



Environment Canada / Environnement Canada

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF CANADIAN CLIMATE

Atmospheric Environment / Environnement atmosphérique

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

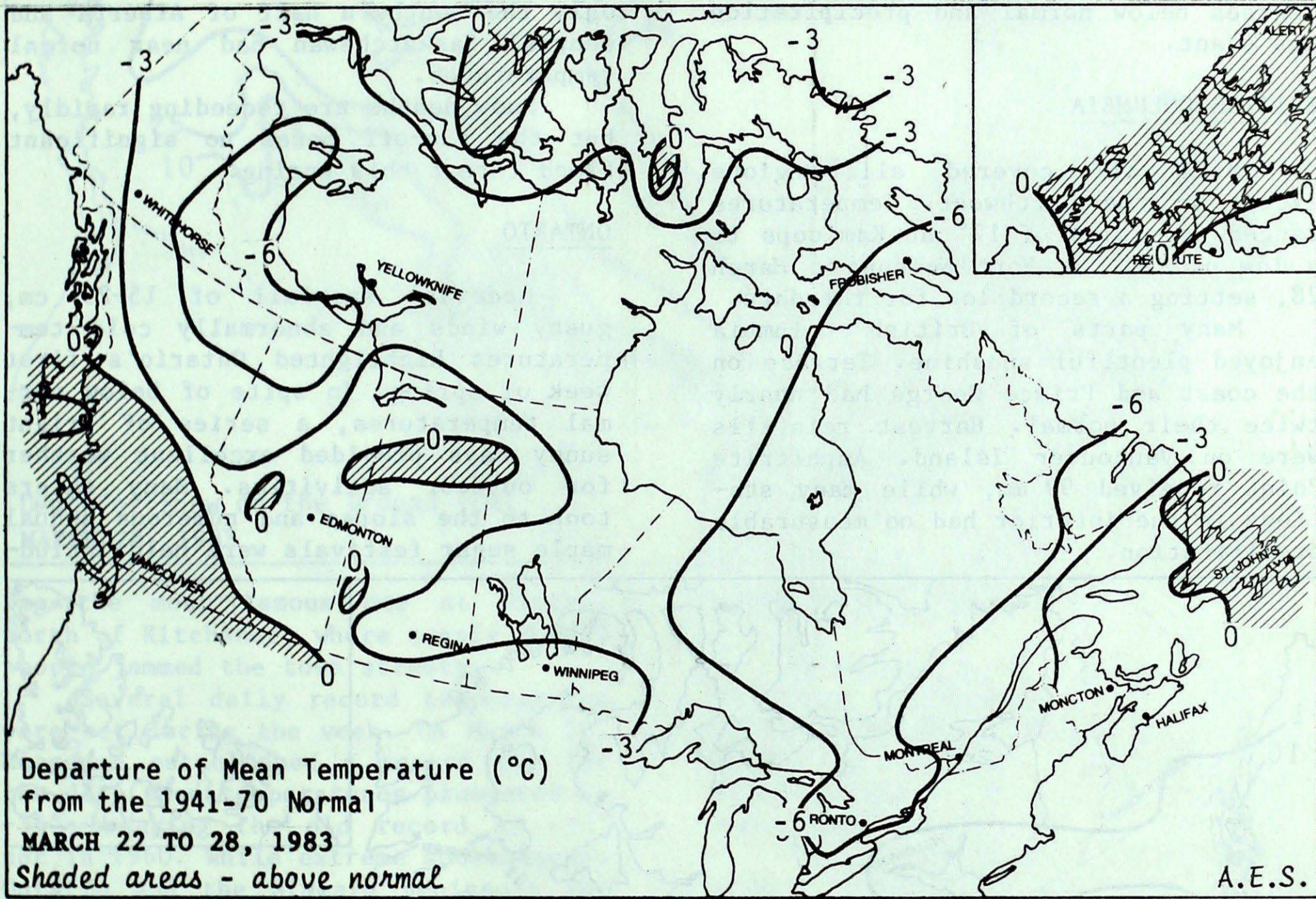
Canada

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

MARCH 31, 1983

(Aussi disponible en français)

VOL. 5 NO. 13



WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD - MARCH 22-28, 1983

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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

Frigid Arctic air covered the Yukon early in the week; On March 22, temperature plummeted to -44° at Ogilvie. However towards the week-end, temperatures moderated as mild air from the Gulf of Alaska produced light snow in southern Yukon; Whitehorse received the most, 5.8 cm. Across the Northwest Territories, temperatures were 3 to 6 degrees below normal and precipitation was scant.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mild air covered all regions except in the northwest. Temperatures ranged from high of 17° at Kamloops to a low of -25° at Fort Nelson on March 28, setting a record low for the date.

Many parts of British Columbia enjoyed plentiful sunshine. Terrace on the coast and Prince George had nearly twice their normal. Harvest rainfalls were on Vancouver Island. Amphitrite Point received 99 mm, while many stations in the interior had no measurable precipitation.

Orchard crop growth in the Okanagan Valley was approximately 2 weeks ahead of schedule, making them vulnerable to late cold outbreaks.

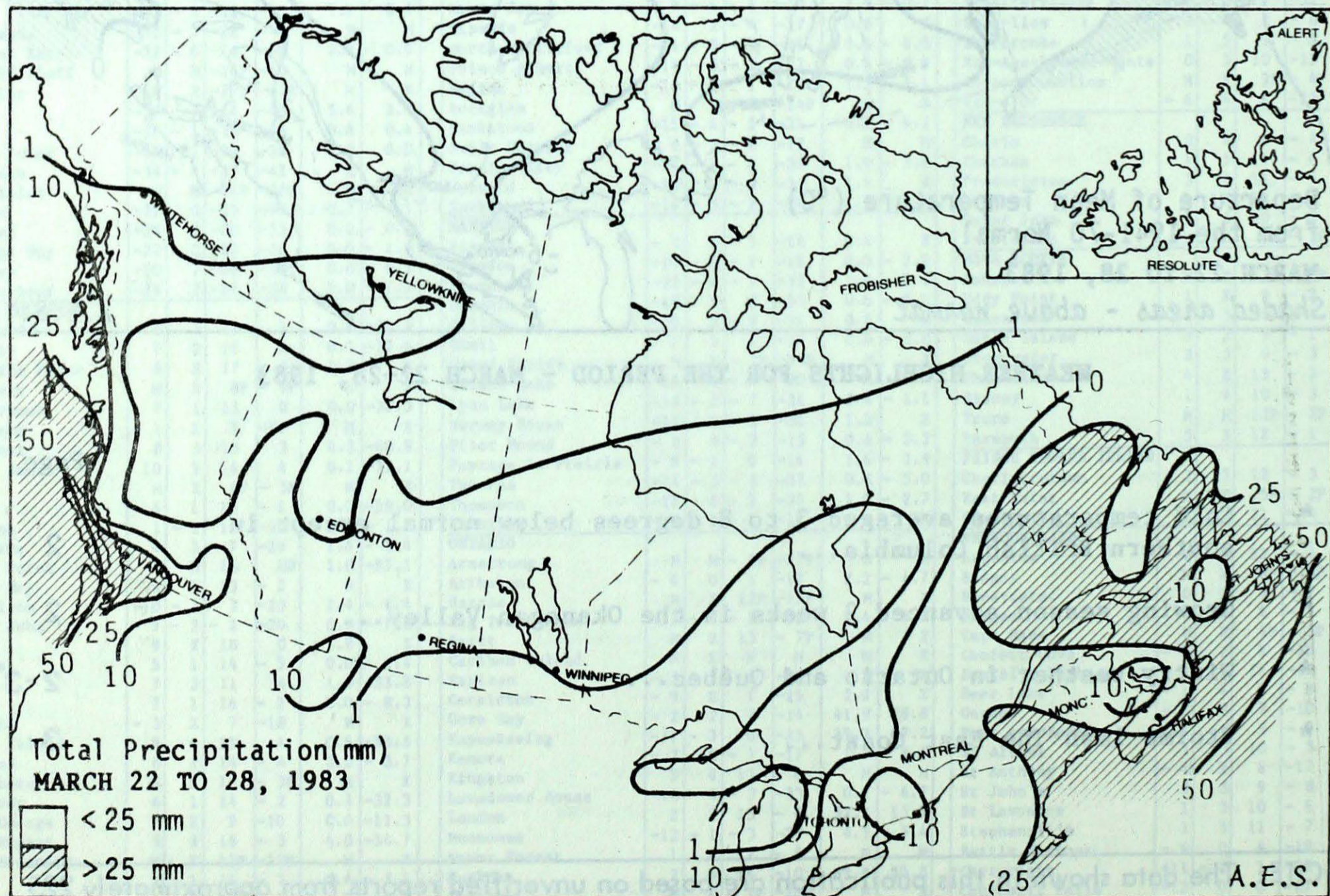
PRAIRIE PROVINCES

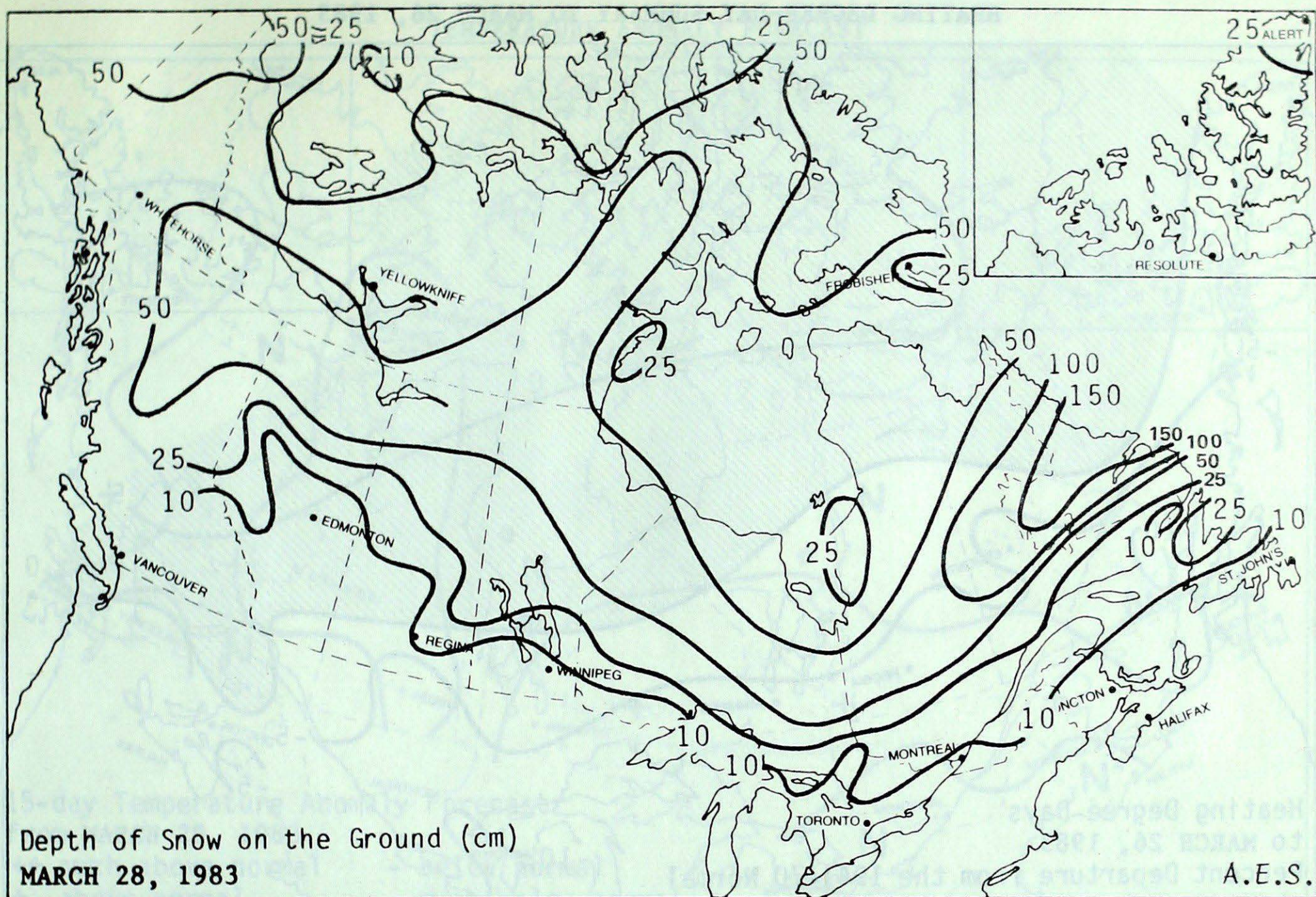
Cool, early-spring weather predominated with variable sky conditions and periods of light snow. Mean temperatures were more than 6° below normal; only the southern half of Alberta and central Saskatchewan had near normal temperatures.

Snow depths are receding rapidly, but the run-off poses no significant flood threat this spring.

ONTARIO

Moderate snowfall of 15-25 cm, gusty winds and abnormally cold temperatures highlighted Ontario's first week of spring. In spite of below normal temperatures, a series of bright sunny days provided excellent weather for outdoor activities. Many skiers took to the slopes and numerous annual maple sugar festivals were held includ-





ing the most famous one at Elmira, north of Kitchener, where nearly 30,000 people jammed the town streets.

Several daily record temperatures were set during the week. On March 25, Moosonee established a record low for the date when temperatures plummeted to -36° breaking the old record of -33° set in 1960. While extreme southwestern Ontario and the Niagara peninsula had no snow cover, Timmins recorded the most with 94 cm on the ground.

QUÉBEC

Wintry weather dominated Québec's weather. Two major weather systems crossing the province deposited nearly 20 cm of snow in southern Québec. One life was claimed in a traffic accident at Parc des Laurentides north of Québec city which was attributed to slippery roads.

Numerous daily record low temperatures were set in the very cold air mass which covered the province between the 23rd and 25th of March. For example; on March 25, temperature dropped to -29° at Val d'Or breaking the old record of -27° set in 1960.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

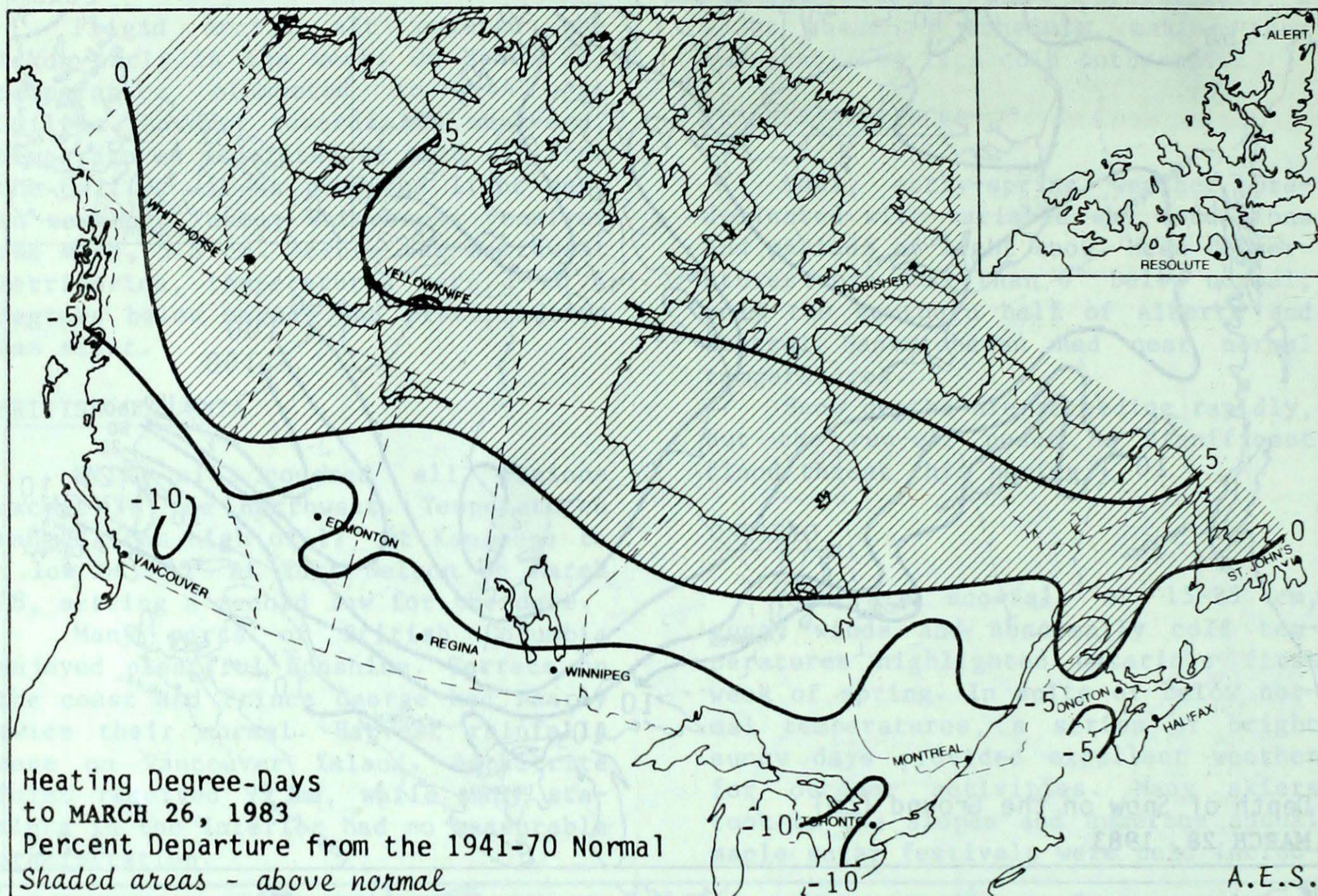
Major storms battered the Atlantic Provinces. Precipitations in the form of wet snow and rain ranged from 20 to 50 mm. In Halifax, numerous traffic accidents were attributed to treacherous roads.

Due to ice jams on the Nashwaak river, serious flooding occurred at Nashwaak Village north of Fredericton. Heavy pack ice continued to hamper local ship navigation off the East Coast. Because of the extensive ice cover in the inlets of Placentia Bay, a group of porpoise whales were trapped in the ice; about 20 of them died. However, most of the whales escaped when the winds shifted and pushed ice floe aside during the weekend.

Several daily record high temperatures were set in the warm air which covered the Maritimes early in the week; for example, 12° at Halifax broke the old record of 11° for March 22 set in 1979.

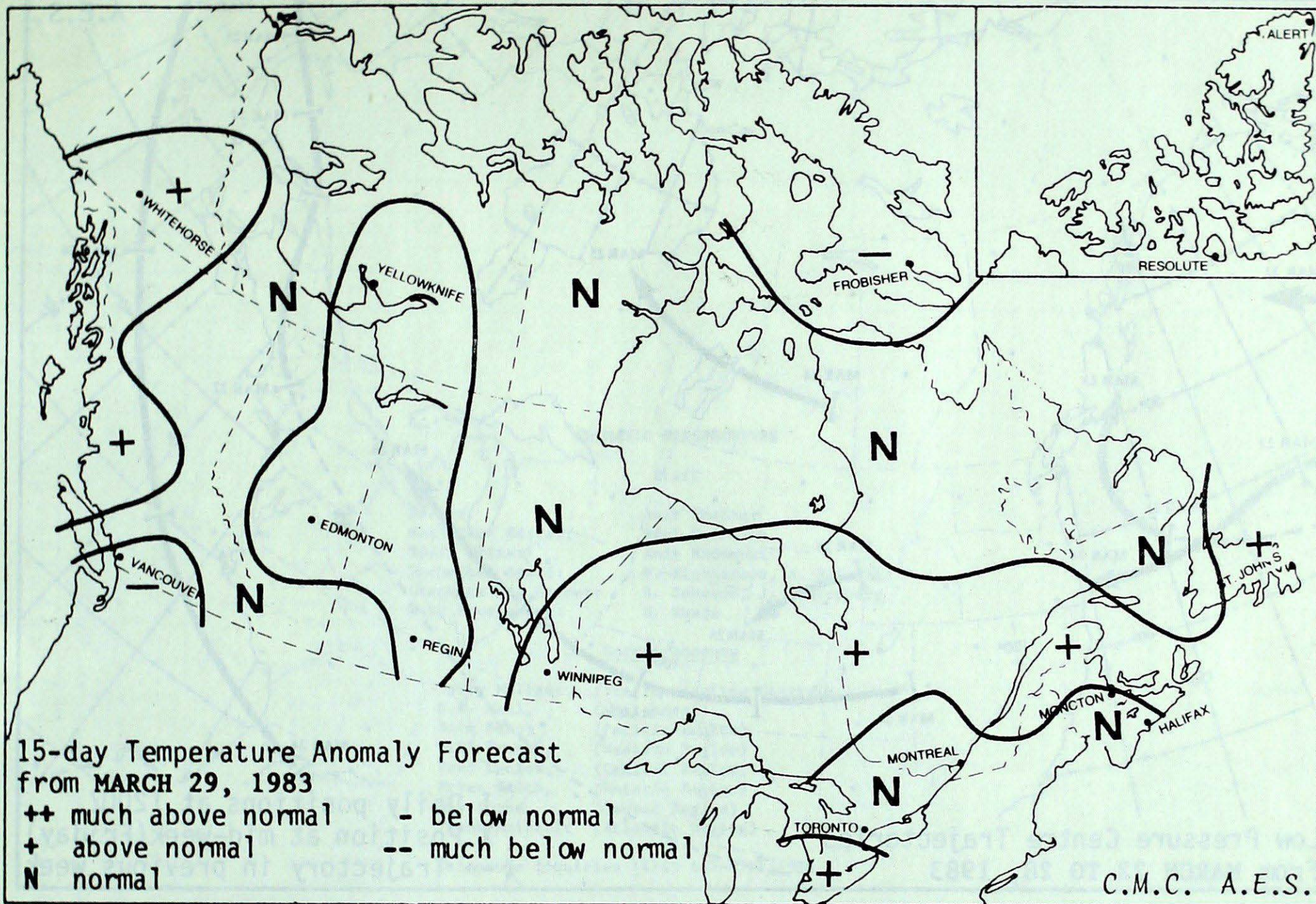
Subsequently to the storms, cold air covered the East Coast and several daily record low temperatures were established.

HEATING DEGREE-DAY SUMMARY TO MARCH 26, 1983

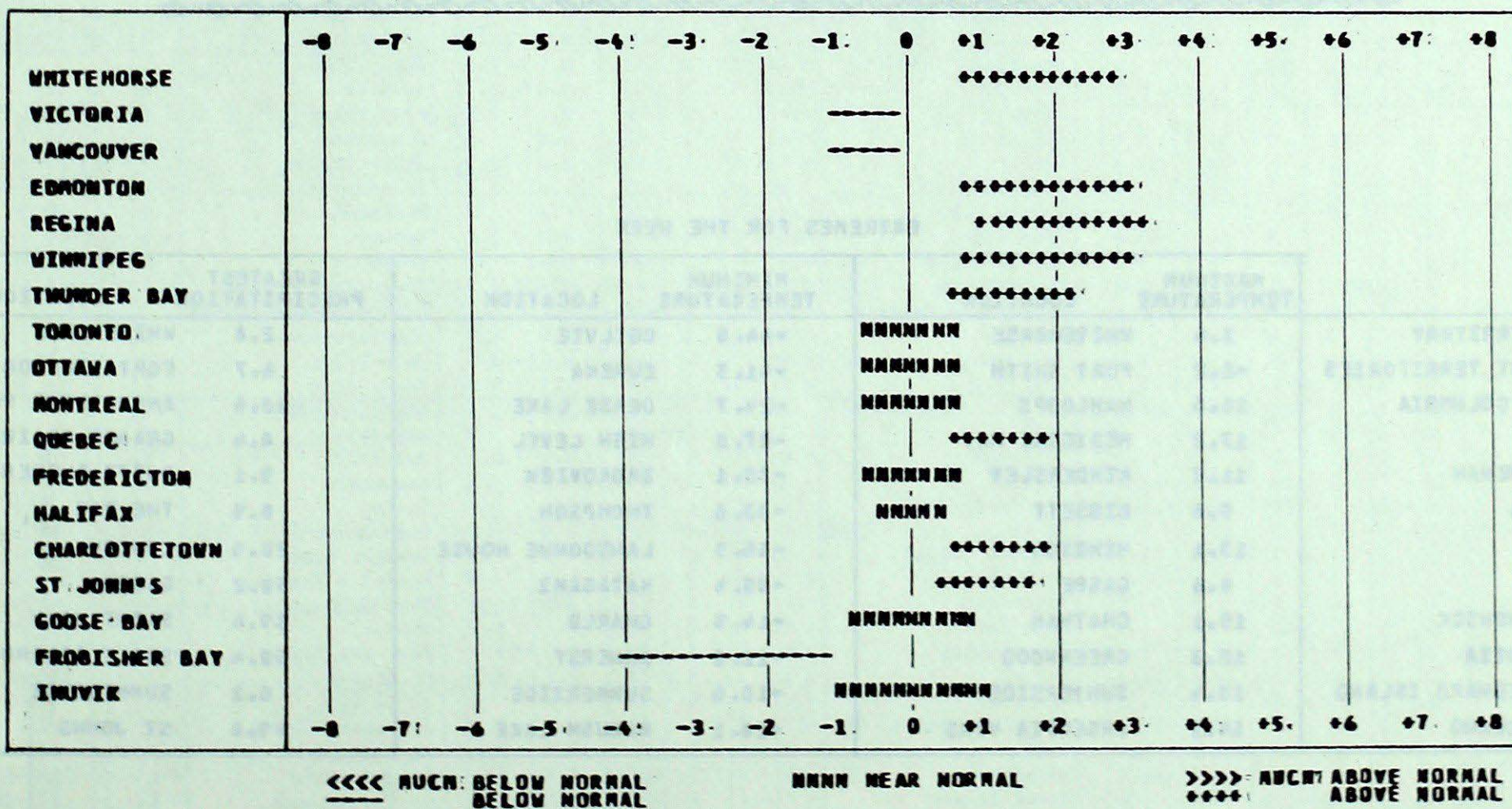


STATION	MONTHLY CUMULATIVE TOTAL	MONTHLY DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL TOTAL	SEASONAL DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL PERCENT OF NORMAL
Resolute	1329.0	38.0	10137.5	438.5	105
Inuvik	1160.5	37.5	8541.5	305.5	104
Whitehorse	688.0	3.0	5696.0	26.5	100
Vancouver	256.0	-66.0	2225.0	-156.0	93
Edmonton Mun	571.5	-58.5	4313.0	-327.5	93
Calgary	566.5	-26.5	3964.0	-332.0	92
Regina	650.0	-61.0	4650.0	-321.5	94
Winnipeg	608.0	-96.0	4561.0	-372.0	92
Thunder Bay	586.5	-61.5	4401.5	-272.0	94
Windsor	376.5	-73.5	2656.0	-336.5	89
Toronto	447.5	-59.5	3097.5	-267.5	92
Ottawa	484.5	-85.5	3597.0	-353.0	91
Montreal	464.0	-82.0	3488.5	-283.5	92
Quebec	529.5	-66.5	3954.5	-265.0	94
Saint John, N.B.	475.0	-78.0	3550.0	-242.0	94
Halifax	456.5	-40.5	3057.0	-127.5	96
Charlottetown	494.0	-67.0	3471.5	-160.0	96
St. John's, Nfld.	501.5	-35.5	3186.0	-47.0	99

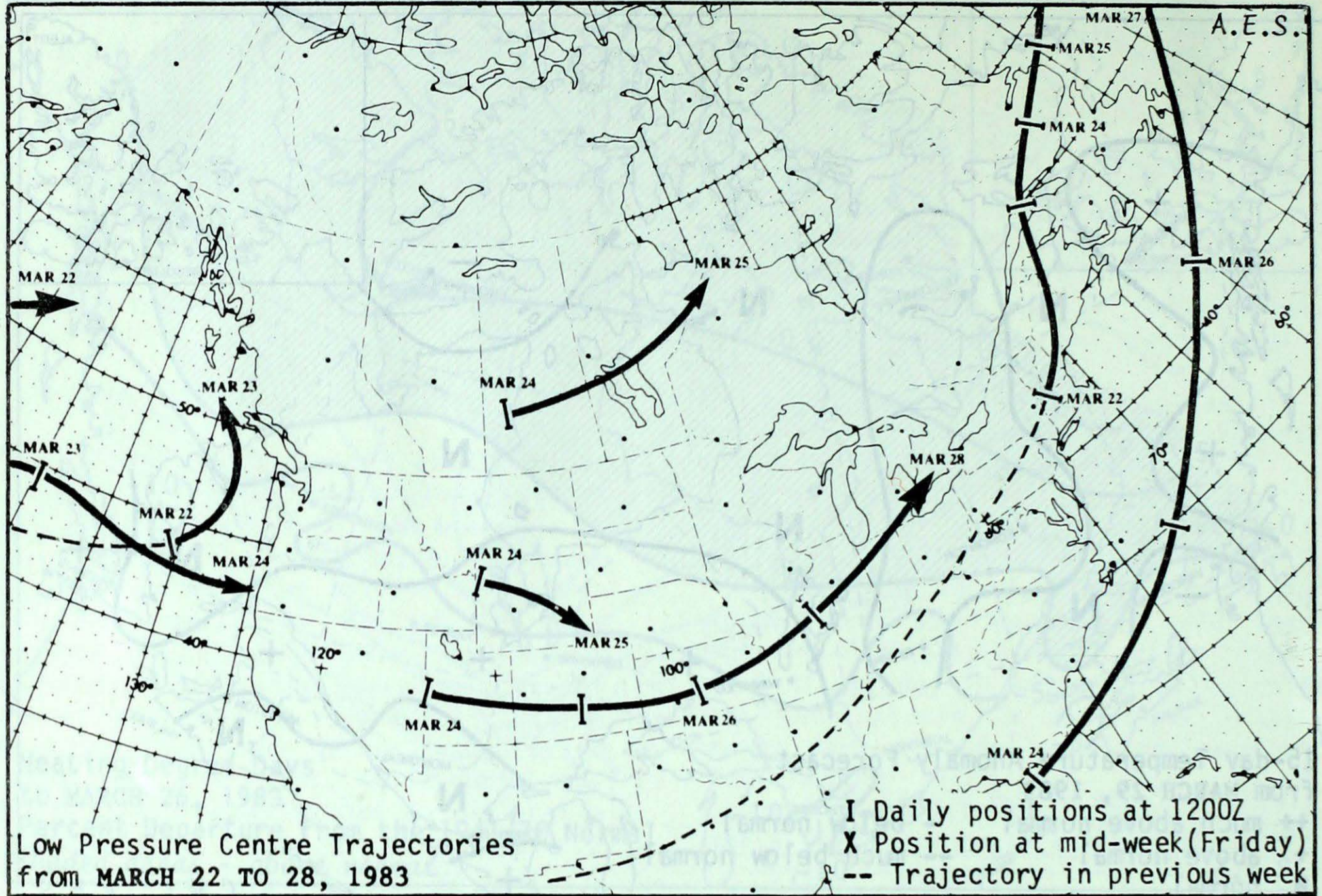
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST



TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST FOR MAR 29 1983 TO APR 12 1983



LOW PRESSURE CENTRE TRAJECTORIES



EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	GREATEST PRECIPITATION	LOCATION
YUKON TERRITORY	3.6	WHITEHORSE	-44.0	OGILVIE	2.8	WHITEHORSE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	-2.2	FORT SMITH	-41.5	EUREKA	6.7	FORT SIMPSON
BRITISH COLUMBIA	16.6	KAMLOOPS	-24.7	DEASE LAKE	98.6	AMPHITRITE POINT
ALBERTA	13.2	MEDICINE HAT	-27.0	HIGH LEVEL	6.4	GRANDE PRAIRIE
SASKATCHEWAN	11.2	KINDERSLEY	-30.1	BROADVIEW	9.1	SWIFT CURRENT
MANITOBA	5.6	BISSETT	-33.6	THOMPSON	8.9	THE PAS
ONTARIO	13.1	WINDSOR	-36.5	LANSDOWNE HOUSE	20.9	LONDON
QUEBEC	8.6	GASPE	-35.4	HATAGAMI	50.2	GASPE
NEW BRUNSWICK	15.1	CHATHAM	-14.5	CHARLO	39.4	SAINT JOHN
NOVA SCOTIA	15.3	GREENWOOD	-11.8	AMHERST	50.4	SABLE ISLAND
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	13.4	SUMMERSIDE	-10.6	SUMMERSIDE	6.2	SUMMERSIDE
NEWFOUNDLAND	14.1	ARGENTIA VTMS	-28.1	WABUSH LAKE	49.0	ST JOHNS

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

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Staff

Editor: Amir Shabbar
 Assistant Editor: Réal Sarrazin
 Staff Writer: Andy Radomski
 Technical Staff: F. Richardson, A. Radomski
 Graphics and Layout: B. Johnson, J. Rautenberg
 Word Processing: N. Khaja

Correspondents

Terry Mullane, (Ice Forecasting Central)
 H.E. Wahl, (Whitehorse)
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 Guy Borne, (Quebec Region)
 Frank Amirault (Atlantic Region)

Telephone Inquiries (416) 667-4711/4906

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 0600 G.M.T. MARCH 29, 1983

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
YUKON						
Burwash	-13	-3	-1	-27	0.0	-0.8
Dawson	-15	-5	-2	-33	0.0	-2.5
Faro	M	X	-5P	-22P	M	X
Komakuk Beach	-27	-2	-23	-32	0.0	-0.5
Mayo	-12	-4	-4	-21	0.2	-1.9
Shingle Point	-29	-5	-24	-36	0.0	-0.8
Tealin	M	X	-1P	-23P	M	X
Watson Lake	-15	-7	-2	-30	2.4	-2.5
Whitehorse	-10	-4	4	-23	2.8	-0.1
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES						
Cape Parry	-28	-2	-23	-34	0.0	-0.9
Cape Young	-30	-2	-24	-37	0.0	-0.6
Clinton Point	-28	-3	-20	-33	0.0	-0.8
Coppermine	-31	-6	-25	-36	0.3	-2.1
Fort Reliance	-22	-5	-14	-31	2.4	-0.8
Fort Simpson	-19	-5	-5	-30	6.7	2.4
Fort Smith	-13	-2	-2	-27	0.0	-3.0
Hay River	-20	-8	-11	-28	4.6	0.2
Inuvik	-27	-3	-18	-40	0.0	-3.7
Lady Franklin Point	-30	-2	-25	-34	0.0	-0.1
Nicholson Peninsula	-29	-3	-24	-35	0.0	-0.7
Norman Wells	-23	-7	-12	-34	0.0	-3.2
Port Radium	M	X	-16P	-33P	M	X
Robertson Lake	M	X	-22P	-32P	M	X
Tuktoyaktuk	-28	-3	-21	-33	0.0	-0.9
Yellowknife	-19	-4	-10	-28	1.2	-1.5
Baker Lake	-28	-3	-21	-34	0.4	-1.8
Coral Harbour	-27	-4	-19	-35	0.0	-2.9
Ennadai Lake	M	M	-13P	-25P	M	M
Jenny Lind Island	-31	-1	-25	-36	0.0	-0.6
Pelly Bay	-28	1	-23	-34	0.0	-1.0
Rankin Inlet	-26	X	-18	-35	0.7	X
Shepherd Bay	-34	-5	-28	-41	0.0	-0.6
Broughton Island	-27	-4	-18	-34	0.0	-1.0
Cape Dorset	-24	X	-18	-33	M	X
Cape Dyer	-27	-4	-20	-38	0.0	-5.6
Cape Hooper	-27	-3	-22	-32	0.0	-1.2
Clyde	-29	-5	-22	-37	0.0	-1.1
Devar Lakes	-29	-2	-20	-35	0.0	-1.3
Frobisher Bay	-28	-6	-19	-37	0.8	-3.1
Longstaff Bluff	-30	-3	-25	-36	0.0	-1.9
Pond Inlet	-34	X	-31	-38	0.0	X
Alert	-32	0	-24	-37	M	M
Eureka	-35	1	-26	-42	0.6	0.5
Gladman Point	M	M	-25P	-39	0.0	-0.9
Hall Beach	-33	-5	-24	-39	0.0	-2.6
Mackar Inlet	-28	-1	-21	-34	0.2	-0.4
Resolute	-32	-2	-28	-37	M	M
Byron Bay	-30	0	-23	-35	0.0	-0.4
Cambridge Bay	-31	-2	-25	-37	0.0	-1.3
Mould Bay	-31	0	-23	-36	M	M
Sachs Harbour	-29	-2	-19	-36	0.0	-0.1
BRITISH COLUMBIA						
Abbotsford	9	2	15	0	32.9	5.0
Alert Bay	7	1	13	1	4.1	-26.8
Amphitrite Point	8	X	15	3	98.6	X
Blue River	M	X	10P	-5	M	X
Bull Harbour	8	2	13	3	11.9	-23.8
Burns Lake	-3	X	9	-16	0.0	X
Cape Scott	8	2	12	2	59.6	-1.7
Cape St James	9	4	15	4	30.3	-4.2
Clinton	M	X	9P	-4P	M	X
Comox	7	1	13	0	12.6	-6.9
Cranbrook	4	2	11	-4	2.1	-3.5
Dease Lake	-10	-5	4	-25	1.0	-2.6
Estevan Point	M	M	13P	3P	M	M
Ethelda Bay	7	X	13	-2	M	X
Fort Nelson	-13	-7	-3	-25	0.6	-4.4
Fort St John	-9	-5	1	-22	0.0	-4.7
Hope	9	X	15	2	26.9	X
Kamloops	6	1	17	-3	2.9	1.8
Langara	6	2	9	2	19.0	-12.8
Lytton	-3	X	10	-20	0.0	X
Mackenzie	9	3	14	4	44.2	-4.3
McInnes Island	6	0	13	-3	19.4	16.5
Penticton	6	0	13	-3	19.4	16.5
Port Alberni	M	X	15P	0P	M	X
Port Hardy	7	3	13	2	12.4	-20.0
Prince George	0	0	13	-10	0.0	-5.3
Prince Rupert	5	2	11	-3	9.0	-38.2
Puntzi Mountain	M	X	11P	-11P	M	X
Quesnel	2	1	15	-9	0.0	-4.5
Revelstoke	5	3	13	-3	10.4	-12.3
Sandspit	7	2	10	0	45.5	18.2
Smithers	0	0	11	-9	0.0	-6.1

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
Stewart	3	X	12	-6	M	X
Terrace	5	2	13	-4	2.8	-15.4
Vancouver	8	2	14	1	32.2	15.2
Victoria	8	1	13	2	12.8	-0.5
Williams Lake	2	2	11	-9	0.0	-3.8
ALBERTA						
Banff	-2	0	8	-16	M	M
Calgary	-3	-1	10	-14	5.0	0.7
Cold Lake	-5	1	7	-15	1.4	-3.0
Coronation	-4	0	10	-13	1.2	-1.6
Edmonton Intl	-6	0	6	-19	2.2	-0.5
Edmonton Namao	-5	-2	6	-17	0.5	-2.3
Edson	-4	1	11	-13	5.6	0.4
Fort Chipewyan	-11	0	-1	-26	0.7	-3.9
Fort McMurray	-7	-1	8	-24	1.0	-3.2
Grande Prairie	-8	-3	3	-22	6.4	2.5
High Level	-13	-8	-2	-27	0.8	-4.2
Jasper	-1	0	9	-10	5.2	0.9
Lethbridge	1	0	12	-8	1.6	-3.0
Lloydminster	-7	-2	3	-16	1.1	-1.6
Medicine Hat	0	0	13	-11	5.5	1.3
Peace River	-9	-3	5	-20	6.2	3.3
Red Deer	-5	-2	7	-20	2.4	-1.3
Rocky Mountain House	-6	-4	7	-24	5.0	0.9
Slave Lake	-5	0	8	-14	0.6	-4.6
Whitecourt	-5	-1	7	-16	1.6	-2.6
SASKATCHEWAN						
Broadview	9	X	2	-30	0.6	X
Buffalo Narrows	-8	2	4	-23	M	M
Collins Bay	-11	X	4	-21	0.6	X
Cree Lake	-11	X	5	-26	0.4	X
Eastend	M	X	M	M	M	X
Elbow	-7	X	4	-22	M	X
Estevan	-4	-2	3	-20	0.0	-5.0
Hudson Bay	-11	5	3	-30	M	M
Kindersley	-3	1	11	-12	2.4	1.5
La Ronge	-10	-1	7	-24	5.7	0.2
Meadow Lake	-9	X	5	-23	1.6	X
Moose Jaw	-6	-3	3	-18	3.1	-1.4
Nipawin	-12	X	1	-26	4.2	X
North Battleford	-7	-2	3	-16	2.3	-1.7
Prince Albert	-9	-3	3	-25	4.1	0.6
Regina	-8	-3	1	-20	2.8	-1.8
Rockglen	M	X	4P	-12	M	X
Saskatoon	-7	-2	5	-18	3.8	0.5
Swift Current	-6	-3	3	-21	9.1	5.4
Uranium City	-11	2	-1	-24	0.2	-3.5
Wynyard	-9	X	1	-21	5.6	X
Yorkton	-11	-5	1	-28	4.2	-2.6
MANITOBA						
Bissett	-6	X	6	-20	4.8	X
Brandon	-7	-2	3	-22	0.2	-7.2
Churchill	-22	-4	-7	-33	3.4	-2.6
Dauphin	-10	-4	3	-26	2.2	-7.7
Gillam	-18	X	-2	-31	4.0	X
Gimli	-7	-2	2	-18	2.6	-3.3
Grand Rapids	M	X	0P	-32	M	X
Island Lake	-14	X	1	-27	M	X
Lynn Lake	-13	2	4	-31	2.3	-3.4
Norway House	-14	X	0	-30	8.4	X
Pilot Mound	-5	-1	3	-17	0.4	-4.3
Portage la Prairie	-6	-2	3	-19	0.4	-11.2
The Pas	-12	-4	2	-27	8.9	4.3
Thompson	-15	-3	3	-34	6.6	-0.4
Winnipeg	-6	-2	3	-16	3.3	-5.8
ONTARIO						
Armstrong	M	M	3P	-33	M	M
Atikokan	-6	-1	5	-21	0.0	-6.2
Barrie	M	X	2P	-17P	M	X
Big Trout Lake	-17	-6	1	-33	7.2	3.4
Britt	M	X	3P	-25P	M	X
Caribou Island	M	X	M	M	M	X
Earlton	-12	-8	3	-30	M	M
Geraldton	-14	X	4	-34	0.0	X
Gore Bay	-8	-5	2	-20	9.4	-6.5
Kapuskasing	-14	-7	6	-30	2.0	-12.2
Kenora	-4	-1	4	-17	2.6	-6.6
Kingston	-4	-5	5	-13	M	M
Lansdowne House	-17	-7	4	-37	0.8	-5.6
London	-5	-7	5	-17	20.9	2.5
Moosonee	-16	-7	5	-36	0.9	-9.7
Mount Forest	-7	-6	2	-17	M	M
Muskoka	-7	-7	4	-24	9.8	-5.5
Nagagami	M	X	6P	-31P	M	X
North Bay	-10	-7	2	-22	5.2	-10.7
Ottawa	-7	-6	3	-17	10.2	-4.3

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip.
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	
Petawawa	-8	X	3	-24	12.0
Pickle Lake	-12	-5	4	-30	1.8
Red Lake	-9	-3	3	-24	5.2
Simcoe	-4	-6	7	-13	M
Sioux Lookout	-7	-2	4	-22	0.6
Sudbury	-10	-5	2	-21	9.0
Thunder Bay	-7	-3	6	-20	0.0
Timmins	-13	-6	4	-32	4.0
Toronto	-6	-7	5	-16	10.6
Trenton	-5	-7	5	-14	9.9
Upsala	M	X	1P	-27P	M
Wawa	-12	X	1	-26	3.6
Warton	-7	-6	2	-18	14.2
Windsor	-1	-5	13	-10	19.4
QUÉBEC					
Bagotville	-9	-6	5	-21	15.2
Baie-Comeau	-7	-3	2	-18	31.8
Blanc-Sablon	-5	1	5	-14	32.8
Border	M	M	-14P	-30P	M
Chevery	M	X	3P	-13	M
Chibougamau	-14	X	3	-30	17.4
Gaspé	-4	X	9	-14	50.2
Inukjuak	-25	-8	-12	-35	2.2
Kuujuaq	-21	-6	-13	-32	6.4
Kuujuaqapik	-23	-8	-5	-35	0.6
Lac-Eon	M	X	1P	-22P	M
La Grande-Riviere	-19	X	-4	-31	0.0
Maniwaki	-9	-6	5	-23	11.0
Matagami	-15	X	3	-35	M