



Environment Canada / Environnement Canada

**A WEEKLY REVIEW OF CANADIAN CLIMATE**

Atmospheric Environment / Environnement atmosphérique

**CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES**

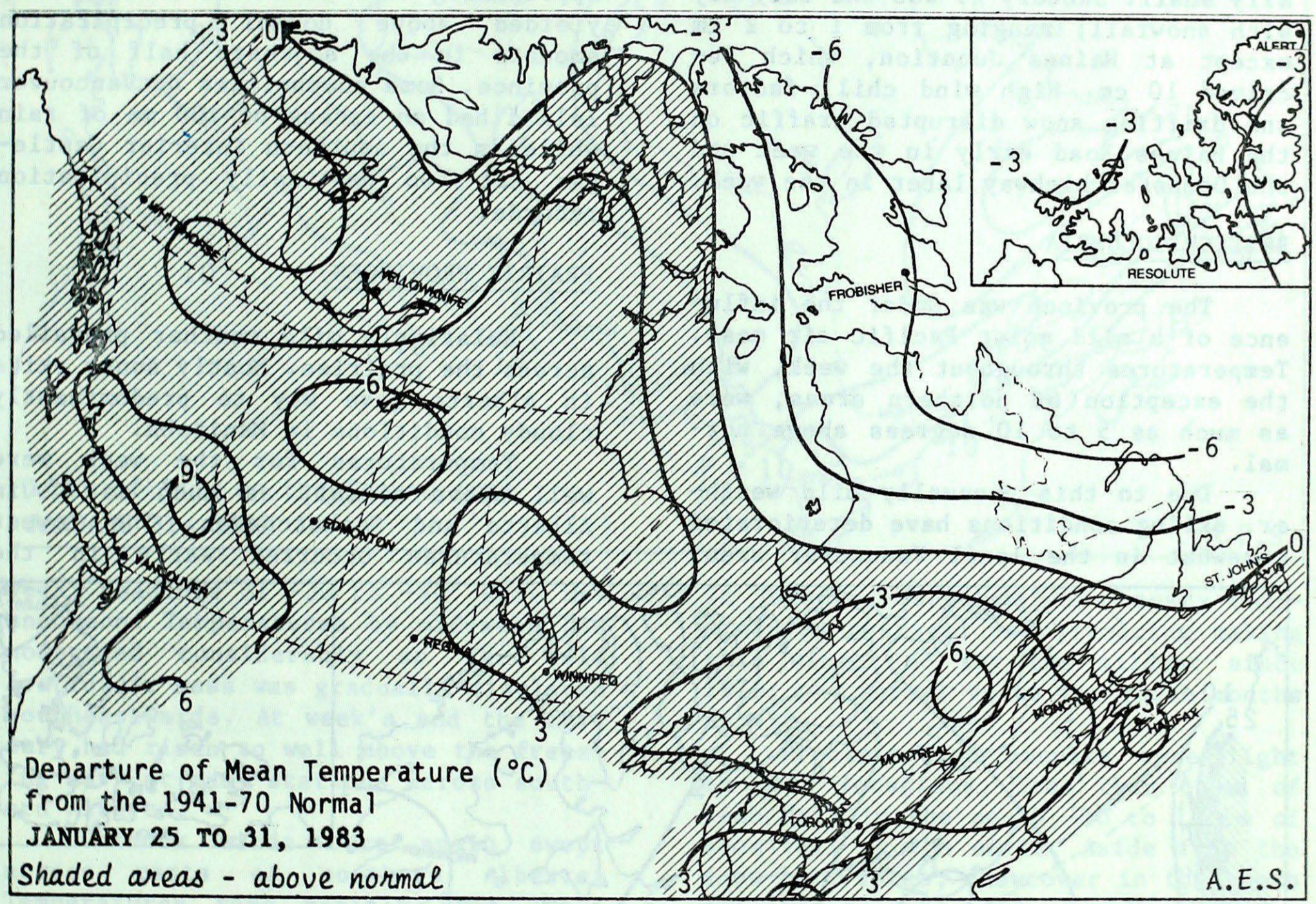


THE CANADIAN CLIMATE CENTRE,  
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT SERVICE,  
4905 DUFFERIN ST., DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3H 5T4

**FEBRUARY 4, 1983**

*(Aussi disponible en français)*

**VOL. 5 NO. 5**



Departure of Mean Temperature (°C)  
from the 1941-70 Normal  
**JANUARY 25 TO 31, 1983**  
*Shaded areas - above normal*

A.E.S.

**WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD - JANUARY 25 - 31, 1983**

**Unseasonably mild winter continues across Canada**

Extremely mild temperatures continued to dominate the weather across the country. Mean temperatures were more than 10° above normal in parts of the Yukon. Inadequate snow cover at the ski resorts in Alberta, Ontario and Québec has led to a significant drop in revenue. One sporting goods manufacturing company in Valcourt, Québec closed four of its plants when sales dropped about 30 per cent.

Mild weather has resulted in a marked reduction in heating requirements; especially in the Maritimes where oil consumption was much less than usual. To date seasonal heating degree days were 9 per cent below normal in parts of southern Ontario.

Temperatures ranged from 14.0° at Lawn Point, B.C. to -47° at Ross River, Y.T. Sandspit, B.C. received 121.3 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

Very cold temperatures ushered in the week but moderated after an influx of milder air by the end of the period. Temperatures were as much as 15° below normal in southern Yukon on January 25, rising to 10 to 15 degrees above seasonable values by January 31.

Precipitation amounts were generally small. January 29 was the only day with snowfall; ranging from 1 to 2 cm except at Haines Junction, which received 10 cm. High wind chill factors and drifting snow disrupted traffic on the Haines Road early in the week and the Dempster highway later in the week.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

The province was under the influence of a mild moist Pacific air mass. Temperatures throughout the week, with the exception of northern areas, were as much as 5 to 10 degrees above normal.

Due to this unusually mild weather, skiing conditions have deteriorated somewhat in the local Vancouver area,

but an abundance of snow in the interior allowed for good skiing conditions.

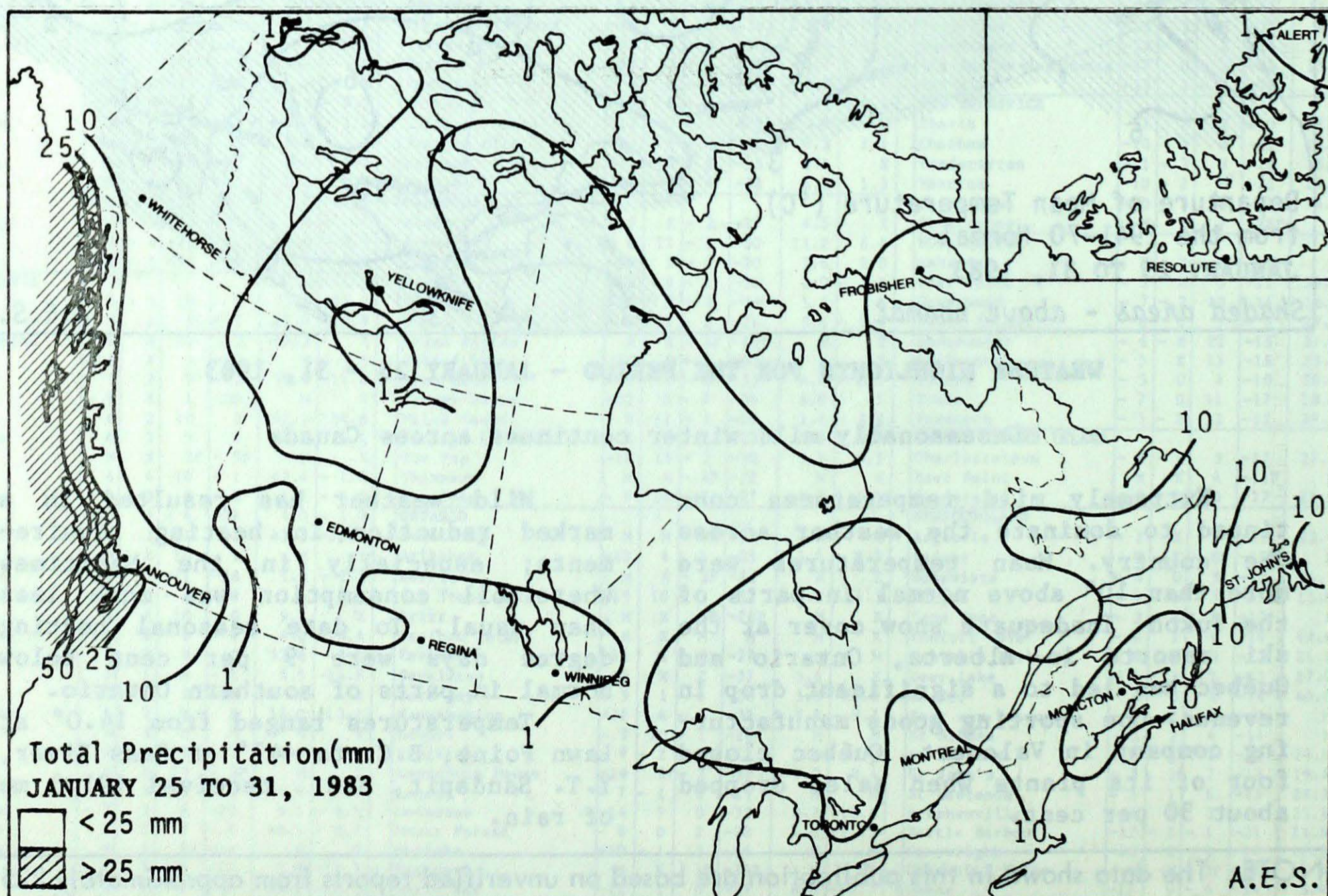
Avalanches have been a significant problem for the past several weeks, especially in the Kootenay region of southeastern B.C. The combination of mild temperatures, wet snow conditions and strong winds at upper levels have contributed to the problem.

A series of Pacific disturbances approaching the Canadian west coast, yielded above normal precipitation amounts in the southern half of the province. Some communities on Vancouver Island had an excess of 100 mm of rain while in the southern interior Castlegar set two new daily precipitation records.

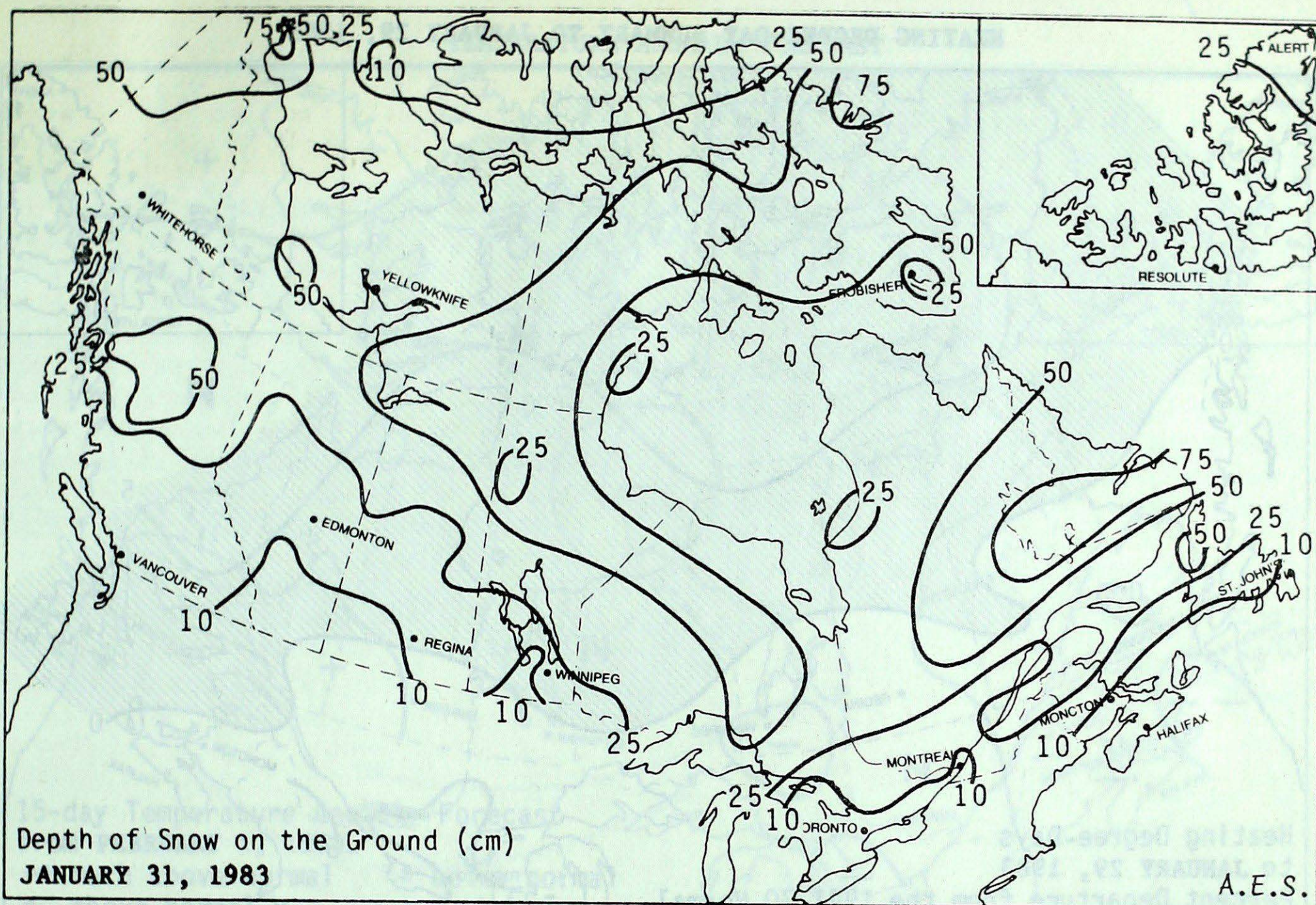
### PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Relatively mild weather prevailed across the prairies. Mostly sunny skies in Alberta gave way to predominantly cloudy conditions in Manitoba.

Temperatures for the week were well above normal, as much as 6° in Alberta and Saskatchewan. The lowest temperatures occurred early in the



A.E.S.



week; readings of  $-30$  to  $-40^{\circ}$  were not uncommon. Temperatures by mid-week had moderated considerably as the cold Arctic air mass was gradually displaced southeastwards. At week's end the mercury had risen to well above the freezing mark at many stations across southern Alberta.

Chinook winds once again swept across parts of southern Alberta. Temperatures rose rapidly from about  $-25^{\circ}$  on the 26th to  $9^{\circ}$  at Calgary and  $10^{\circ}$  at Lethbridge on the 27th.

Some light snow was reported this week but precipitation was generally very low.

The snow cover has disappeared in many areas of southern Alberta and is considerably less than normal across the rest of the southern prairies.

The month of January in southern Manitoba, is now on record as being the cloudiest and warmest since 1958.

#### ONTARIO

Balmy weather continued in Ontario. Average temperatures were more than  $4^{\circ}$  above normal in central areas.

In Toronto, December and January temperatures averaged near freezing making this winter so far the mildest since 1975; the normal value for these months is  $-3^{\circ}$ .

Precipitation amounts were light in most locations, less than 6 mm of rain fell in the south; 10 to 15 cm of snow fell in the north. Aside from the snow-belt areas, snowcover in the south dwindled to trace amounts. Most of the bays and inlets in the Great Lakes, were completely ice covered.

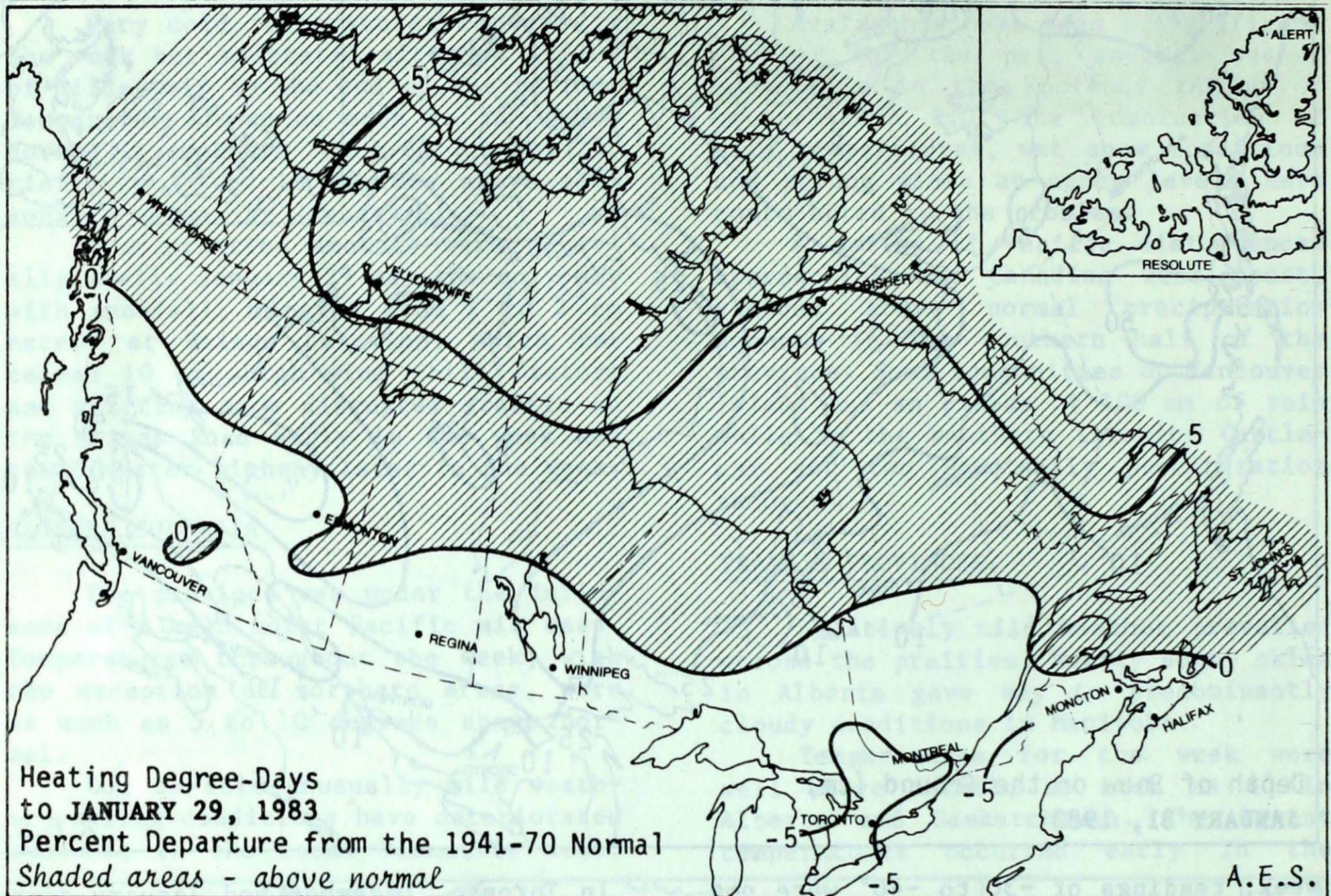
#### QUÉBEC

The persistent mild weather resulted in average temperatures up to  $4^{\circ}$  above normal in central and southwestern Québec. Precipitation amounts were scant ranging from 5 to 12 cm. Daily minimum temperatures set record high and low values in southern areas.

The mild weather and deficient snowfall at the ski resorts, forced Bombardier sporting goods company to

(continued on page 7)

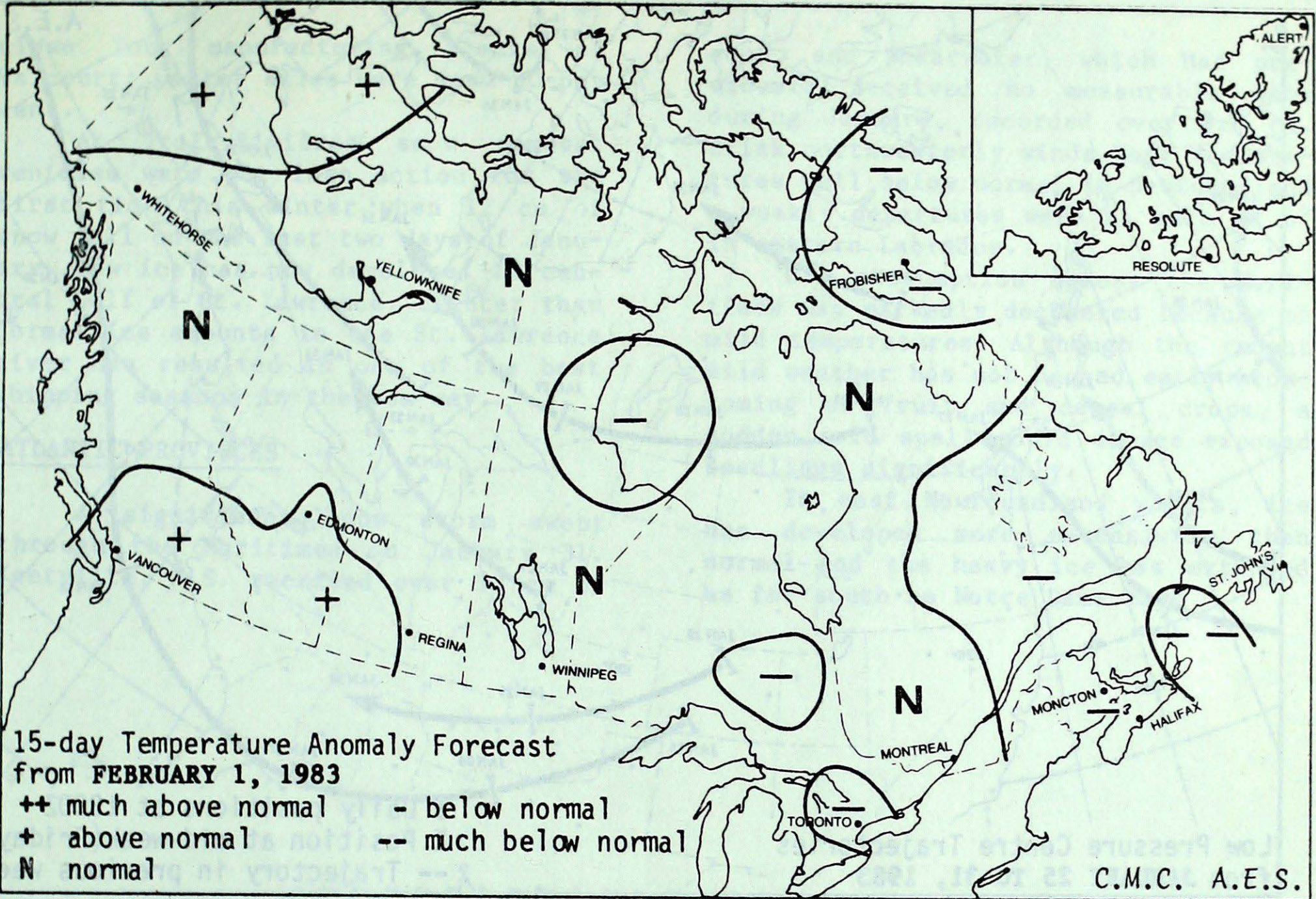
## HEATING DEGREE-DAY SUMMARY TO JANUARY 29, 1983



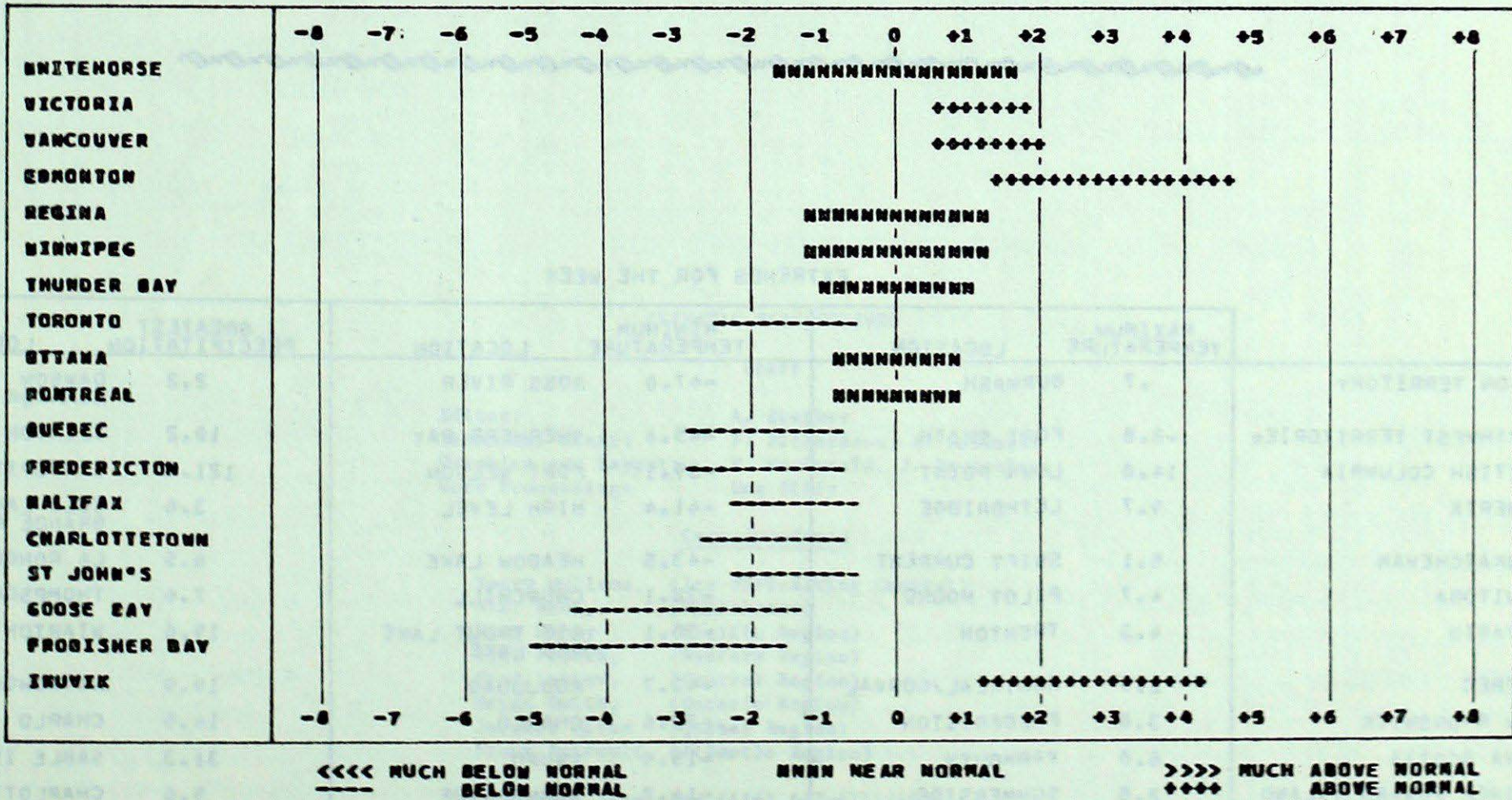
STATION	MONTHLY CUMULATIVE TOTAL	MONTHLY DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL TOTAL	SEASONAL DIFF. FROM 1941-70 NORMAL	SEASONAL PERCENT OF NORMAL
Resolute	768.0	7.0	7206.5	358.5	105
Inuvik	727.0	-5.0	5923.0	245.0	104
Whitehorse	643.5	90.5	4129.0	95.5	102
Vancouver	174.0	-62.0	1621.5	-24.5	99
Edmonton Mun	429.5	-62.5	3006.0	-134.5	96
Calgary	373.0	-64.0	2802.0	-122.0	96
Regina	471.0	-61.0	3183.5	-91.0	97
Winnipeg	489.5	-58.5	3084.0	-116.0	96
Thunder Bay	457.5	-35.5	3038.5	-44.0	99
Windsor	331.0	-6.0	1712.0	-178.5	91
Toronto	368.5	-0.5	2028.5	-108.5	95
Ottawa	419.5	-15.5	2382.5	-161.5	94
Montreal	411.5	-6.5	2318.0	-93.0	96
Quebec	427.0	-25.0	2646.0	-105.5	96
Saint John, N.B.	376.5	-13.5	2352.0	-112.0	95
Halifax	317.5	-17.5	1947.5	-66.0	97
Charlottetown	359.0	-20.0	2254.0	-50.5	98
St. John's, Nfld.	316.0	-17.0	2015.0	-4.0	100

**NOTE:** The heating degree-day table and map have been missing in the first 4 issues of 1983 due to computer problems. Seasonal total heating degree-days since the beginning of November 1982 have been incorrect. The current table has correct seasonal totals to January 29, 1983.

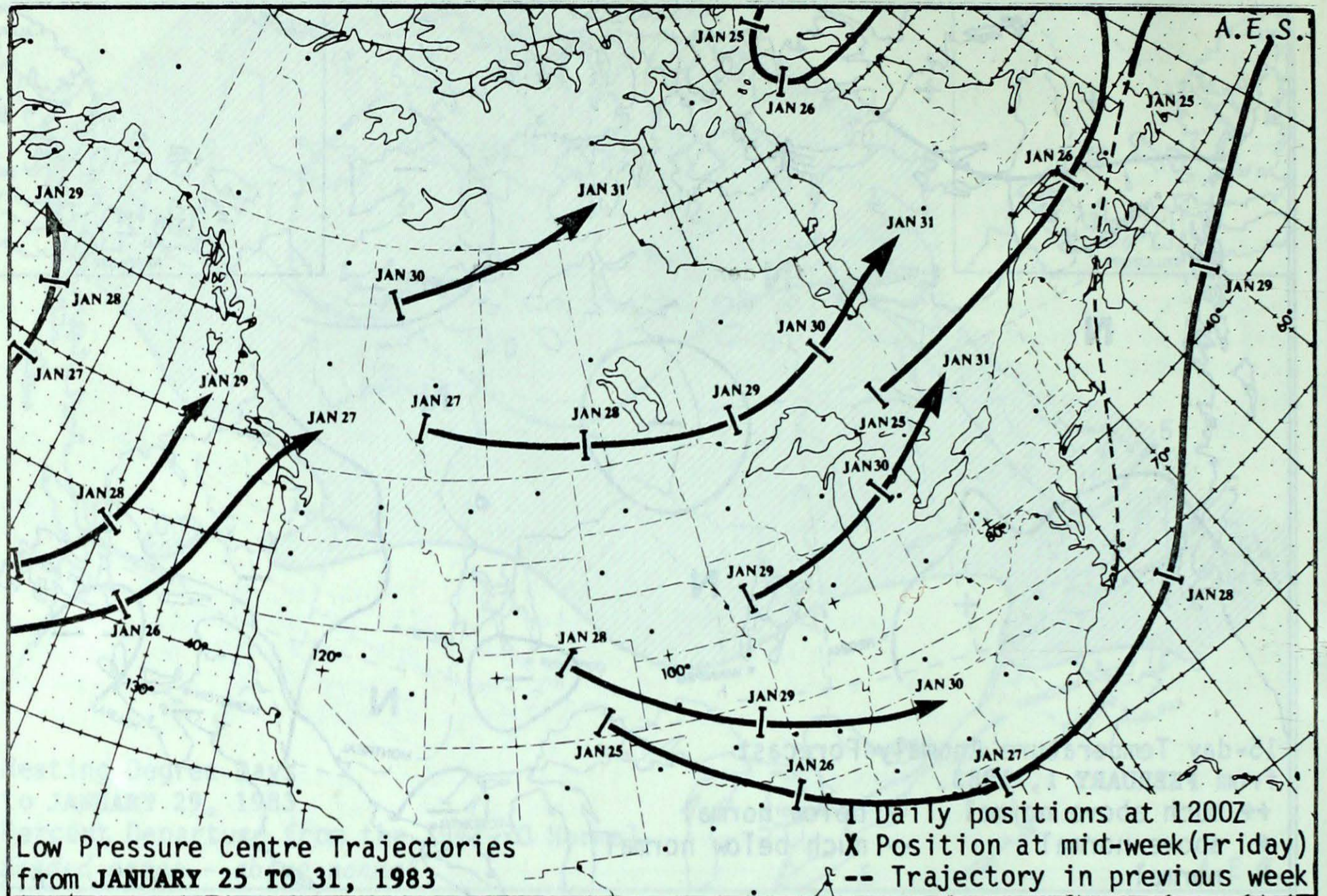
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST



TEMPERATURE ANOMALY FORECAST FOR FEB 1 1983 TO FEB 15 1983



LOW PRESSURE CENTRE TRAJECTORIES



EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	GREATEST PRECIPITATION	LOCATION
YUKON TERRITORY	.7	BURWASH	-47.0	ROSS RIVER	2.2	DAWSON KOMAKUK BEACH
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	-8.8	FORT SMITH	-45.4	SHEPHERD BAY	10.2	CLINTON POINT
BRITISH COLUMBIA	14.0	LAWN POINT	-39.1	FORT NELSON	121.3	SANDSPIT
ALBERTA	9.7	LETHBRIDGE	-41.4	HIGH LEVEL	3.6	COLD LAKE GRANDE PRAIRIE
SASKATCHEWAN	5.1	SWIFT CURRENT	-43.5	MEADOW LAKE	6.5	LA RONGE
MANITOBA	4.7	PILOT MOUND	-38.1	CHURCHILL	7.6	THOMPSON
ONTARIO	4.3	TRENTON	-35.1	BIG TROUT LAKE RED LAKE	19.6	WIARTON
QUEBEC	2.9	MONTREAL/DORVAL	-43.7	KUUJJUAQ	19.9	NATASHQUAN
NEW BRUNSWICK	3.8	FREDERICTON	-22.6	CHARLO	14.5	CHARLO
NOVA SCOTIA	6.8	YARMOUTH	-15.9	TRURO	31.3	SABLE ISLAND
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	2.8	SUMMERSIDE	-14.2	SUMMERSIDE	5.6	CHARLOTTETOWN
NEWFOUNDLAND	4.4	ST JOHNS	-37.2	CHURCHILL FALLS	23.0	DANIELS HARBOUR

(continued from page 3 )

close four manufacturing plants at Valcourt; winter sales were down 30 per cent.

At Trois-Rivières snow removal vehicles were put into action for the first time this winter when 12 cm of snow fell on the last two days of January. New ice has now developed in central Gulf of St. Lawrence. Lighter than normal ice amounts in the St. Lawrence river has resulted in one of the best shipping seasons in the sea-way.

#### ATLANTIC PROVINCES

A significant snow storm swept through the Maritimes on January 31. Kentville, N.S. received over 30 cm of

snow, and Shearwater, which had previously received no measurable snow during January, recorded over 8.8 cm. Brisk northwesterly winds kept temperatures well below normal in Newfoundland - weekly departures were as much as 6° in eastern Labrador.

Oil consumption across the Maritimes was markedly decreased because of mild temperatures. Although the recent mild weather has not caused early blossoming of fruit and cereal crops, a sudden cold spell could damage exposed seedlings significantly.

In east Newfoundland waters, ice has developed more extensively than normal and the heavy ice has extended as far south as Notre Dame Bay.

#### CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

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TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 0600 G.M.T. FEBRUARY 1, 1983

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
<b>YUKON</b>						
Burwash	-17	6	1	-32	0.4	-4.7
Dawson	-22	7	-12	-42	2.2	-1.1
Faro	M	X	-9P	-35P	M	X
Komakuk Beach	-26	-1	-16	-37	2.2	1.3
Mayo	-17	11	-7	-39	1.6	-1.0
Shingle Point	M	M	-11P	-40	2.0	-1.3
Teslin	M	X	-4P	-28P	M	X
Watson Lake	-24	2	-15	-43	1.4	-6.3
Whitehorse	-13	7	-3	-32	0.6	-3.9
<b>NORTHWEST TERRITORIES</b>						
Cape Parry	-30	-1	-20	-41	0.8	-0.3
Cape Young	-31	0	-19	-38	0.0	-0.5
Clinton Point	M	M	-11P	-39	10.2	10.0
Coppermine	-31	-2	-21	-41	0.0	-2.4
Fort Reliance	-28	3	-12	-37	0.3	-1.6
Fort Simpson	-25	5	-18	-37	0.3	-1.9
Fort Smith	-23	5	-9	-41	2.7	-1.3
Hay River	-25	1	-13	-36	1.6	-2.3
Inuvik	-30	0	-20	-44	0.8	-4.4
Lady Franklin Point	M	M	-22P	-40	2.0	0.8
Nicholson Peninsula	-28	0	-22	-36	4.0	3.1
Norman Wells	-24	3	-19	-33	2.6	-2.5
Port Radium	M	X	-22P	-38P	M	X
Robertson Lake	M	X	-22P	-37P	M	X
Tuktoyaktuk	M	M	-18P	-39	1.0	0.0
Yellowknife	-28	1	-16	-39	0.6	-1.4
Baker Lake	-30	5	-22	-40	3.8	2.9
Coral Harbour	-35	-3	-22	-42	0.0	-1.0
Ennadai Lake	M	M	-27P	-16P	M	M
Jenny Lind Island	M	M	-22P	-40	2.2	2.1
Pelly Bay	-33	2	-26	-39	M	M
Rankin Inlet	-30	X	-20	-36	2.9	X
Shepherd Bay	-35	2	-25	-45	0.2	-1.1
Broughton Island	-33	-8	-26	-38	0.4	-0.7
Cape Dorset	-31	X	-24	-36	M	X
Cape Dyer	-34	-11	-27	-40	M	M
Cape Hooper	-31	-6	-26	-35	0.2	-1.1
Clyde	-35	-7	-27	-42	0.0	-1.8
Dewar Lakes	M	M	-26P	-39	0.0	-0.6
Frobisher Bay	-31	-4	-25	-37	2.0	-0.8
Longstaff Bluff	M	M	-28P	-41	0.0	-0.8
Pond Inlet	-36	X	-31	-42	M	X
Alert	-32	-1	-26	-37	M	M
Eureka	-38	-3	-34	-42	M	M
Gladman Point	-32	5	-24	-42	0.0	0.0
Hall Beach	-34	-1	-21	-43	1.4	0.2
Mackar Inlet	M	M	-25P	-38	0.4	-0.1
Resolute	-33	0	-25	-40	0.0	-0.9
Byron Bay	M	M	-21P	-40	3.0	3.0
Cambridge Bay	-33	1	-22	-41	2.4	0.7
Mould Bay	-35	-3	-23	-45	M	M
Sachs Harbour	-30	0	-19	-40	0.2	-0.7
<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>						
Abbotsford	6	5	11	1	29.6	-6.0
Alert Bay	7	3	10	3	34.9	3.5
Amphitrite Point	9	X	13	5	107.5	X
Blue River	M	X	OP	-14P	M	X
Bull Harbour	7	4	10	4	50.6	1.8
Burns Lake	-7	X	1	-20	M	X
Cape Scott	7	4	10	4	107.5	22.2
Cape St James	7	4	9	6	M	M
Clinton	M	X	3P	-6P	M	X
Comox	6	5	10	1	37.4	5.6
Cranbrook	-1	7	6	-9	9.4	1.2
Dease Lake	-17	3	-8	-27	2.4	-3.0
Estevan Point	M	M	12P	5P	50.6	-23.4
Ethelda Bay	6	X	9	1	M	X
Fort Nelson	-23	0	-12	-39	0.6	-5.1
Fort St John	-14	4	-3	-29	7.0	-0.7
Hope	5	X	10	0	17.9	X
Kamloops	2	9	7	-4	8.1	2.4
Langara	6	4	9	3	28.8	-3.5
Lytton	2	4	10	-4	32.2	26.9
Mackenzie	-8	X	-1	-18	M	X
McInnes Island	6	3	10	3	22.4	-35.7
Nanaimo	M	X	M	M	M	X
Penticton	3	7	6	-1	13.6	7.9
Port Alberni	M	X	10	OP	M	X
Port Hardy	7	5	10	2	50.7	14.6
Prince George	-4	8	3	-16	7.2	-6.2
Prince Rupert	6	7	12	-1	17.3	-21.4
Puntzi Mountain	M	X	4P	-16P	M	X
Quesnel	-3	9	6	-15	4.0	-7.9
Revelstoke	-1	4	2	-8	28.9	6.4
Sandspit	6	4	9	2	121.3	90.0
Smithers	-5	6	1	-13	14.1	2.0

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
Stewart	2	X	6	-5	M	X
Terrace	0	5	4	-8	8.4	-26.4
Vancouver	7	5	11	2	24.6	0.7
Victoria	7	4	11	2	18.4	-5.7
Williams Lake	-1	10	4	-17	1.4	-5.7
<b>ALBERTA</b>						
Banff	-5	6	3	-20	0.2	-6.2
Calgary	-7	5	9	-25	0.0	-3.9
Cold Lake	-16	4	-2	-40	3.6	-2.1
Coronation	-16	2	-5	-29	1.4	-3.5
Edmonton Intl	-14	4	-3	-26	1.2	-5.3
Edmonton Namao	-13	4	-1	-27	0.2	-7.1
Edson	-12	2	5	-26	0.8	-8.0
Fort Chipewyan	-21	7	-2	-41	0.6	-1.8
Fort McMurray	-16	7	-1	-39	0.9	-3.6
Grande Prairie	-15	3	-3	-28	3.6	-4.8
High Level	-21	7	-10	-41	M	M
Jasper	-6	7	5	-21	0.2	-4.7
Lethbridge	-4	6	10	-24	0.8	-4.1
Lloydminster	-16	3	-6	-35	1.4	-3.2
Medicine Hat	-8	6	6	-22	1.1	-4.0
Peace River	-16	6	-6	-35	0.9	-4.5
Red Deer	-13	2	0	-23	0.8	-4.0
Rocky Mountain House	-13	1	4	-25	0.0	-5.7
Slave Lake	-14	3	-3	-32	1.7	-6.2
Whitecourt	-12	4	3	-29	0.7	-6.3
<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>						
Broadview	-18	X	2	-40	0.2	X
Buffalo Narrows	-17	6	-3	-41	M	M
Collins Bay	-24	X	-7	-33	1.0	X
Cree Lake	-21	X	-4	-40	0.2	X
Eastend	M	X	1P	-21P	M	X
Elbow	-13	X	-1	-35	M	X
Estevan	-14	3	2	-34	0.0	-3.6
Hudson Bay	-20	2	-7	-36	M	M
Kindersley	-14	6	-1	-30	0.8	-4.3
La Ronge	-19	4	-7	-38	6.5	3.6
Meadow Lake	-18	X	-6	-44	2.1	X
Moose Jaw	-12	5	3	-36	M	M
Nipawin	-19	X	-6	-38	2.0	X
North Battleford	-17	3	-6	-40	2.8	-2.4
Prince Albert	-17	5	-7	-40	3.8	-0.4
Regina	-15	4	0	-36	0.0	-4.5
Rockglen	M	X	2P	-29P	M	X
Saskatoon	-16	5	-5	-37	M	M
Swift Current	-10	5	5	-25	1.3	-3.7
Uranium City	-25	4	-8	-43	0.4	-3.1
Wynyard	-18	X	-5	-38	0.4	X
Yorkton	-20	1	-6	-39	0.0	-4.7
<b>MANITOBA</b>						
Bissett	-18	X	-3	-36	0.8	X
Brandon	-18	1	1	-35	0.0	-5.2
Churchill	-25	3	-11	-38	M	M
Dauphin	-19	1	-5	-35	0.2	-5.8
Gillam	-25	X	-9	-37	2.2	X
Gimli	-18	3	-2	-31	0.0	-4.6
Grand Rapids	M	X	-8P	-33P	M	X
Island Lake	-21	X	-9	-36	M	X
Lynn Lake	-25	3	-8	-37	1.6	-1.2
Norway House	-22	X	-9	-38	4.5	X
Pilot Mound	-15	4	5	-30	0.4	-5.4
Portage la Prairie	-16	2	3	-30	0.3	-6.7
The Pas	-21	3	-7	-34	3.8	0.8
Thompson	-25	3	-7	-37	7.6	2.8
Winnipeg	-17	2	0	-30	M	M
<b>ONTARIO</b>						
Armstrong	M	M	-10P	-28P	M	M
Atikokan	-14	3	0	-32	M	M
Barrie	M	X	2	-20P	M	X
Big Trout Lake	-22	3	-10	-35	4.9	-0.8
Britt	M	X	2P	-29P	M	X
Caribou Island	M	X	M	M	M	X
Earlton	-12	5	-1	-32	M	M
Geraldton	-17	X	0	-28	10.4	X
Gore Bay	-6	6	2	-20	7.0	-6.9
Kapusking	-15	3	-1	-28	16.2	4.2
Kenora	-16	2	-1	-30	1.0	-4.9
Kingston	-3	4	4	-14	M	M
Lansdowne House	-20	3	-7	-35	11.6	3.6
London	-3	3	4	-12	5.4	-13.9
Moosonee	-17	3	-3	-29	M	M
Mount Forest	-6	2	2	-17	3.2	-20.4
Muskoka	-6	4	3	-26	M	M
Nagagami	M	X	-1	-26P	M	X
North Bay	-9	4	1	-26	M	M
Ottawa	-8	4	2	-20	5.1	-10.9

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
Petawawa	-10	X	2	-28	5.6	-
Pickle Lake	-19	1	-6	-35	6.2	-
Red Lake	-18	2	-4	-35	0.8	-
Simcoe	-3	3	3	-10	M	-
Sioux Lookout	-16	2	-2	-33	0.0	-
Sudbury	-9	5	0	-26	13.1	-
Thunder Bay	-11	4	1	-28	13.4	-
Timmins	-14	2	1	-30	16.4	-
Toronto	-3	3	4	-12	2.8	-
Trenton	-4	4	4	-15	4.2	-
Upsala	M	X	-1P	-32P	M	-
Wawa	-12	X	1	-34	13.1	-
Warton	-5	3	3	-16	19.6	-
Windsor	-2	3	4	-8	6.3	-
<b>QUÉBEC</b>						
Bagotville	-12	4	-2	-28	11.8	-
Baie-Comeau	-11	4	-2	-28	5.4	-
Blanc-Sablon	-16	-3	-4	-25	16.4	-
Border	M	M	-12P	-36P	M	-
Chevery	M	X	-4	-23P	M	-
Chibougamau	-15	X	-3	-32	12.2	-
Gaspé	-12	X	-1	-29	10.5	-
Grindstone Island	-5	2	0	-12	8.9	-
Inukjuak	-30	-5	-18	-41	M	-
Kuujuuaq	-32	-7	-14	-44	3.2	-
Kuujuarapik	-24	-1	-8</			