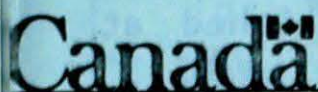


CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

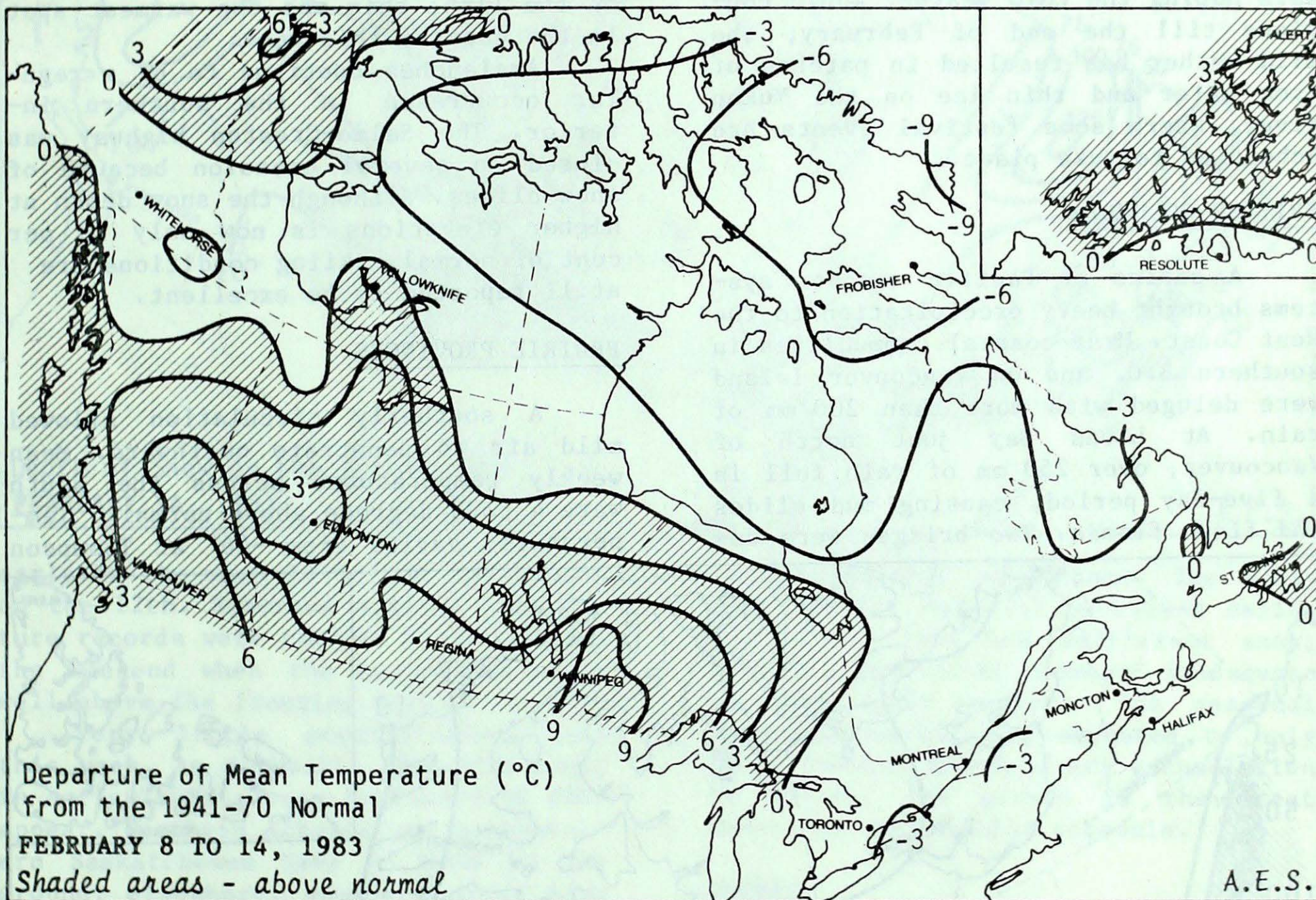
THE CANADIAN CLIMATE CENTRE,
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT SERVICE,
4905 DUFFERIN ST., DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3H 5T4



FEBRUARY 18, 1983

(Aussi disponible en français)

VOL.5 NO.7



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

Mud slides on the West Coast, stormy weather on the East Coast

A series of intense storms battered the East Coast with gale force winds and moderate to heavy snowfalls. Some locations received over 40 cm in just 24 hours. Rainfall in excess of 200 mm caused mud slides in southern British Columbia. At Lions Bay, north of Vancouver, several houses slid down a mountainside, a few bridges were completely washed-out and 2 people were buried under mud in their camp ground.

Temperatures were unseasonably mild west of the Great Lakes, especially in northwestern Ontario where readings were 8 to 10 degrees above normal. In contrast, the northeastern Arctic continued to be very cold.

Across the country, temperatures ranged from 17.7° at Abbotsford, B.C. to -44.6° at Hall Beach, N.W.T. Amphitrite Point, B.C. received 221.3 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

Unseasonably mild weather persisted across the Yukon. Snowfall amounts were scant and ranged from 2 to 7 cm, except for 16 cm at Klondike on the Dempster highway. During the week-end, frigid Arctic air covered the Yukon dropping overnight temperatures to near the -30° mark. Organizers of the upcoming "Annual Sourdough Rendezvous" Festival were hoping the cold weather would continue till the end of February; the mild wather has resulted in patches of open water and thin ice on the Yukon river, where some festival events are scheduled to take place.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

A series of Pacific weather systems brought heavy precipitation to the West Coast. Many coastal communities in southern B.C. and on Vancouver Island were deluged with more than 200 mm of rain. At Lions Bay just north of Vancouver, over 250 mm of rain fell in a five-day period, causing mud slides and flash floods. Two bridges were de-

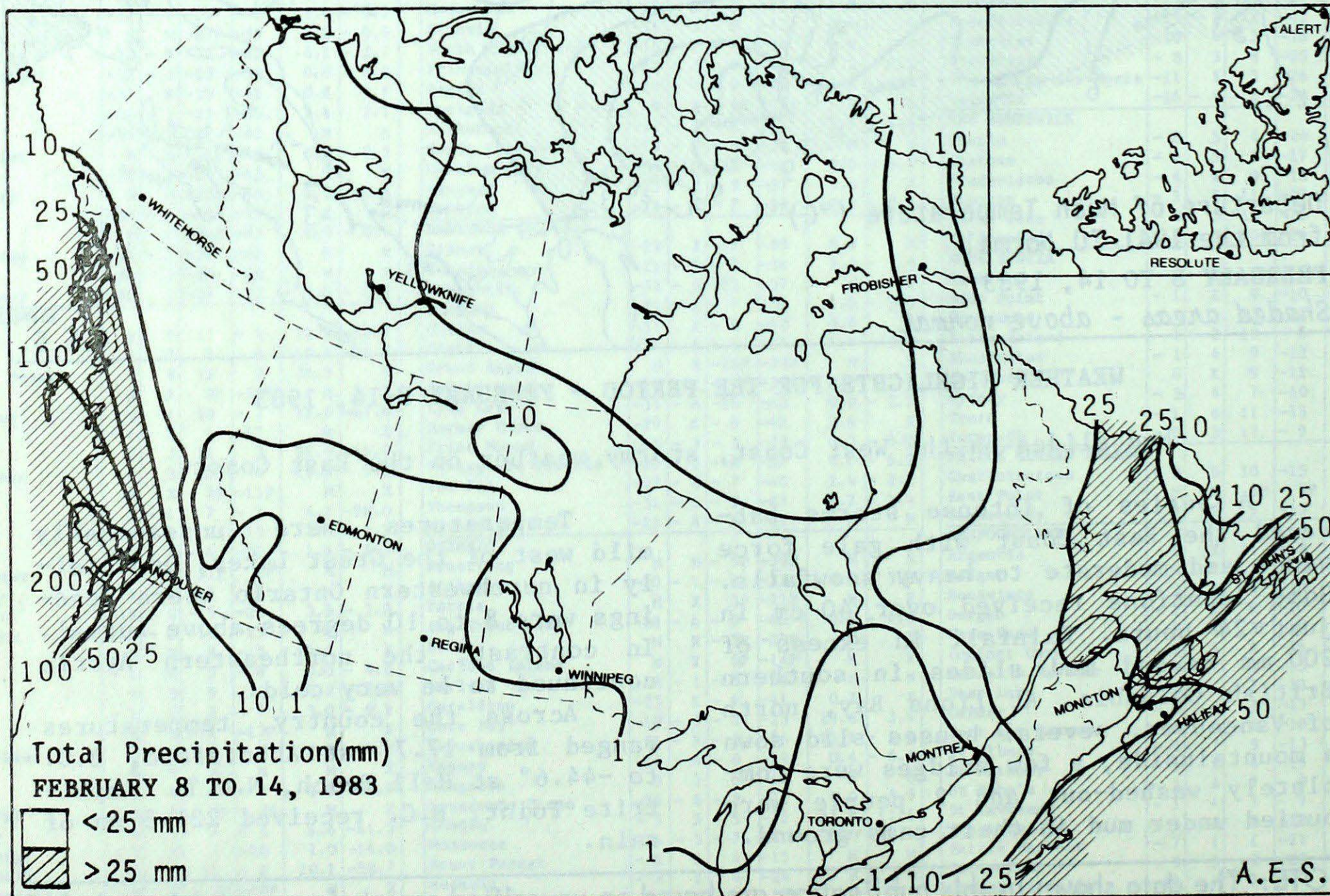
stroyed, several houses slid down the mountainside and two people were killed.

Temperature in the mild moist Pacific air ranged from 2 to 7 degrees above normal except in northern areas. A new daily record was established at Victoria when the mercury rose to 12.3° on February 13th, surpassing the previous record of 11° set in 1950. The temperature at Abbotsford reached 18° on the 11th; this was the warmest spot in the country this week.

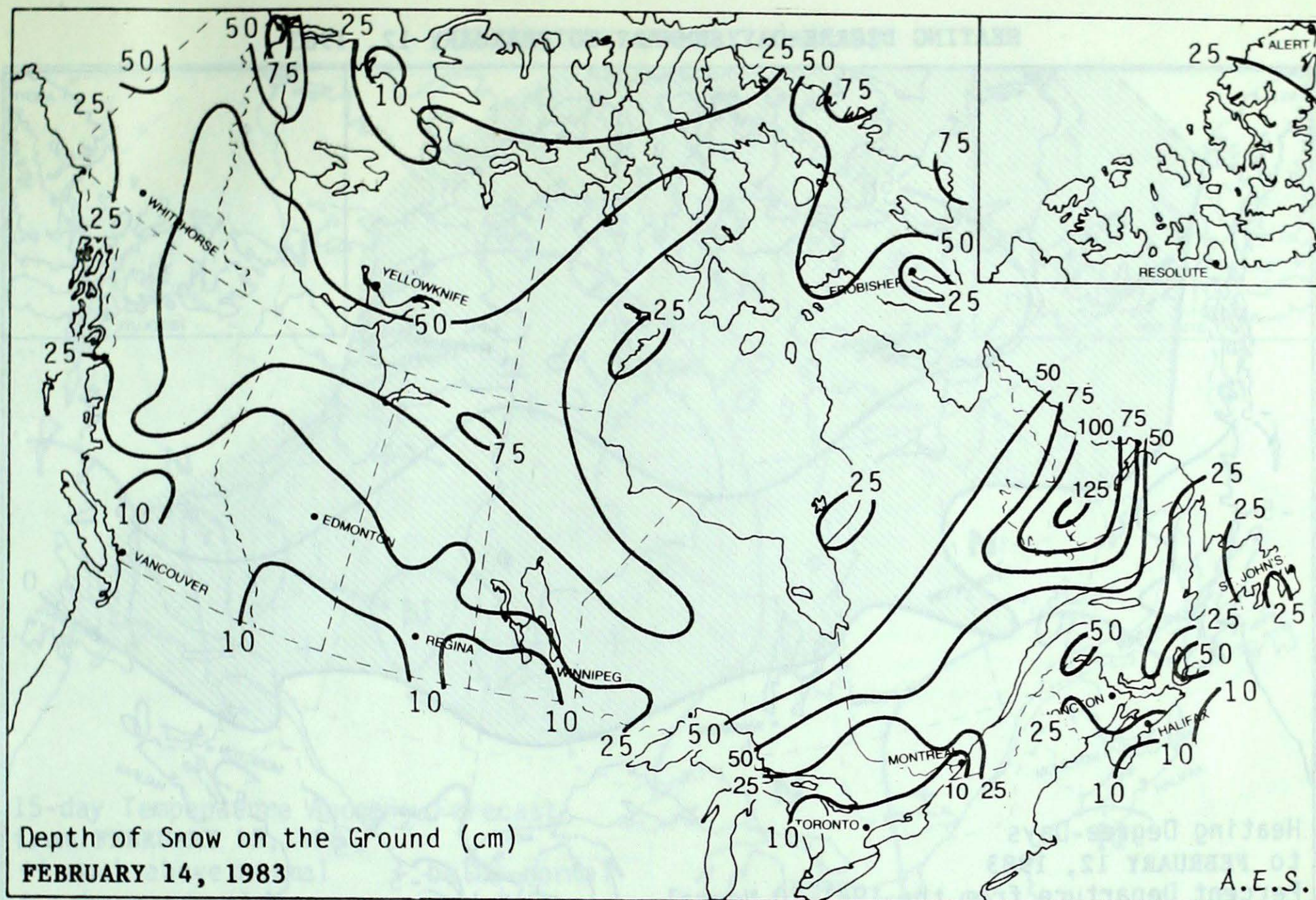
Avalanches continue to be a regular occurrence in the southern interior. The Salmo-Creston highway was closed on several occasion because of snow slides. Although the snow depth at higher elevations is now only 25 per cent of normal, skiing conditions are still reported to be excellent.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

A southerly circulation allowed mild air to penetrate northward. Mean weekly temperatures across the south were 4 to 8 degrees above normal. Temperatures varied from -46° at Thompson



A.E.S.



early in the week to 13° at Lethbridge on the 12th. Numerous maximum temperature records were tied or broken during the weekend when the mercury rose to well above the freezing mark.

Very little precipitation fell this week. As a result, the snow cover in agricultural areas continued to disappear. Southern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan have no snow on the ground; elsewhere, southern areas have only 4 to 6 cm. Total snow fall in the Calgary area this winter season is less than 50 per cent of normal. In the Peace River district some concern has been expressed that soil moisture reserves may be inadequate this spring because of the lack of snow cover.

ONTARIO

Abundant sunshine, and cold temperatures dominated Ontario's weather. Snowfall was generally light; on February 11 strong easterly winds picked up moisture from Lake Ontario and deposited heavy snow in the Oakville-Bronte region. On a short stretch of highway near Bronte 68 cars collided in

severe whiteout conditions. The sunny cold weather made for excellent skiing at resorts that had sufficient snow; however, snow cover remained inadequate at many other resorts. The seasonal Toronto snowfall has amounted to only 52 cm (normal mid-February accumulation is 93 cm). Ice growth in the Great Lakes was well behind schedule.

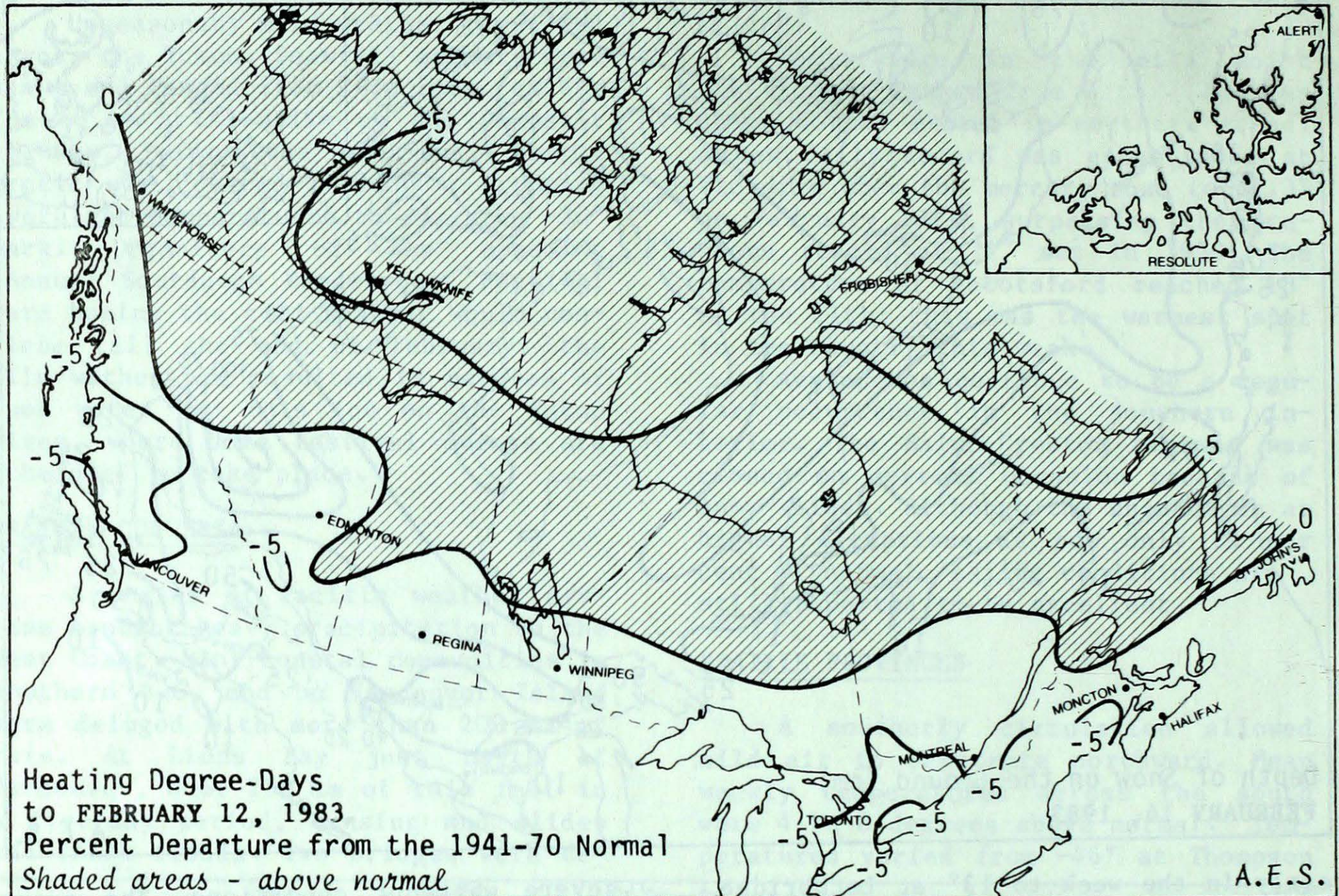
QUÉBEC

Changeable weather was evident across Québec. A few daily record low temperatures were set as a cold air mass engulfed the province early in the week. Subsequently, temperatures moderated to more seasonable values. On February 14, daily record highs were established at some southern stations; for example, 4° at Sherbrooke broke the old record of 3° set in 1972.

Owing to a major storm in the northeastern United States about 5000 air travellers were rerouted from New York to Montréal, where hotels and restaurants enjoyed unexpected business.

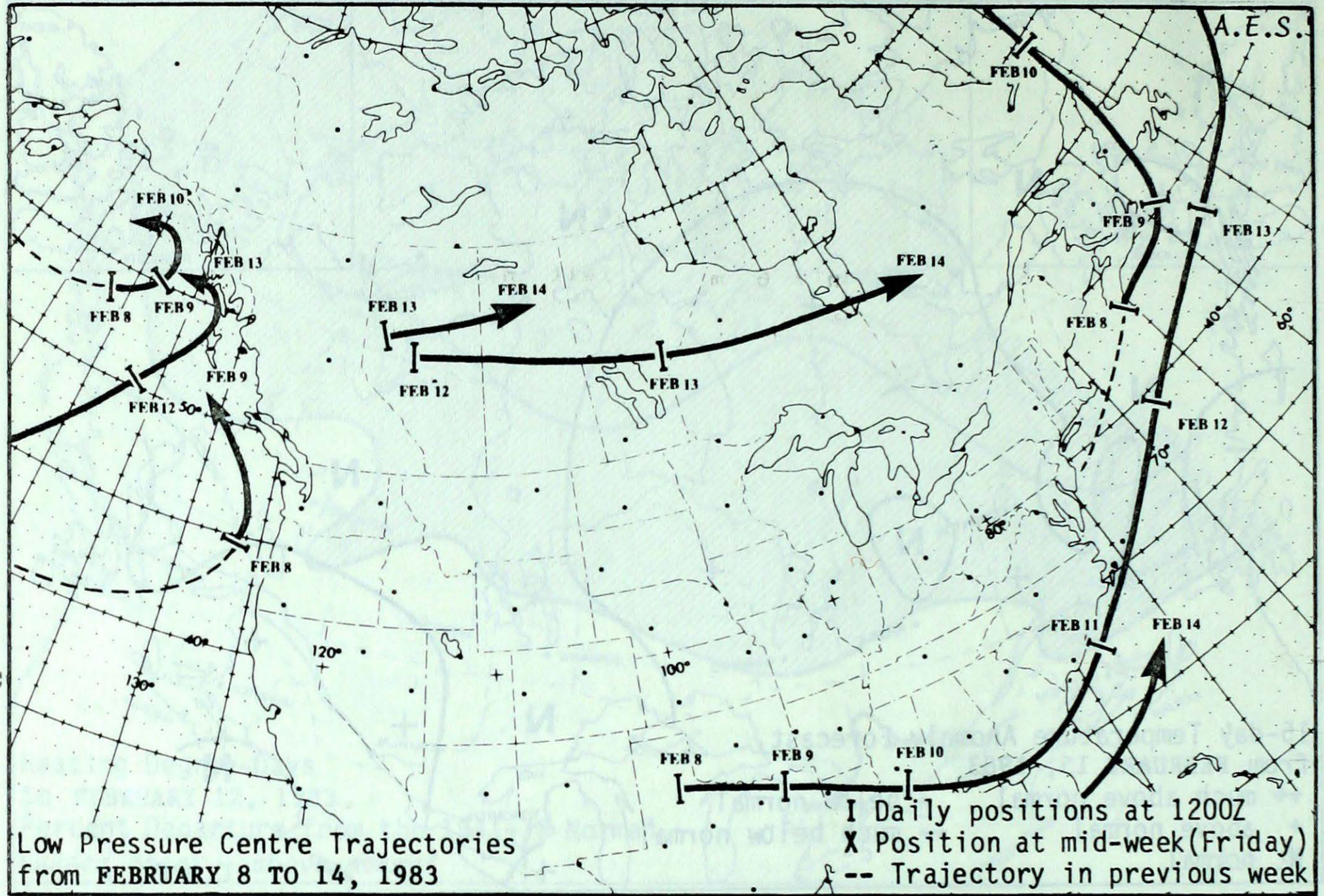
(continued on page 7)

HEATING DEGREE-DAY SUMMARY TO FEBRUARY 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	625.0	1.0	7936.0	360.0	105
Inuvik	540.0	-47.5	6575.5	211.5	103
Whitehorse	341.5	-59.5	4517.5	13.0	100
Vancouver	161.0	-10.0	1806.5	-40.5	98
Edmonton Mun	348.0	-6.0	3404.0	-154.5	96
Calgary	276.5	-48.5	3122.5	-186.5	94
Regina	389.5	-17.5	3627.5	-126.0	97
Winnipeg	410.5	-14.5	3565.5	-135.5	96
Thunder Bay	376.5	-13.5	3470.5	-68.0	98
Windsor	269.0	-2.0	2015.5	-192.0	91
Toronto	295.5	-1.5	2358.0	-126.0	95
Ottawa	356.5	13.5	2779.5	-165.5	94
Montreal	335.5	-4.5	2690.5	-118.5	96
Quebec	348.0	-15.0	3036.0	-140.5	96
Saint John, N.B.	287.0	-35.0	2680.0	-160.0	94
Halifax	253.5	-22.5	2238.5	-97.0	96
Charlottetown	278.5	-38.5	2574.0	-99.5	96
St. John's, Nfld.	232.5	-49.5	2293.5	-55.5	98

LOW PRESSURE CENTRE TRAJECTORIES



EXTREMES FOR THE WEEK

	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	LOCATION	GREATEST PRECIPITATION	LOCATION
YUKON TERRITORY	-3.3	MAYO	-38.5	BURWASH	16.0	KLONDIKE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	-9.8	FORT SMITH	-44.6	HALL BEACH	17.6	CAPE DYER
BRITISH COLUMBIA	17.7	ABBOTSFORD	-23.2	DEASE LAKE	221.3	AMPHITRITE POINT
ALBERTA	12.5	LETHBRIDGE	-28.3	HIGH LEVEL	7.1	HIGH LEVEL
SASKATCHEWAN	6.4	ELBOW MOOSE JAW	-37.2	COLLINS BAY	13.8	COLLINS BAY
MANITOBA	5.8	PILOT MOUND	-46.2	THOMPSON	18.5	LYNN LAKE
ONTARIO	5.8	TORONTO	-41.4	NAGAGAMI	7.5	BIG TROUT LAKE
QUEBEC	4.2	MONTREAL/DORVAL SHERBROOKE	-42.9	POSTE DE LA BALEINE	47.4	NATASHQUAN
NEW BRUNSWICK	4.1	FREDERICTON	-24.8	CHARLO	54.4	MONCTON
NOVA SCOTIA	5.7	GREENWOOD	-20.3	TRURO	83.5	SYDNEY
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	2.8	SUMMERSIDE	-17.1	SUMMERSIDE	31.6	SUMMERSIDE
NEWFOUNDLAND	8.5	ARGENTIA VTMS	-35.8	CHURCHILL FALLS	69.1	ST JOHNS

(continued from page 3)

The recent snowfall helped make the Québec winter carnival a success; about 170,000 people attended and the total revenue amounted to \$18 million. Over 20 cm of snow at Valcourt on the 7th and 8th of February arrived just in time for the "First International Snowmobile Championships". With only 6 cm of snow on the ground, skiing in the Eastern Townships of Québec remained marginal.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Two major storms battered the East Coast. On February 8, an intense storm pounded the Maritimes, as strong winds gusted up to 105 km/h. Snowfall accumulations ranged from 15 to 20 cm in Nova

Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Because of the stormy weather, ferry services throughout the Maritimes were either cancelled or delayed several hours. On February 12, another vigorous storm lashed the Atlantic Provinces. Although nearly 20 cm of snow fell in most localities Gander and St. John's received over 40 cm. At Truro, a record 24-hour snowfall for February was set when 42.2 cm fell (old record: 35.6 cm, set in 1882). Strong winds and drifting snow produced hazardous roads; in Nova Scotia public transportation came to a standstill.

Close pack ice covered most of the eastern Newfoundland waters and extended as far south as Bonivista Bay by the end of the week.



CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES

Staff

Editor:	A. 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 Lucifow,	(Central Region)
Bryan Smith,	(Ontario Region)
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. FEBRUARY 15, 1983

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
YUKON						
Burwash	-19	-1	-8	-39	4.1	2.8
Dawson	-19	5	-9	-35	9.8	5.2
Faro	-17	X	-10	-25	M	X
Komakuk Beach	-23	4	-19	-27	2.8	2.3
Mayo	-18	3	-3	-34	2.6	-1.9
Shingle Point	-24	4	-20	-27	9.8	9.0
Teslin	M	X	-9P	-26	M	X
Watson Lake	-22	-3	-13	-33	5.5	-1.3
Whitehorse	-15	-1	-6	-28	1.6	-1.5
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES						
Cape Parry	-31	-1	-24	-34	M	M
Cape Young	-34	-5	-25	-39	1.4	-0.7
Clinton Point	M	M	-25P	-38	0.2	-0.2
Coppermine	-35	-5	-20	-42	M	M
Fort Reliance	-28	0	-17	-41	2.3	0.0
Fort Simpson	-23	-1	-15	-33	7.1	1.6
Fort Smith	-20	3	-9	-32	9.4	4.6
Hay River	-23	0	-13	-36	7.5	1.8
Inuvik	-24	7	-20	-38	15.0	12.2
Lady Franklin Point	M	M	-26P	-42	2.0	1.8
Nicholson Peninsula	-28	1	-24	-33	2.0	1.2
Norman Wells	-25	2	-19	-31	5.2	0.3
Port Radium	M	X	-22P	-30P	M	X
Robertson Lake	M	X	-25P	-39P	M	X
Tuktoyaktuk	-25	5	-20	-30	2.8	0.7
Yellowknife	-25	2	-16	-32	1.4	-1.8
Baker Lake	-37	-4	-25	-41	0.9	-0.6
Coral Harbour	-36	-5	-26	-42	0.0	-3.2
Ennadai Lake	M	M	-17P	-35P	M	M
Jenny Lind Island	M	M	-34P	-41	0.0	-0.3
Pelly Bay	-37	-3	-34	-41	0.0	-1.3
Rankin Inlet	-37	X	-23	-41	0.4	X
Shepherd Bay	-39	-4	-33	-45	M	M
Broughton Island	-31	-8	-26	-37	3.3	-1.5
Cape Dorset	-30	X	-25	-35	M	X
Cape Dyer	-29	-9	-20	-41	17.6	-4.0
Cape Hooper	-31	-7	-26	-35	1.4	-7.4
Clyde	-33	-6	-27	-38	0.0	-2.7
Dewar Lakes	M	M	-27P	-41	0.0	-0.9
Profisher Bay	-33	-6	-25	-40	M	M
Longstaff Bluff	M	M	-30P	-42	0.0	-3.2
Pond Inlet	-38	X	-32	-43	0.4	X
Alert	-29	5	-23	-35	0.8	-0.5
Eureka	-36	1	-29	-41	0.2	-0.4
Gladman Point	M	M	-34P	-42	0.0	-0.6
Hall Beach	-40	-9	-32	-45	0.0	-4.2
Mackar Inlet	M	M	-32P	-40	1.2	-1.2
Resolute	-34	-1	-27	-40	0.6	-0.5
Byron Bay	M	M	-29P	-40	0.0	-0.1
Cambridge Bay	-38	-4	-34	-42	0.0	-1.5
Mould Bay	-34	1	-28	-40	0.0	-0.5
Sachs Harbour	-26	5	-22	-31	0.0	-0.6
BRITISH COLUMBIA						
Abbotsford	7	3	18	1	66.5	25.8
Alert Bay	6	1	10	1	128.7	96.1
Amphitrite Point	8	X	12	3	221.3	X
Blue River	M	X	4P	-9P	M	X
Bull Harbour	6	1	10	-1	106.0	61.9
Burns Lake	-3	X	5	-15	M	X
Cape Scott	7	2	11	1	104.9	34.4
Cape St James	7	2	10	4	63.0	32.3
Clinton	M	X	7P	-7P	M	X
Comox	7	3	11	1	150.2	119.1
Cranbrook	1	5	9	-9	1.9	-3.5
Dease Lake	-15	-1	-10	-23	7.2	1.7
Estevan Point	8	2	11	1	M	M
Ethelda Bay	6	X	8	0	M	X
Fort Nelson	-18	1	-9	-23	5.5	0.2
Fort St John	-9	3	6	-19	13.8	7.5
Hope	5	X	9	0	46.4	X
Kamloops	5	6	14	-1	0.4	-4.8
Langara	5	1	9	0	83.1	49.3
Lytton	5	4	10	-3	23.6	15.5
Mackenzie	-2	X	7	-10	M	X
McInnes Island	6	2	9	2	123.4	67.0
Nanaimo	M	X	M	M	M	X
Penticton	5	5	11	0	2.0	-3.6
Port Alberni	5	X	12	0	1.5	X
Port Hardy	6	3	11	-1	110.8	69.7
Prince George	0	7	8	-12	11.0	0.9
Prince Rupert	5	2	9	0	73.8	12.0
Puntzi Mountain	M	X	9	-22P	M	X
Quesnel	1	7	11	-8	6.9	-1.1
Revelstoke	1	4	5	-7	47.9	21.6
Sandspit	6	3	10	-1	107.3	82.5
Smithers	-2	3	8	-18	7.5	1.7

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
Stewart	M	X	7	-5P	M	X
Terrace	1	2	6	-2	47.6	28.2
Vancouver	7	3	13	-1	106.7	78.7
Victoria	8	3	13	-1	66.2	43.5
Williams Lake	1	5	8	-11	0.6	-3.8
ALBERTA						
Banff	0	7	7	-12	M	M
Calgary	0	6	11	-15	0.0	-5.3
Cold Lake	-10	3	5	-19	0.0	-3.5
Coronation	-9	2	5	-24	0.2	-3.4
Edmonton Intl	-10	-1	7	-20	0.4	-3.0
Edmonton Namao	-9	1	7	-19	1.2	-2.9
Edson	-7	3	8	-18	0.0	-3.1
Fort Chipewyan	-17	3	-7	-27	M	M
Fort McMurray	-8	8	6	-17	1.1	-3.1
Grande Prairie	-8	5	6	-16	1.2	-5.5
High Level	-15	-2	-5	-28	7.1	2.4
Jasper	0	6	8	-12	1.4	-2.8
Lethbridge	1	6	13	-16	1.2	-4.7
Lloydminster	-9	4	5	-22	0.4	-2.6
Medicine Hat	-2	5	11	-15	0.0	-4.7
Peace River	-10	3	4	-18	1.2	-3.5
Red Deer	-8	3	7	-21	0.0	-5.2
Rocky Mountain House	-7	1	10	-22	0.0	-4.9
Slave Lake	-7	4	9	-17	0.6	-5.6
Whitecourt	-8	4	9	-17	1.0	-4.4
SASKATCHEWAN						
Broadview	-8	X	4	-26	1.0	X
Buffalo Narrows	-11	5	4	-20	M	M
Collins Bay	-23	X	-10	-37	13.8	X
Cree Lake	-15	X	-3	-29	6.4	X
Eastend	M	X	M	M	M	X
Elbow	-6	X	6	-20	0.8	X
Estevan	-6	6	4	-19	0.6	-2.5
Hudson Bay	-11	6	2	-27	M	M
Kindersley	-6	5	5	-20	0.2	-1.9
La Ronge	-13	5	-2	-23	0.4	-4.4
Meadow Lake	-13	X	4	-28	0.8	X
Moose Jaw	-4	8	6	-19	0.0	-3.2
Nipawin	-12	X	-3	-27	0.8	X
North Battleford	-10	5	0	-21	0.8	-3.3
Prince Albert	-11	6	-1	-25	0.6	-4.0
Regina	-7	7	6	-21	0.0	-3.3
Rockglen	M	X	5P	-14P	M	X
Saskatoon	-8	7	5	-18	0.0	-4.0
Swift Current	-5	5	6	-23	M	M
Uranium City	-20	2	-12	-30	5.0	-2.1
Wynyard	-8	X	4	-25	0.6	X
Yorkton	-9	6	4	-31	5.0	-0.8
MANITOBA						
Bissett	-6	X	4	-23	2.1	X
Brandon	-9	6	4	-26	2.2	-3.1
Churchill	-28	0	-17	-40	7.9	4.6
Dauphin	-10	5	5	-31	4.6	-1.5
Gillam	-24	X	-13	-42	8.2	X
Gimli	-8	8	4	-19	3.1	-2.3
Grand Rapids	M	X	-2	-28P	M	X
Island Lake	-15	X	-1	-40	M	X
Lynn Lake	-23	0	-10	-45	10.5	5.0
Norway House	-14	X	-3	-40	7.0	X
Pilot Mound	-7	8	6	-23	0.8	-3.9
Portage la Prairie	-8	7	5	-24	4.4	-1.7
The Pas	-14	5	-3	-27	1.3	-2.9
Thompson	-21	1	-11	-46	6.8	3.5
Winnipeg	-8	8	4	-20	M	M
ONTARIO						
Armstrong	-11	7	1	34	M	M
Atikokan	-6	10	3	-22	M	M
Barrie	M	X	4P	-25P	M	X
Big Trout Lake	-19	3	0	-40	7.5	1.7
Britt	M	X	1P	-26	M	X
Caribou Island	M	X	2P	-9P	M	X
Earlton	-16	-1	2	-37	M	M
Geraldton	-12	X	2	-36	2.6	X
Gore Bay	-11	-1	2	-25	0.0	-11.5
Kapuskasing	-16	1	3	-41	2.4	-9.5
Kenora	-6	9	5	-20	M	M
Kingston	-11	-3	1	-23	M	M
Lansdowne House	-17	4	1	-41	2.0	-4.6
London	-8	-2	4	-17	0.0	-21.5
Moosonee	-17	2	2	-40	M	M
Mount Forest	M	M	2	-20P	M	M
Muskoka	-11	-2	3	-29	M	M
Nagagami	M	X	2P	-41	M	X
North Bay	-13	-1	0	-26	0.2	-16.0
Ottawa	-12	-1	5	-24	0.2	-15.3

Station	Temperature (°C)				Precip. (mm)	
	Average	Departure from Normal	Extreme Maximum	Extreme Minimum	Total	Departure from Normal
Petawawa	-14	X	4	-32	0.2	X
Pickle Lake	-12	7	1	-36	4.0	-4.2
Red Lake	-8	9	3	-28	1.8	-5.1
Simcoe	-7	-1	4	-16	M	M
Sioux Lookout	-7	9	5	-26	4.2	-3.5
Sudbury	-14	-1	1	-29	0.0	-9.6
Thunder Bay	-5	8	5	-18	6.0	-2.2
Timmins	-16	0	2	-36	0.8	-8.9
Toronto	-9	-2	6	-19	0.0	-15.3
Trenton	-12	-5	3	-26	0.0	-15.9
Upsala	M	X	2P	-25P	M	X
Wawa	-10	X	3	-32	1.9	X
Warton	-8	-1	2	-20	1.0	-14.1
Windsor	-6	-2	3	-12	0.0	-16.1
QUÉBEC						
Bagotville	-16	-1	0	-30	15.3	-1.9
Baie-Comeau	-13	2	-1	-22	9.4	-2.3
Blanc-Sablon	-10	0	3	-20	17.5	-14.0
Border	M	M	-17P	-34P	M	M
Chevery	M	X	1P	-25P	M	X
Chibougamau	-18	X	0	-37	5.4	X
Gaspé	-12	X	-1	-24	20.3	X
Grindstone Island	-7	0	0	-14	27.4	8.6
Inukjuak	-31	-5	-19	-37	0.2	-1.3
Kuujuuaq	-26	-3	-1			