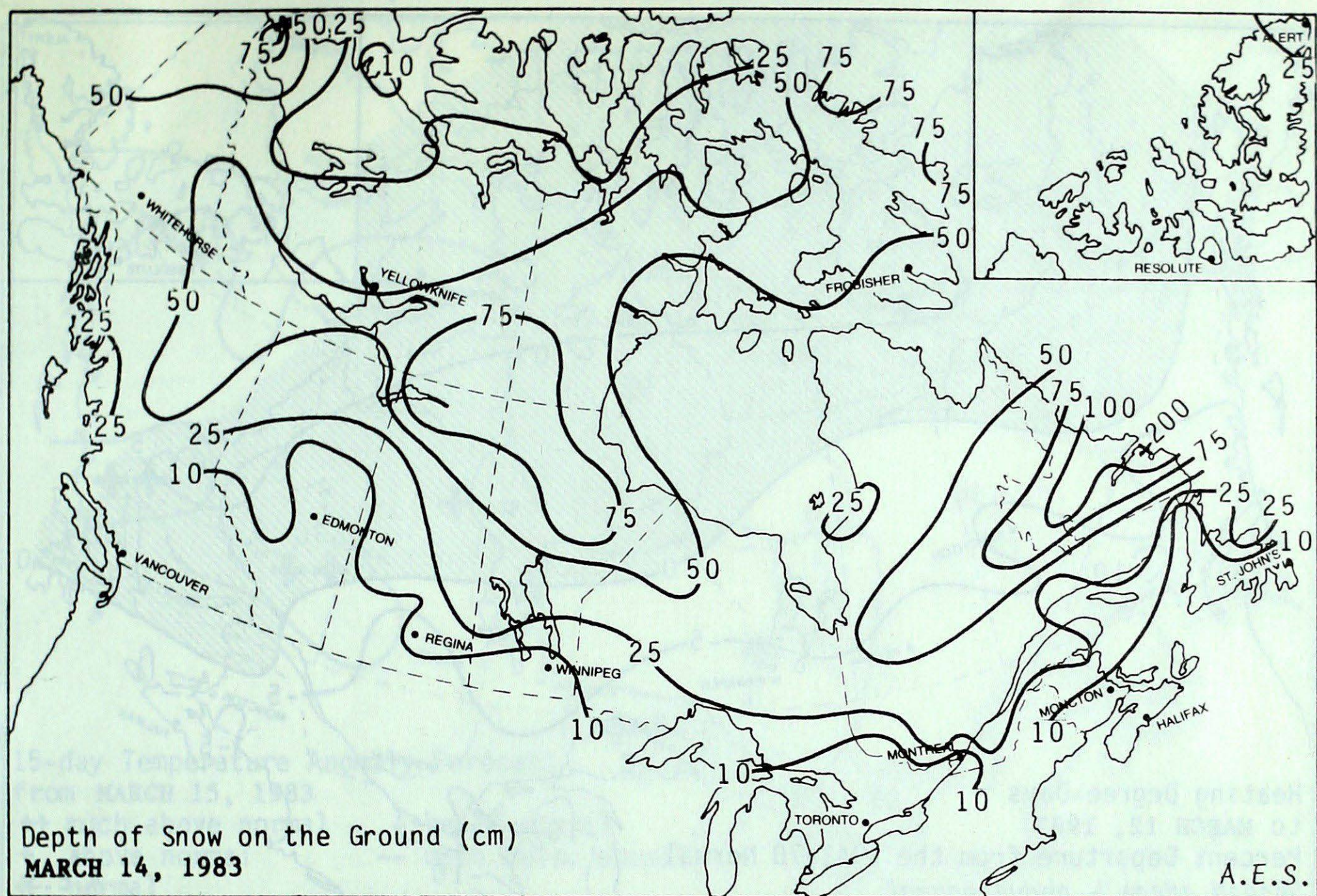
100 mm on Vancouver Island, and 50 mm on the mainland coast. Amphitrite Point received almost 200 mm of rain. The southern interior continued to receive 2 to 4 times their normal weekly precipitation. The February precipitation total at Castlegar was 83.6 mm, more than 4 times their normal value; 56.7 mm of rain has already fallen this month, compared to a March normal of 37.8 mm. Numerous mud slides in mountain valleys caused extensive property damage. At higher elevations, frequent avalanches have closed some mountain passes.

Mean weekly temperatures varied from 2° above normal in the north to as much as 6° above normal in the central interior.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Western regions experienced unsettled weather, while eastern areas enjoyed relatively pleasant seasonal conditions. Central Alberta received 10 cm of wet snow, but areas to the south and east received a few centimetres; light





rain was reported in some communities.

Weekly mean temperatures continued much above normal, with readings now frequently rising above freezing in the south. The temperature reached 20° at Medicine Hat on March 10.

Southern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan are snow-free, but northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba have 80 cm of snow on the ground.

ONTARIO

Rain fog and continuing mild temperatures highlighted Ontario's weather, even though Northwestern sections of the province received 5 to 12 cm of snow during the week-end. On March 11, patches of freezing drizzle created treacherous roads in southwestern Ontario.

March has been virtually snow-free in southern Ontario. In Toronto, only a trace fell in the first half of the month; the last time there was no measurable snow during March was in 1898. The risk of serious spring flooding in southern and central Ontario has been greatly reduced this year: the runoff

from snowmelt and the ice congestion in rivers should cause few problems.

More daily record high temperatures were set. The most notable being a high of 12° at Kingston on March 12 breaking the old mark of 11° set in 1928.

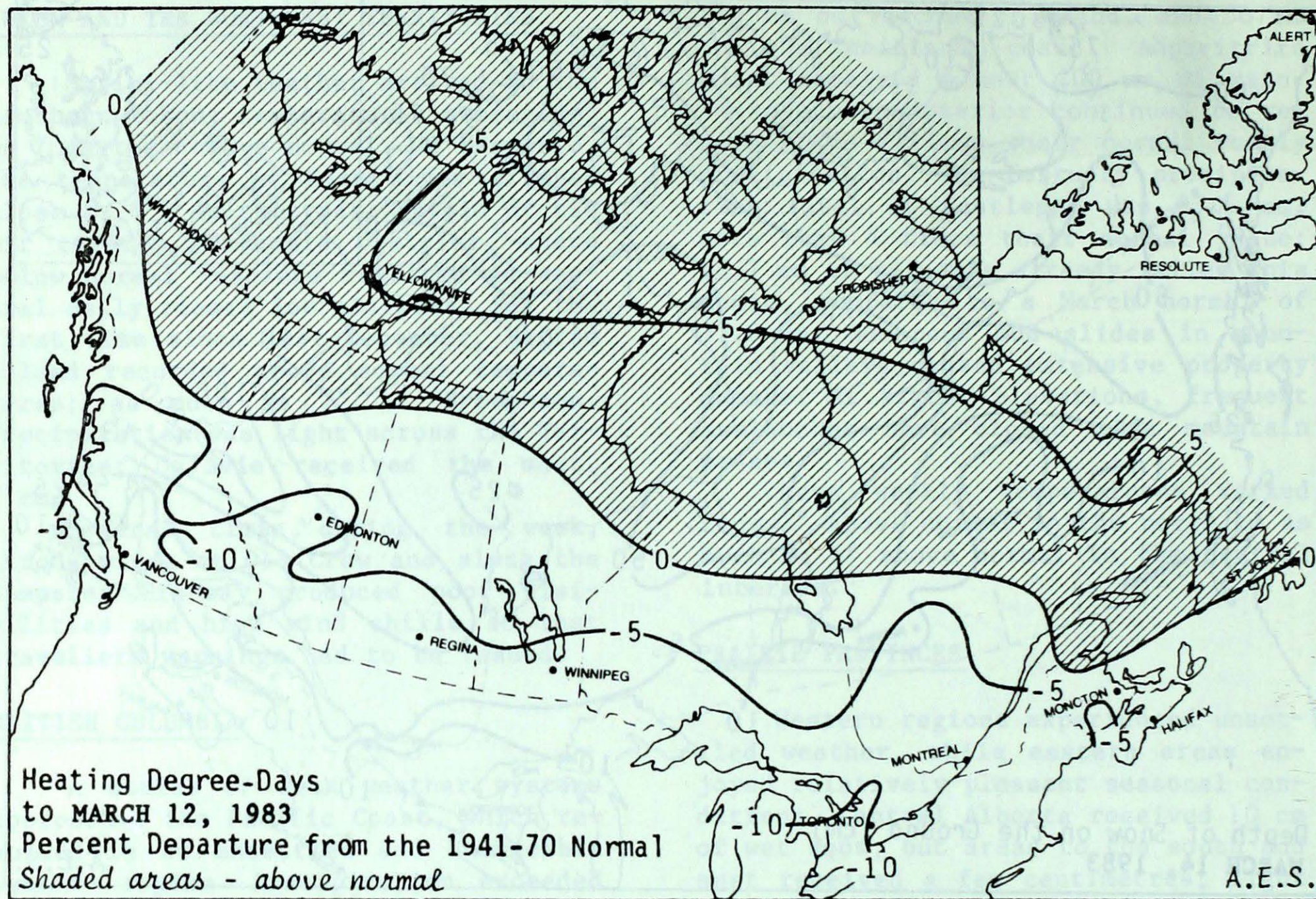
QUÉBEC

Cloudy skies and dull weather dominated Québec's weather; but western Québec still enjoyed some sunshine on March 14. Above normal temperatures persisted throughout the province. The daily maximum at Montréal has been above freezing since February 22. On the 12th and 13th of March a low pressure system over the Maritimes gave Sherbrooke 26 cm of snow - the highest snowfall this winter. Mont Joli received 40.8 cm of snow from the same storm while Sept-Iles and Gaspé with milder temperatures, received 21.4 and 34.6 mm of rain, respectively.

Persistent easterly winds contributed to ice jams in the St. Lawrence Estuary east of Mont Joli where two ice-breakers were assisting ships.

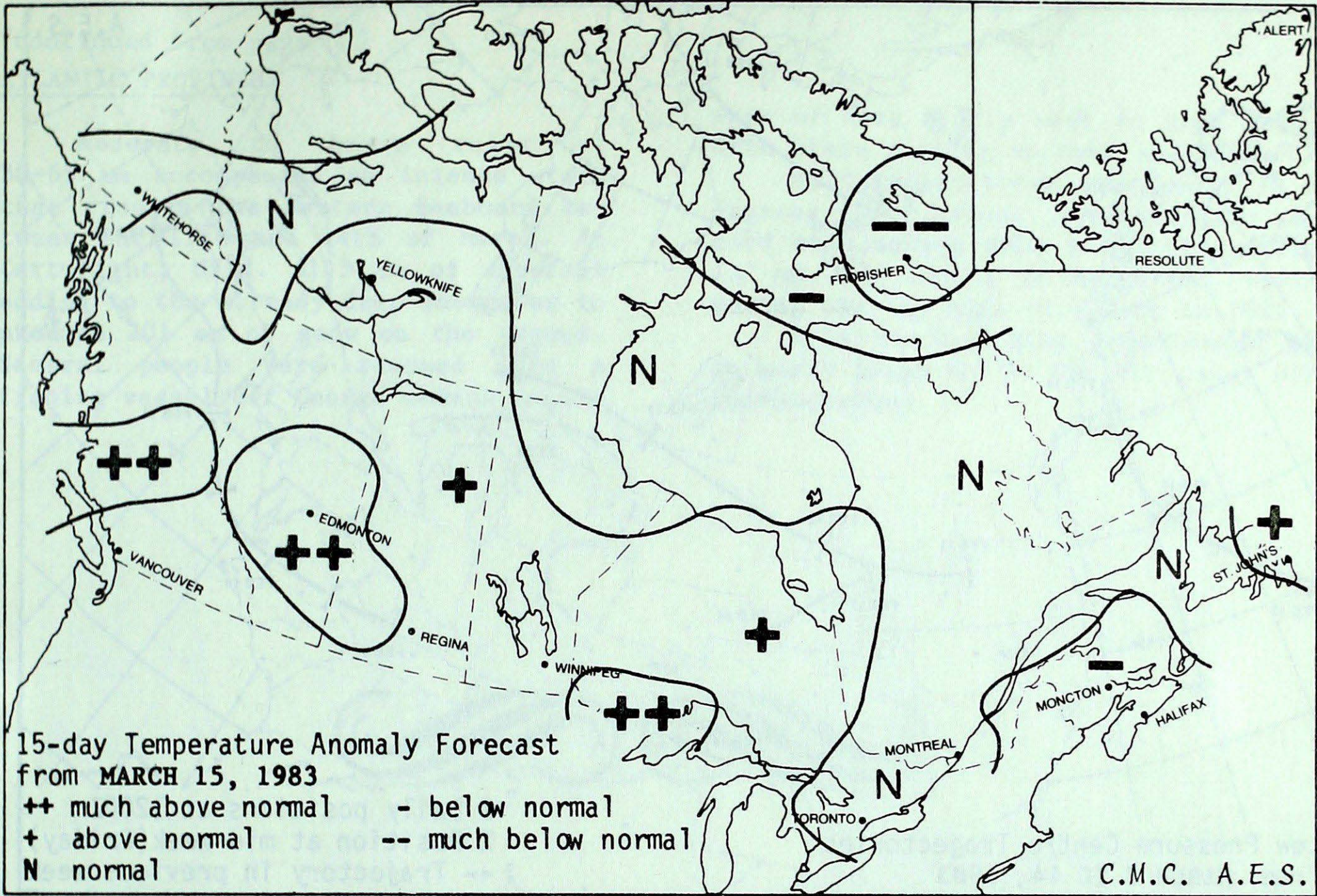
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HEATING DEGREE-DAY SUMMARY TO MARCH 12, 1983

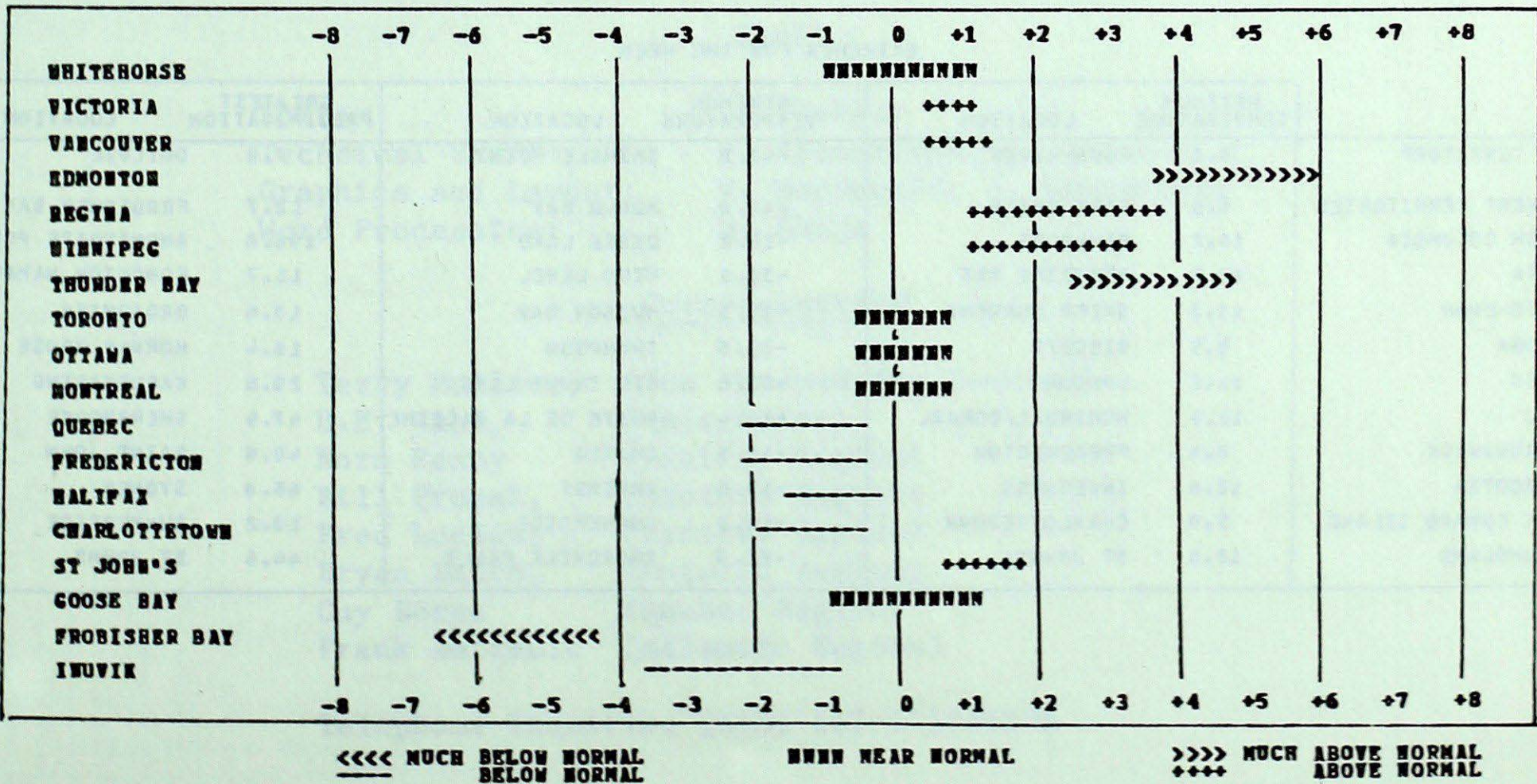


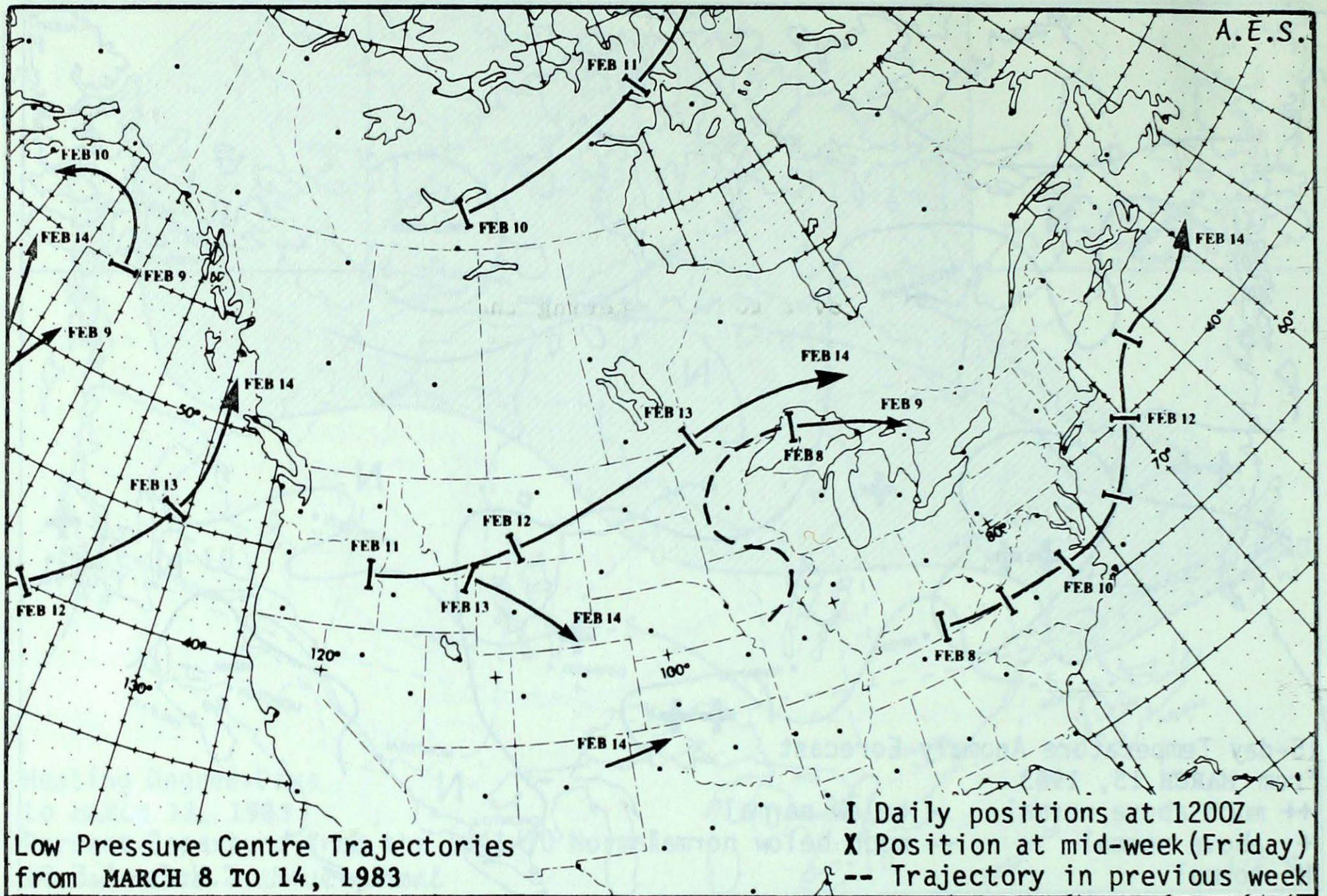
STATION	MONTHLY CUMULATIVE TOTAL	MONTHLY DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL TOTAL	SEASONAL DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL PERCENT OF NORMAL
Resolute	627.0	18.0	9435.5	418.5	105
Inuvik	563.0	26.0	7944.0	294.0	104
Whitehorse	336.5	1.5	5344.5	25.0	100
Vancouver	118.0	-38.0	2087.0	-128.0	94
Edmonton Mun	258.5	-55.5	4000.0	-324.5	92
Calgary	247.0	-40.0	3644.5	-345.5	91
Regina	280.0	-78.0	4280.0	-338.5	93
Winnipeg	264.0	-92.0	4217.0	-368.0	92
Thunder Bay	255.0	-69.0	4070.0	-279.5	94
Windsor	135.5	-91.5	2415.0	-354.5	87
Toronto	175.5	-77.5	2825.5	-285.5	91
Ottawa	208.0	-79.0	3320.5	-346.5	91
Montreal	206.0	-62.0	3230.5	-263.5	92
Quebec	240.0	-58.0	3665.0	-256.5	93
Saint John, N.B.	231.5	-41.5	3306.5	-205.5	94
Halifax	223.5	-18.5	2824.0	-105.5	96
Charlottetown	251.0	-24.0	3228.5	-117.0	97
St. John's, Nfld.	275.5	23.5	2960.0	12.0	100

TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST



TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST FOR MAR 15 1983 TO MAR 29 1983





EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	GREATEST PRECIPITATION	LOCATION
YUKON TERRITORY	8.0	ROSS RIVER	-40.0	SHINGLE POINT	7.0	OGILVIE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	4.0	FORT SMITH	-47.8	MOULD BAY	12.7	FROBISHER BAY
BRITISH COLUMBIA	16.2	KAMLOOPS	-29.2	DEASE LAKE	196.8	AMPHITRITE POINT
ALBERTA	19.7	MEDICINE HAT	-32.0	HIGH LEVEL	11.7	EDMONTON NAMAO
SASKATCHEWAN	13.3	SWIFT CURRENT	-30.8	HUDSON BAY	13.6	BROADVIEW
MANITOBA	9.5	BISSETT	-31.5	THOMPSON	16.4	NORWAY HOUSE
ONTARIO	16.2	LONDON	-30.6	BIG TROUT LAKE	29.6	KAPUSKASING
QUEBEC	10.0	MONTREAL/DORVAL	-29.4	POSTE DE LA BALEINE	47.6	SHERBROOKE
NEW BRUNSWICK	8.4	FREDERICTON	-18.5	CHARLO	40.6	SAINT JOHN
NOVA SCOTIA	13.8	INVERNESS	-15.8	AMHERST	65.8	SYDNEY
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	5.9	CHARLOTTETOWN	-13.0	SUMMERSIDE	13.2	SUMMERSIDE
NEWFOUNDLAND	12.8	ST JOHNS	-27.5	CHURCHILL FALLS	44.6	ST JOHNS

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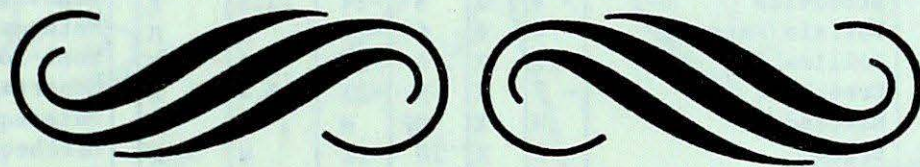
ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Moderate to heavy rains of 30-65 mm accompanied an intense storm that crossed the Eastern Seaboard between the 11th and 14th of March. At Cartwright, Nfld. 41.3 cm of snowfall adding to the already deep snowcover to produce 201 cm of snow on the ground. Several people were rescued when a fishing vessel off George's Bank south-

west of Nova Scotia sank in high seas; with winds gusting to over 100 km/h.

Mild temperatures averaged 3 to 4 degrees above normal. Several daily record high values were set; for example 13° at St. John's on March 13, shattering the old mark of 9° set in 1943.

Mild weather also contributed to an early break-up in the ice cover off Charlottetown.



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TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 0600 G.M.T. MARCH 15, 1983

Table with columns: Station, Temperature (°C) [Average, Departure from Normal, Extreme Maximum, Extreme Minimum], Precip. (mm) [Total, Departure from Normal]. Rows include YUKON, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, and BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Table with columns: Station, Temperature (°C) [Average, Departure from Normal, Extreme Maximum, Extreme Minimum], Precip. (mm) [Total, Departure from Normal]. Rows include Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario.

Table with columns: Station, Temperature (°C) [Average, Departure from Normal, Extreme Maximum, Extreme Minimum], Precip. (mm) [Total, Departure from Normal]. Rows include Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.