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A WEEKLY REVIEW OF CANADIAN CLIMATE

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CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES



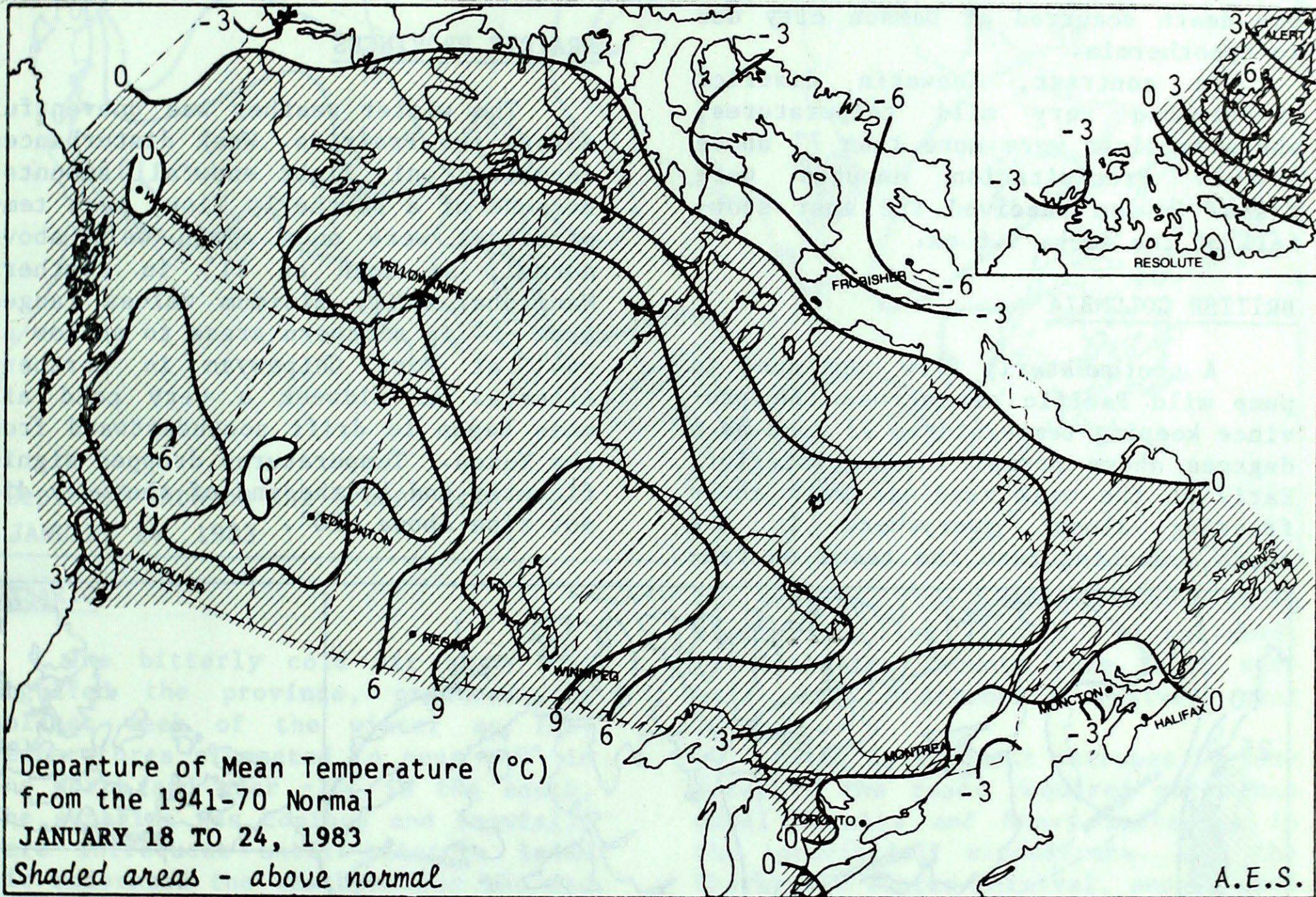
THE CANADIAN CLIMATE CENTRE,
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT SERVICE,
4905 DUFFERIN ST., DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3H 5T4

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WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD - JANUARY 18 - 24, 1983

Extremely mild across the Prairies

Unseasonably mild temperatures continued to dominate the weather in Western Canada. Average temperatures were more than 11° above normal in southern Manitoba. As a result of chinook winds, temperatures soared in the 6 to 9 degree range in the foothills of Alberta on the 18th and 19th of January.

In contrast, the coldest week of the winter so far was recorded in Ontario. Temperatures dropped nearly to -40° in the north and -20° in the south.

Across the country, temperatures ranged from 13.2° at Shelburne, N.S. to -46.7° at Mould Bay, N.W.T. Cape Scott, B.C. received 157.1 mm of rain.

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

Mild temperatures prevailed in southern and central Yukon during the first two days of the period, climbing to the freezing mark at Whitehorse on January 18. Otherwise, the weather was very cold in the Yukon. The coldest location was Ross River, where the temperature plunged to -46° on January 24. One death occurred at Dawson city due to hypothermia.

In contrast, Keewatin district experienced very mild temperatures, where readings were more than 7° above normal. Precipitation amounts were scant. Dawson received the most snowfall of the week, 9.6 cm.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

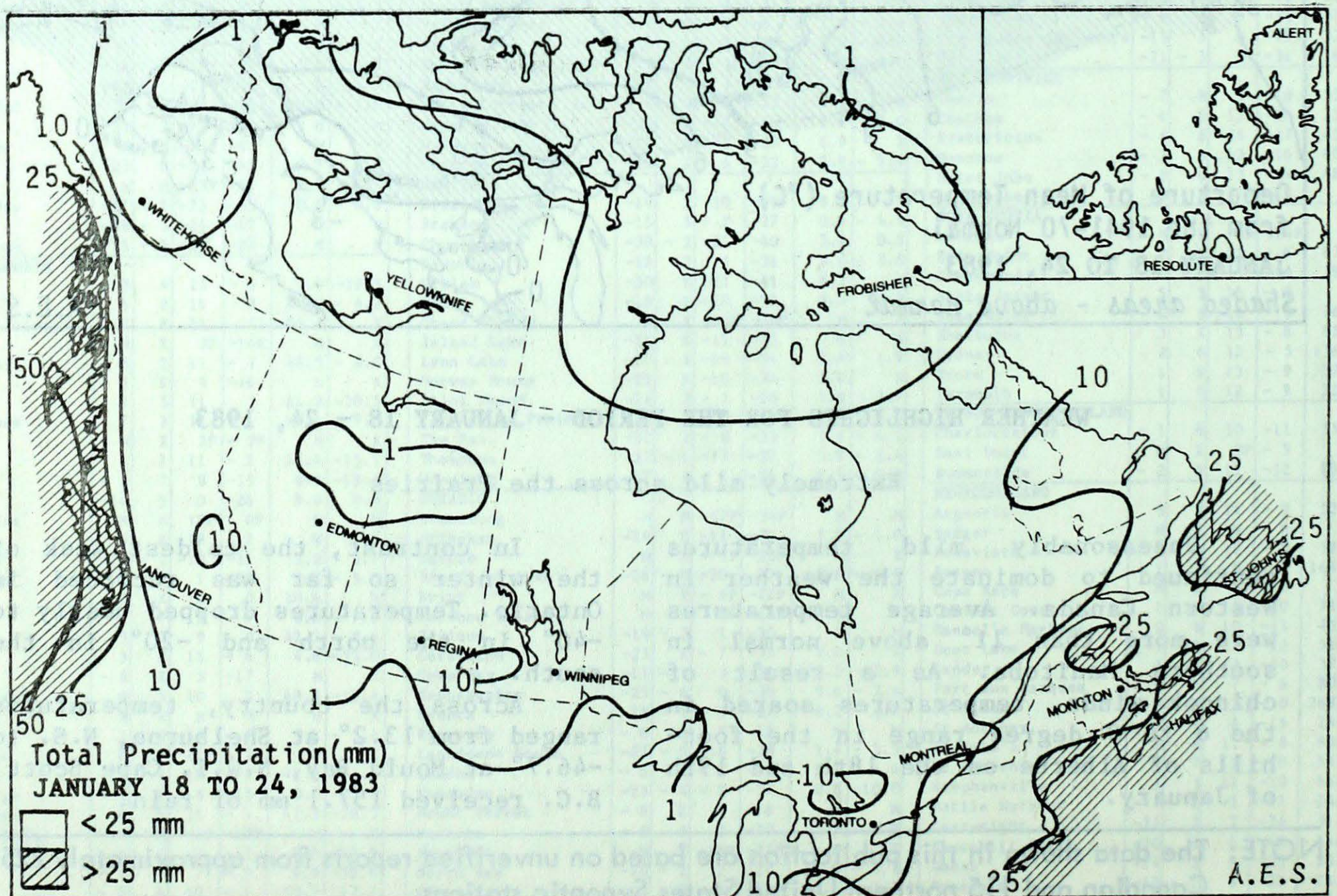
A southwesterly flow continued to pump mild Pacific air across the province keeping temperatures as much as 6 degrees above normal in the interior. Early in the week readings were above freezing almost everywhere in the south, reaching into the teens on Van-

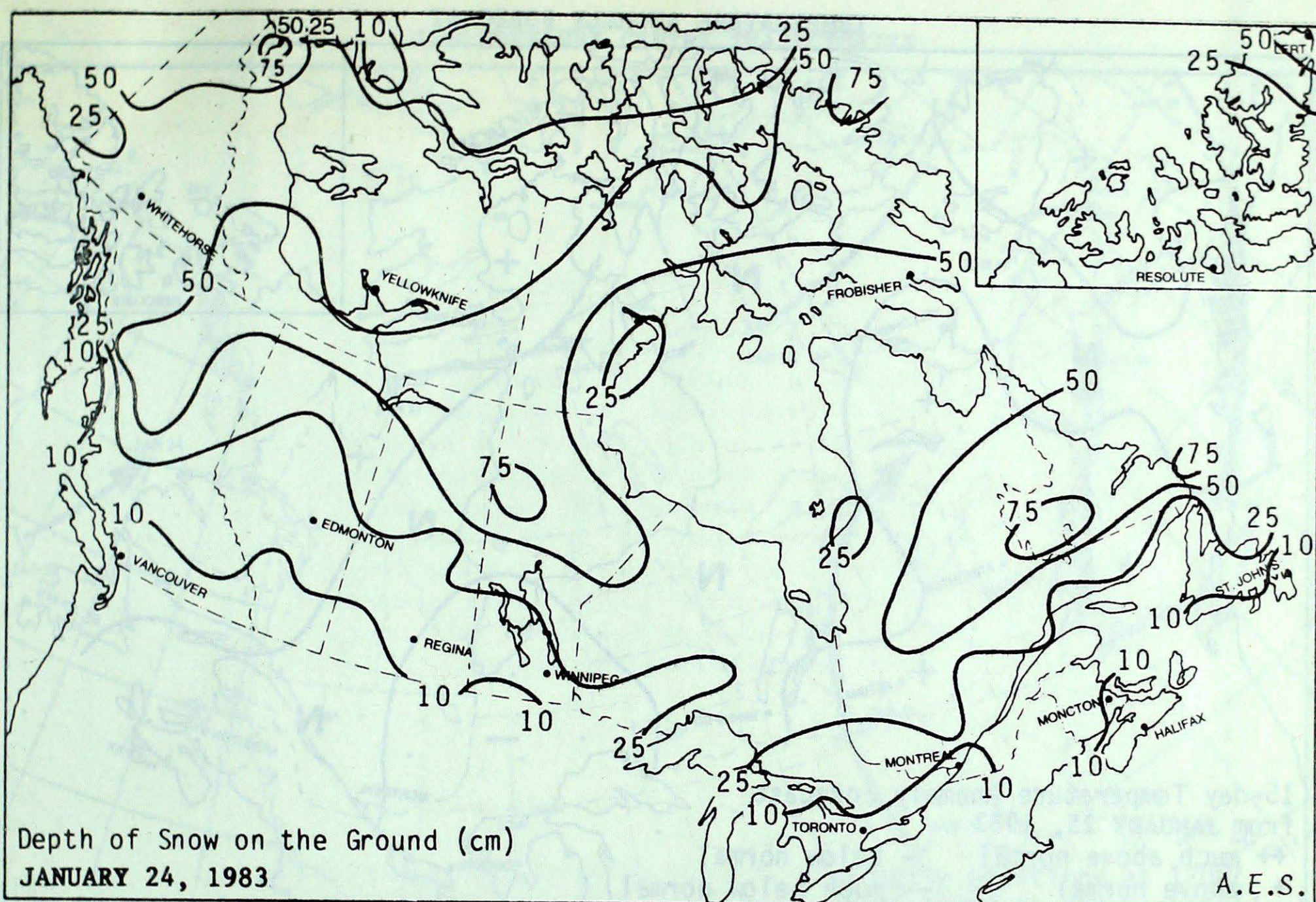
couver Island. By mid-week an Arctic air mass slipped southwards covering the northern half of the province, where temperatures dropped in the -30 to -38 degree range.

Precipitation was below normal everywhere; Victoria received 21 mm and Terrace 13 mm. Ski resort operators report a favourable winter with ample snow and near seasonable temperatures.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The winter weather was uneventful across the Prairies. Weak disturbances deposited only light snowfall amounts. Because of a southerly flow, mean temperatures were once again well above normal, as much as 11° in southern Manitoba. Daily minimum values ranged from -5° in southern areas to as low as -44° at Fort Chipewyan in northern Alberta. At midweek a very cold air mass began to drift southeastward from the Yukon. Temperatures dropped significantly and by the end of the week did not rise above -20° .





ONTARIO

The bitterly cold air mass that engulfed the province, produced the coldest week of the winter so far. Temperatures plummeted to near -40° in the north and near -20° in the south. The sunshine was copious and snowfalls were infrequent until moisture laden air moderated the weather near the end of the week. Although rain and wet snow were commonplace, some southern areas had periods of freezing rain on January 23.

The first province-wide snow cover of the winter was short-lived as the rain melted the snow in the extreme southwest and along the shorelines of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Skiers in southern Ontario still hope for more snow.

QUÉBEC

Temperatures varied considerably during the week. At first, a north-westerly flow of cold air entrenched the whole province; overnight readings of -20° or lower were common. Towards

the week-end, temperatures moderated as southerly flow became established. Precipitation amounts were below normal; only Sherbrooke received over 20 mm.

Owing to frequent extremes in temperature the roads required more than usual repairs and heavy increases in the provincial expenditure. At the Sherbrooke winter carnival, people used artificial snow for their outdoor activities. Snow cover at most resorts was now acceptable for skiing.

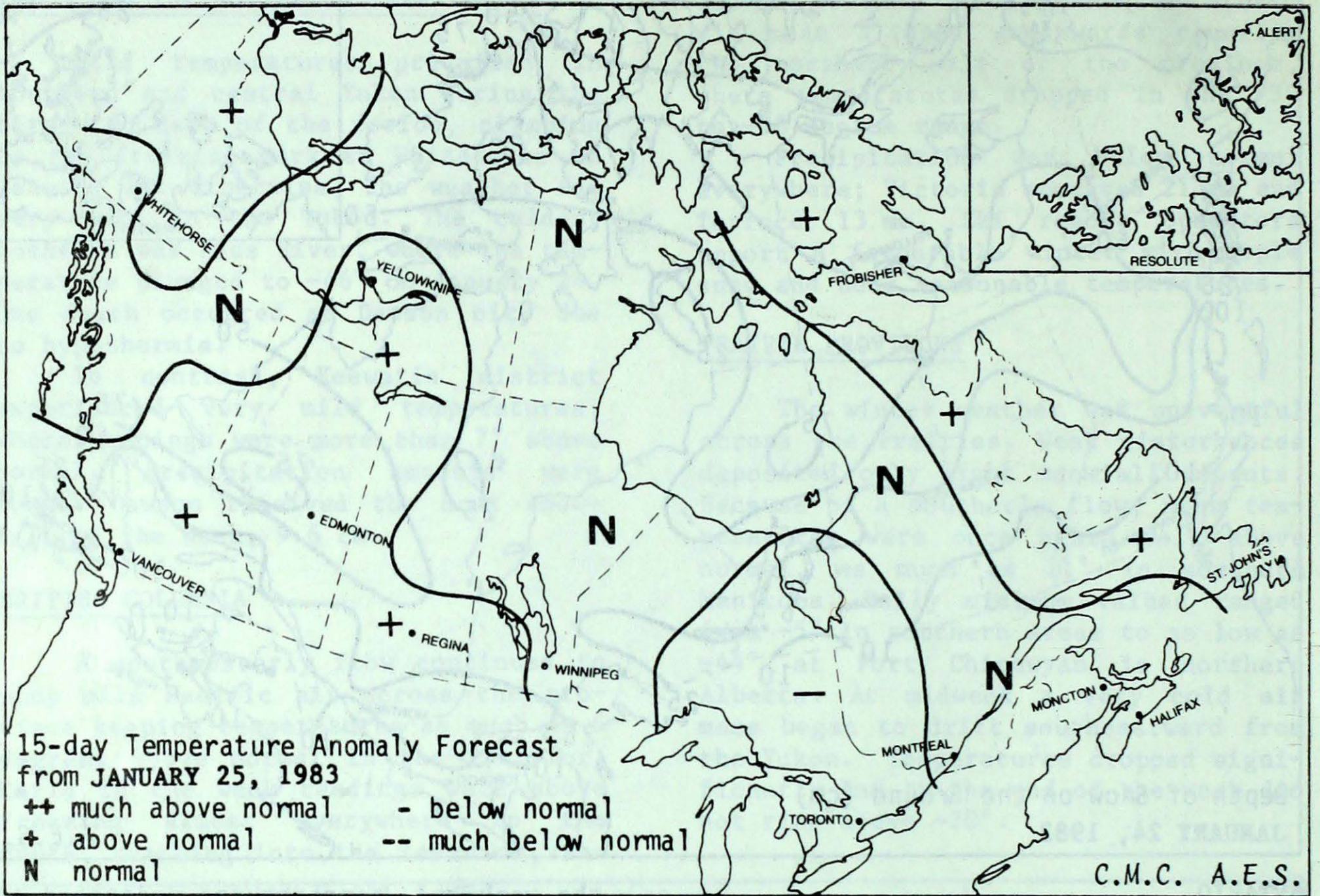
Ice growth in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was slower than normal because of strong winds and mild temperatures. Waters east of Aticosti Island were free of ice.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

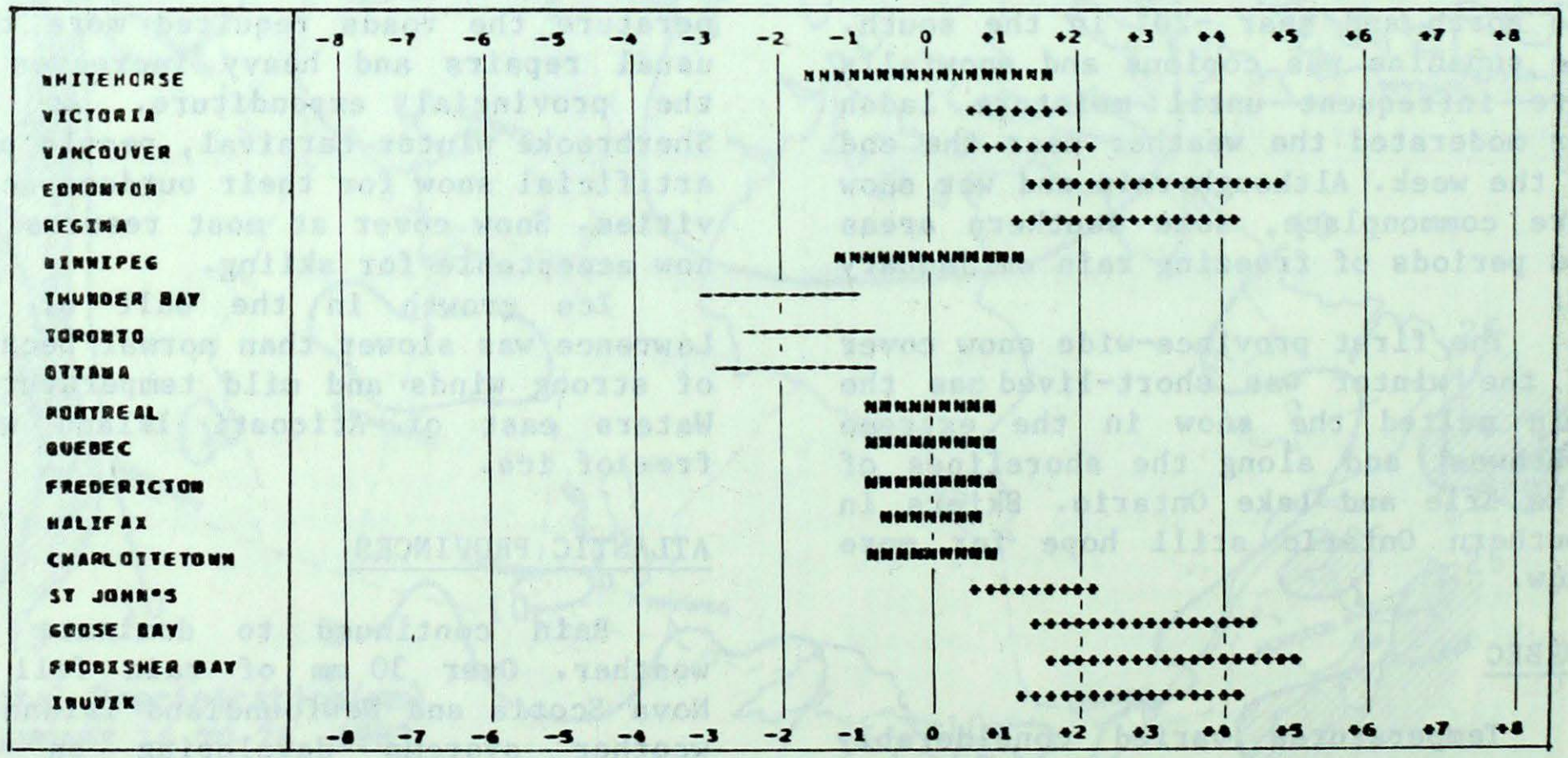
Rain continued to dominate the weather. Over 30 mm of rain fell in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Island as weather systems developing on the American East Coast crossed the Atlantic Provinces. Some snow fell in northern New Brunswick on January 24,

(continued on page 6)

TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST

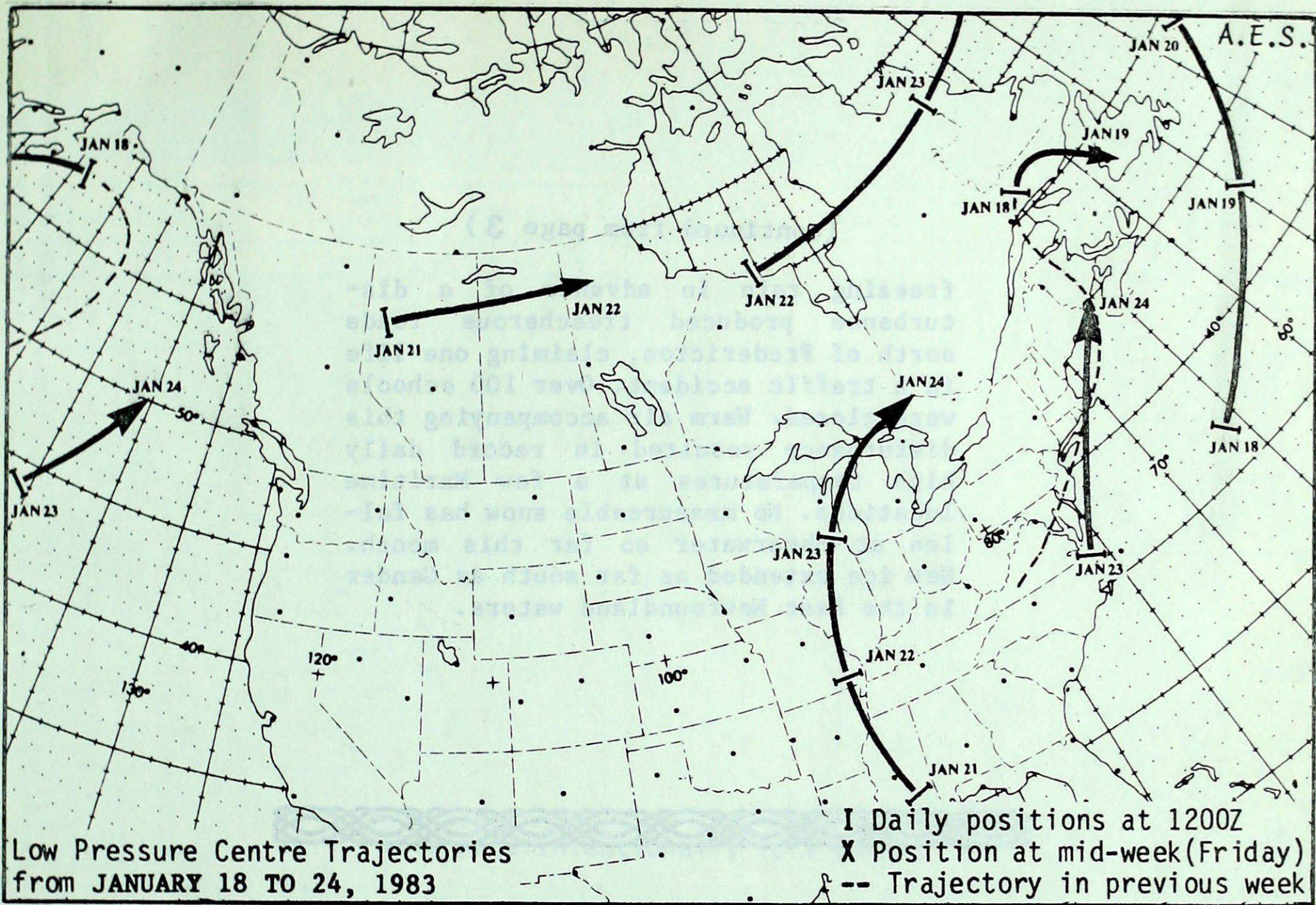


TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST FOR JAN 25 1983 TO FEB 9 1983



<<<< MUCH BELOW NORMAL NNNN NEAR NORMAL >>>> MUCH ABOVE NORMAL
 ----- BELOW NORMAL +++++ ABOVE NORMAL

LOW PRESSURE CENTRE TRAJECTORIES



EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	GREATEST PRECIPITATION	LOCATION
YUKON TERRITORY	.3	BURNASH	-46.0	ROSS RIVER	4.2	DAWSON
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	-9.7	FORT SMITH	-46.7	MOULO BAY	9.9	HAY RIVER
BRITISH COLUMBIA	12.0	SATURNA ISLAND	-37.8	FORT NELSON	157.1	CAPE SCOTT
ALBERTA	8.4	LETHBRIDGE	-44.0	FORT CHIPEWYAN	6.4	LETHBRIDGE
SASKATCHEWAN	.7	EASTEND CYPRESS	-42.0	URANIUM CITY	9.0	BROADVIEW
MANITOBA	.5	PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	-36.4	NORWAY HOUSE	11.2	BRAMCOON
ONTARIO	3.1	TORONTO	-37.5	PICKLE LAKE	11.9	WINDSOR
QUEBEC	4.9	GASPE	-41.0	SCHEFFERVILLE	21.8	BLANC SABLON
NEW BRUNSWICK	6.9	MONCTON	-27.6	ST STEPHEN	28.2	CHARLOTTETOWN
NOVA SCOTIA	13.2	SHELBURNE	-18.8	AMHERST	39.6	YARMOUTH
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	5.8	CHARLOTTETOWN	-16.9	SUMMERSIDE	27.6	CHARLOTTETOWN
NEWFOUNDLAND	8.0	ARGENTIA VTMS	-35.4	WABUSH LAKE	44.6	COMFORT COVE

(continued from page 3)

freezing rain in advance of a disturbance produced treacherous roads north of Fredericton, claiming one life in a traffic accident. Over 100 schools were closed. Warm air accompanying this disturbance resulted in record daily high temperatures at a few Maritime locations. No measureable snow has fallen at Shearwater so far this month. New ice extended as far south as Gander in the East Newfoundland waters.

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

Staff

Editor:	Amir Shabbar
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)
Norm Penny	(Pacific Region)
Bill Prusak,	(Western Region)
Fred Luciw,	(Central Region)
Bryan Smith,	(Ontario Region)
Jacques Miron	(Quebec Region)
Frank Amirault	(Atlantic Region)

Telephone Inquiries (416) 667-4711/4906

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