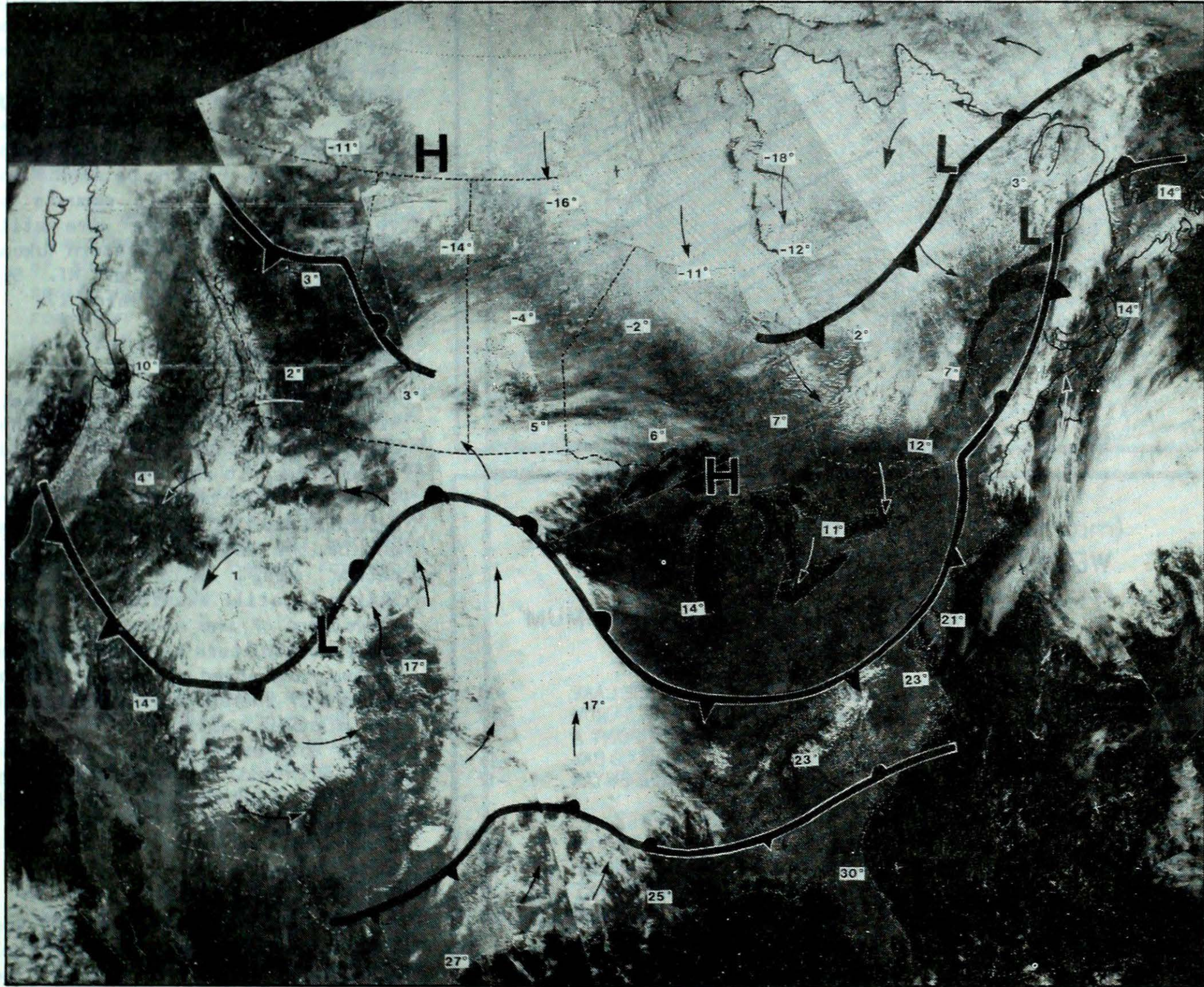


OTM

A weekly review of Canadian climate

April 1 to 7, 1986

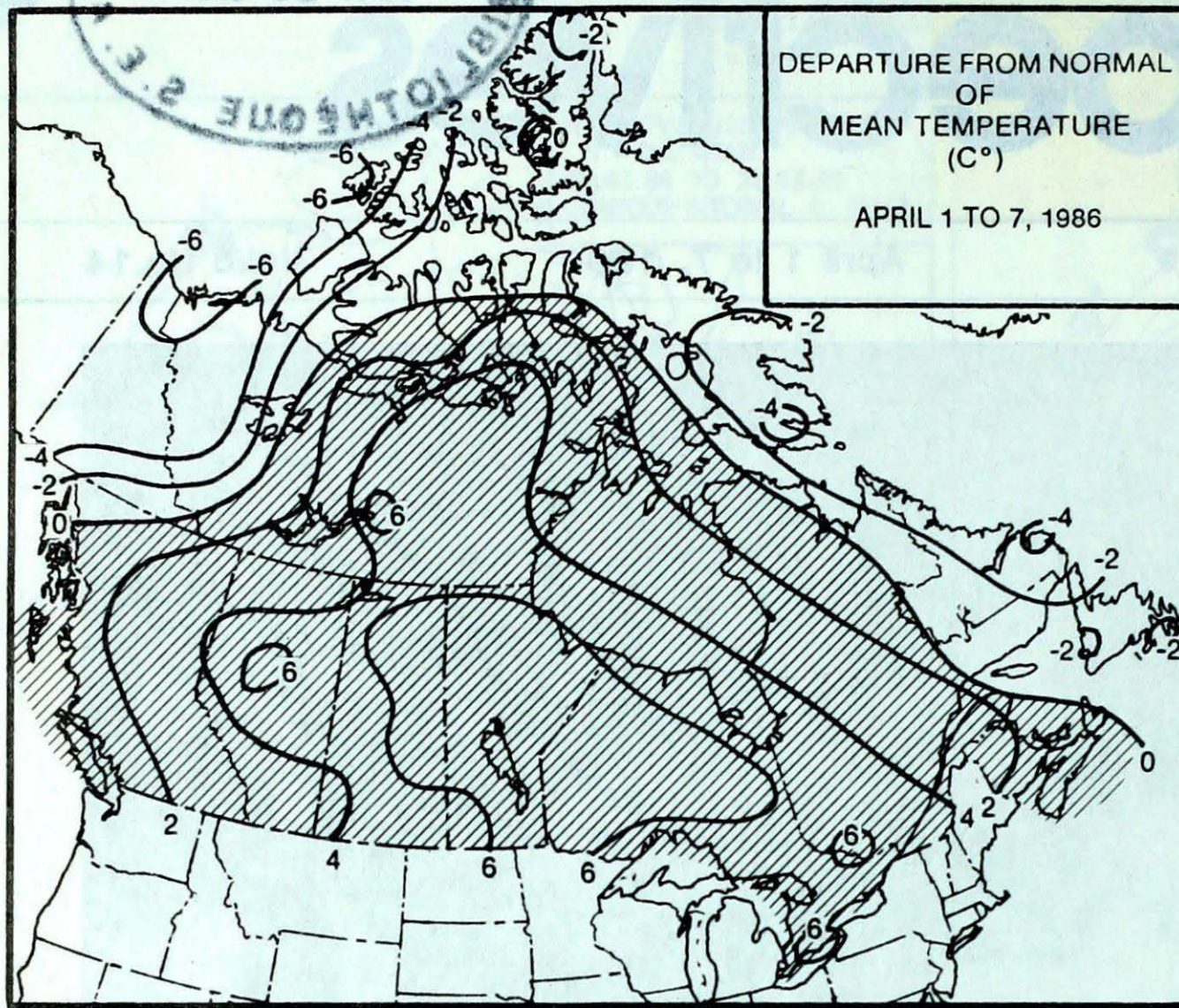
Vol.8 No.14



The weather picture as observed by the NOAA 9 meteorological satellite on Wednesday April 2, 1986. For more detail see page 3.

- ***Fine warm spring weather prevails nation wide***
- ***Spring floods in New Brunswick claim two lives***

TEMPERATURE



ACROSS THE COUNTRY...

Yukon and Northwest Territories

Except for the southern Arctic, temperatures were well below normal, and in fact new daily minimum temperature records were set in the western Arctic after mid-week. Record warm weather was experienced in the southern Mackenzie District on April 4 and 5. Travellers' advisories were issued for the Dempster and Haines highways because of high winds and extreme wind chills. Snowfalls across the Territories were variable, ranging between 5 and 10 centimetres. Small amounts of volcanic ash and haze were still being reported in the western Yukon, due to the eruption of Mt. St. Augustine in Alaska on March 27.

British Columbia

It was a typical spring week, with relatively pleasant weather conditions. Except for a few coastal communities, it was relatively dry. Temperatures in the southern valleys climbed into the low twenties by the end of the week. In the north, it became sunny, mild and breezy. Skiing is still excellent at higher elevations of the central interior, while horticulture is considered one to two weeks ahead of normal in some valleys of the southern interior. In the Okanagan, apricots are in full bloom. Most trees are in leaf on the lower mainland. The logging industry is still mostly shut down because of soggy roads.

Prairie Provinces

It was a rather pleasant and sunny week, but with windy and cool conditions at first. During the weekend, readings across the south ranged from the record high teens in Manitoba to the low twenties in southern Alberta. On April 5, daily maximum temperature records were also broken in the Athabaska district. Some flooding was reported in the inter-lake district of Manitoba, due to a combination of rapid snow melt and ice jamming the rivers. Field work has begun in some farming communities of southern Alberta. Skiing continues at Banff and Jasper.

WEEKLY TEMPERATURE EXTREME (C)

	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
BRITISH COLUMBIA	LYTTON 25	DEASE LAKE -18
YUKON TERRITORY	WATSON LAKE 7	OLD CROW -40
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	FORT SIMPSON 11	SHINGLE POINT A -45
ALBERTA	EDSON 19	MOULD BAY -17
	LETHBRIDGE	
SASKATCHEWAN	MOOSE JAW 20	URANIUM CITY -26
MANITOBA	PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE 18	CHURCHILL -28
ONTARIO	PETAWAWA 27	BIG TROUT LAKE -14
QUEBEC	MONTREAL INT'L 26	INUKJUAK -26
NEW BRUNSWICK	CHATHAM 17	CHARLO -11
NOVA SCOTIA	GREENWOOD 20	SYDNEY -9
	SHELBURNE	
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	SUMMERSIDE 15	CHARLOTTETOWN -8
NEWFOUNDLAND	BADGER 17	CHURCHILL FALLS -24

ACROSS THE NATION

WARMEST MEAN TEMPERATURE	11	WINDSOR	ONT
		LYTTON	BC
COOLEST MEAN TEMPERATURE	-35	MOULD BAY	NWT

Ontario

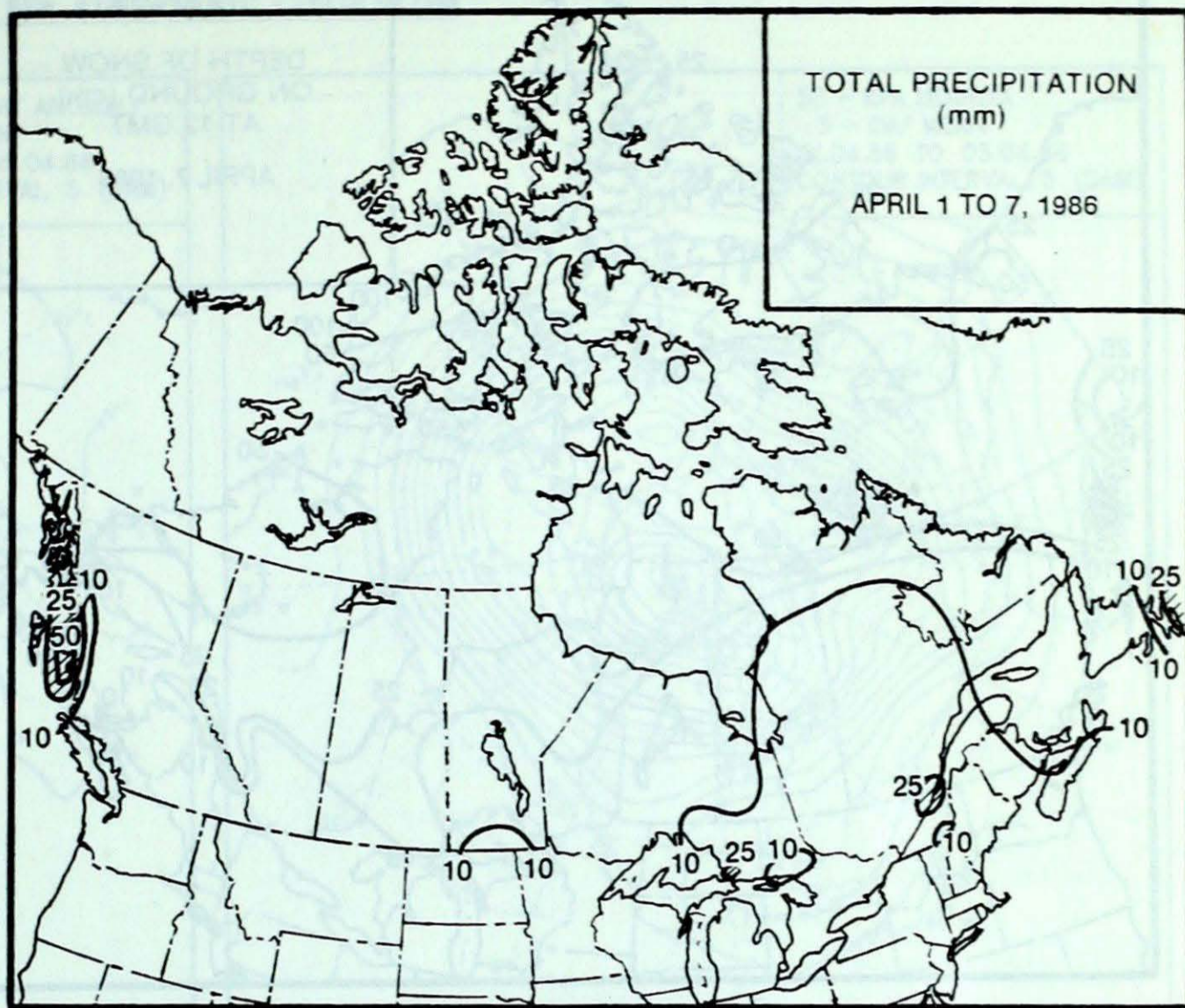
Damp weather conditions moved across northern Ontario on April 1 and then again during the weekend. Elsewhere across the province, it was warm and fair most of the week. New daily high temperature records were established on most days, with the highest readings, in the mid-twenties, occurring early in the period. To-date, spring flooding has not been much of a problem in the province.

Quebec

A disturbance deposited snow in northern Quebec at the beginning of the period, while mostly sunny spring weather predominated for the remainder of the week. Record warm temperatures were experienced across the south until April 4, at which time a cold front dropped readings to more seasonal values. The temperature at Montreal climbed to 26°C on April 1. Flooding has subsided in the Eastern Townships. The cooler weather of the past few days has resulted in increased maple sap flows needed for maple syrup production.

Atlantic

In the Maritimes mainly sunny and dry weather prevailed until April 7, when an approaching disturbance brought a mixture of rain and snow. Daily maximum temperature records were broken on April 1 and 2. In Newfoundland, the weather began on an unsettled note. An area of high pressure gave sunny, but cold weather conditions for the weekend. On April 5 and 6 many new daily low temperature records were set in Labrador and on the Island. In New Brunswick, the unusually warm weather contributed to rapid snow melt and the break up of ice on the rivers. Ice jams in the central and upper portions of the Saint John River caused flooding in several areas. Search and rescue helicopters were used to evacuate the community of Simonds, near Hartland N.B. Two people drowned in the flood waters. A highway between Fredericton and Stanley was also closed because of flooding.



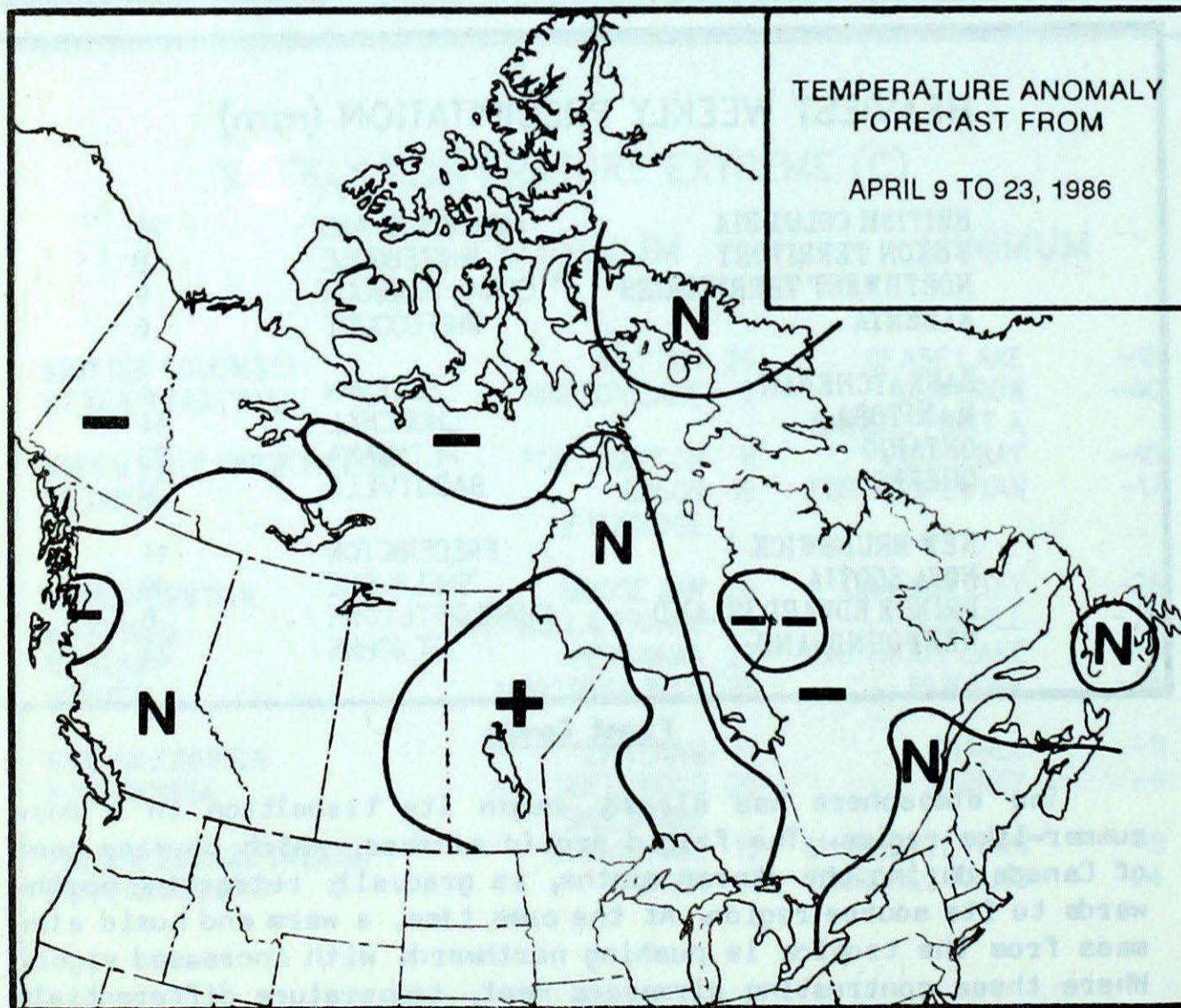
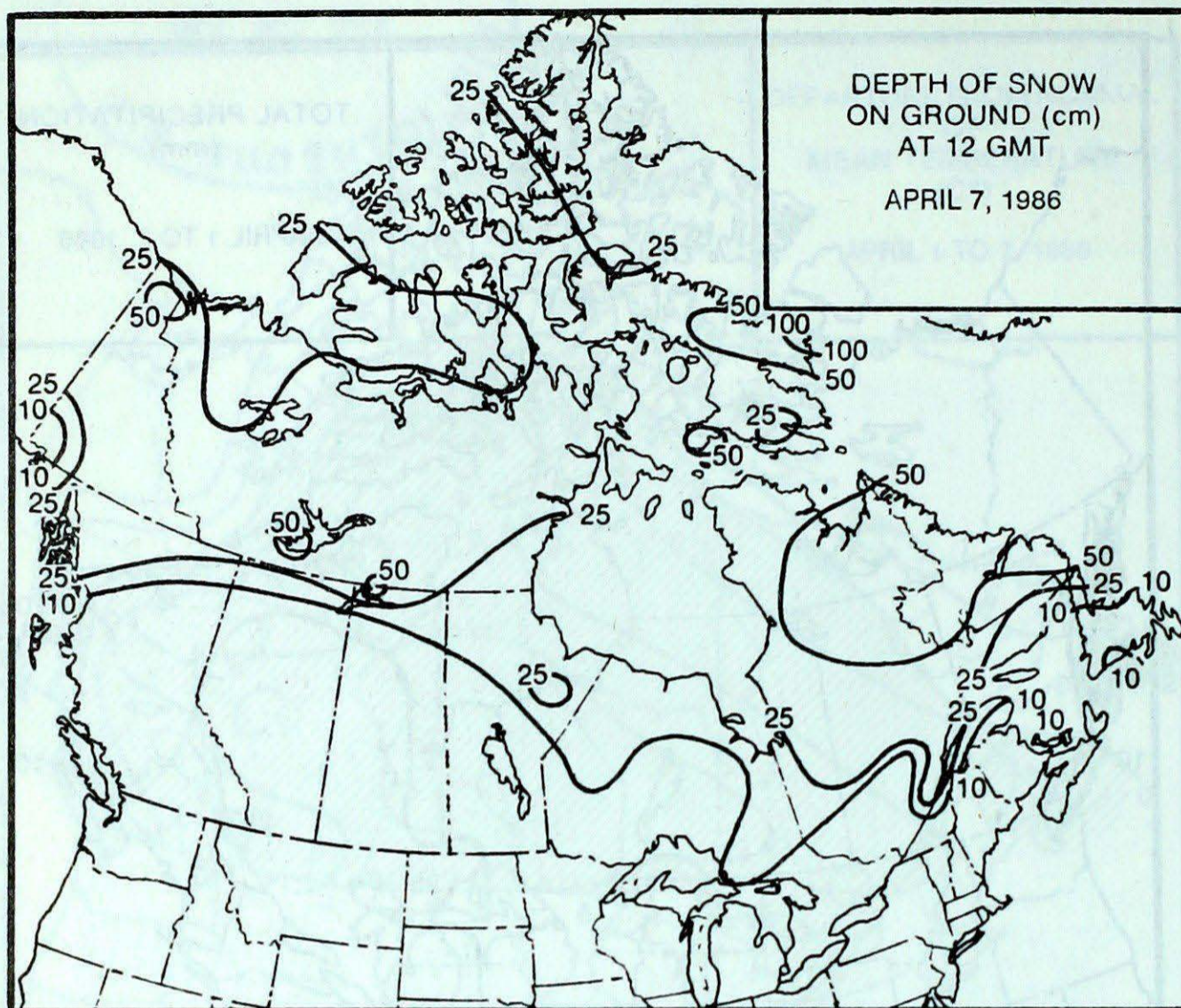
HEAVIEST WEEKLY PRECIPITATION (mm)

BRITISH COLUMBIA	MCINNES ISLAND	74
YUKON TERRITORY	WHITEHORSE	8
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	CORAL HARBOUR	9
ALBERTA	WHITECOURT	6
SASKATCHEWAN	ESTEVAN	4
MANITOBA	CHURCHILL	14
ONTARIO	PETAWAWA	23
QUEBEC	BAGOTVILLE	20
NEW BRUNSWICK	FREDERICTON	14
NOVA SCOTIA	SHELBURNE	19
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	CHARLOTTETOWN	6
NEWFOUNDLAND	ST JOHNS	25

Front Cover

The atmosphere has already begun its transition to a more summer-like regime. The frigid Arctic airmass, which covered most of Canada during the winter months, is gradually retreating northwards to its source region. At the same time, a warm and humid airmass from the tropics is pushing northwards with increased vigor. Where these contrasting airmasses meet, temperature differentials across the frontal zones become more pronounced. This interaction fosters the development of vigorous low pressure systems, one of which is evident in the western U.S. These, sometimes slow moving weather systems, can produce copious amounts of precipitation so typical of springtime. As the atmosphere realigns itself, and the storm track shifts northward, the frequency of thunderstorm activity and severe weather associated with these storms also increases in Canada.

FORECAST



Temperature Anomaly Forecast

- ++ much above normal
- + above normal
- N normal
- below normal
- much below normal

This forecast is prepared by searching historical weather maps to find cases similar to the present. The historical outcome during the 15 days subsequent to the chosen analogues is assumed to be a forecast for the next 15 days from now.

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Unsolicited articles are welcome but should be at maximum about 1500 words in length. They will be subject to editorial change without notice due to publishing time constraints. Black and white photographs can be used, but not colour. The contents may be reprinted freely with proper credit.

The data shown in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Information concerning climatic impacts is gathered from AES contacts with the public and from the media. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Atmospheric Environment Service.

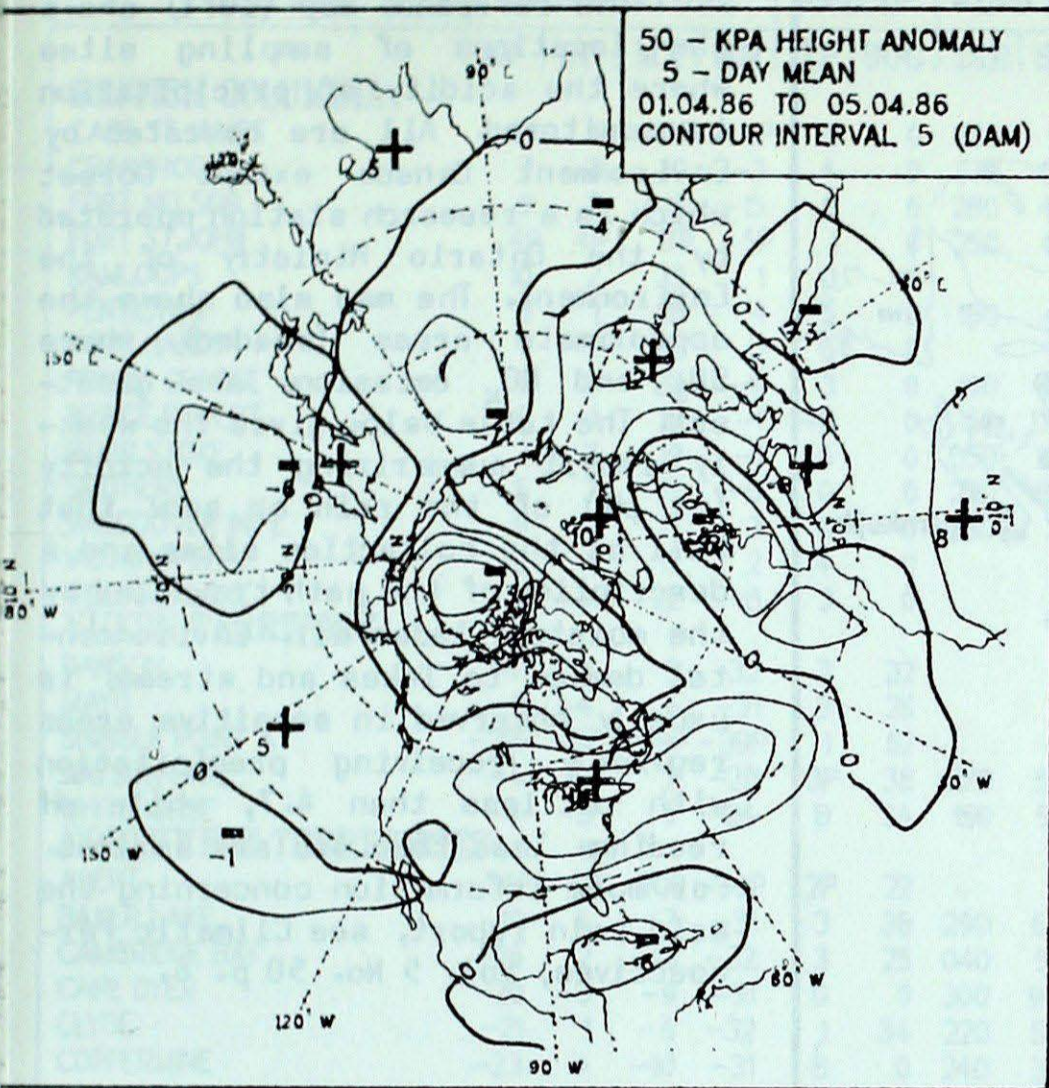
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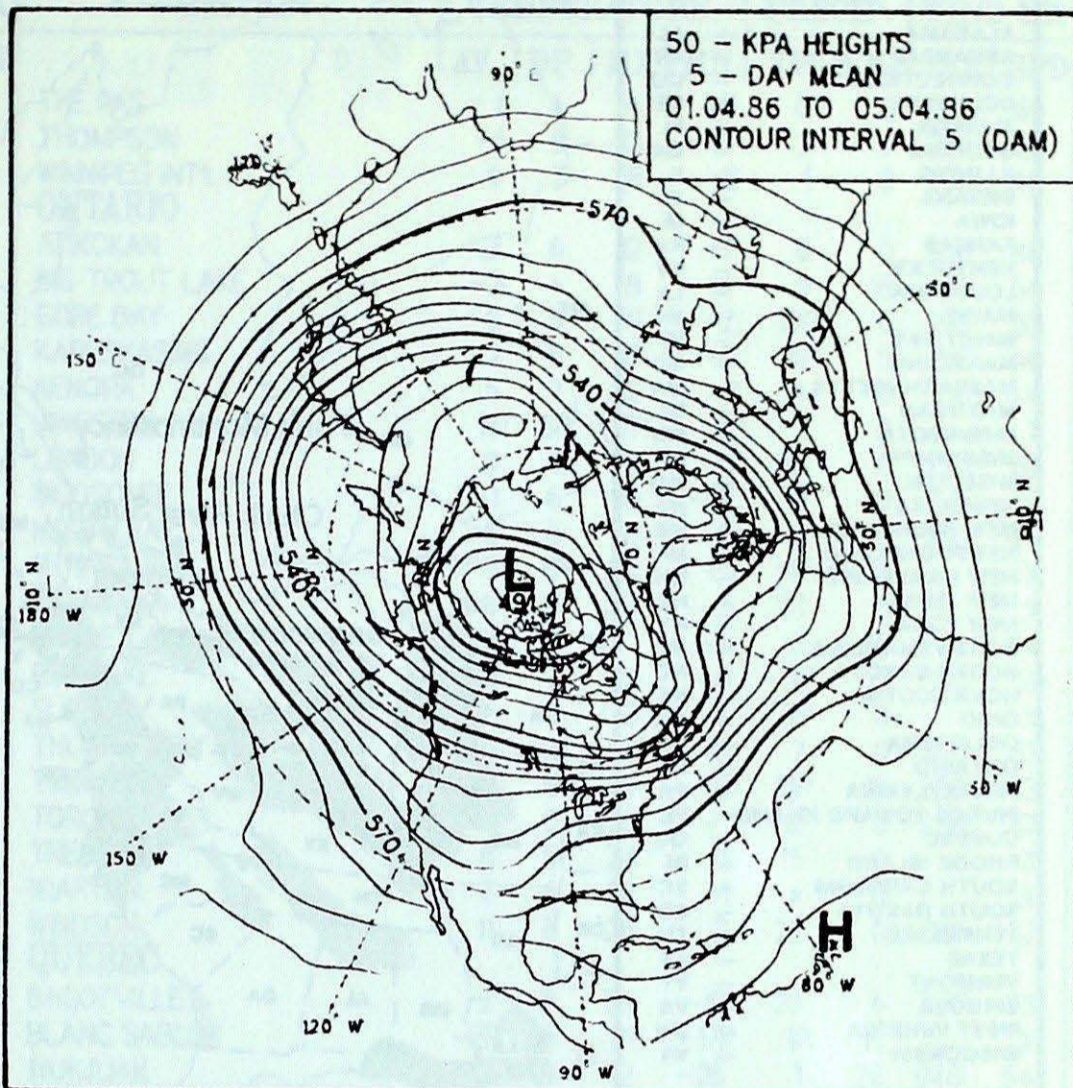
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50 KPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

50 - KPa HEIGHT ANOMALY
5 - DAY MEAN
01.04.86 TO 05.04.86
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 (DAM)

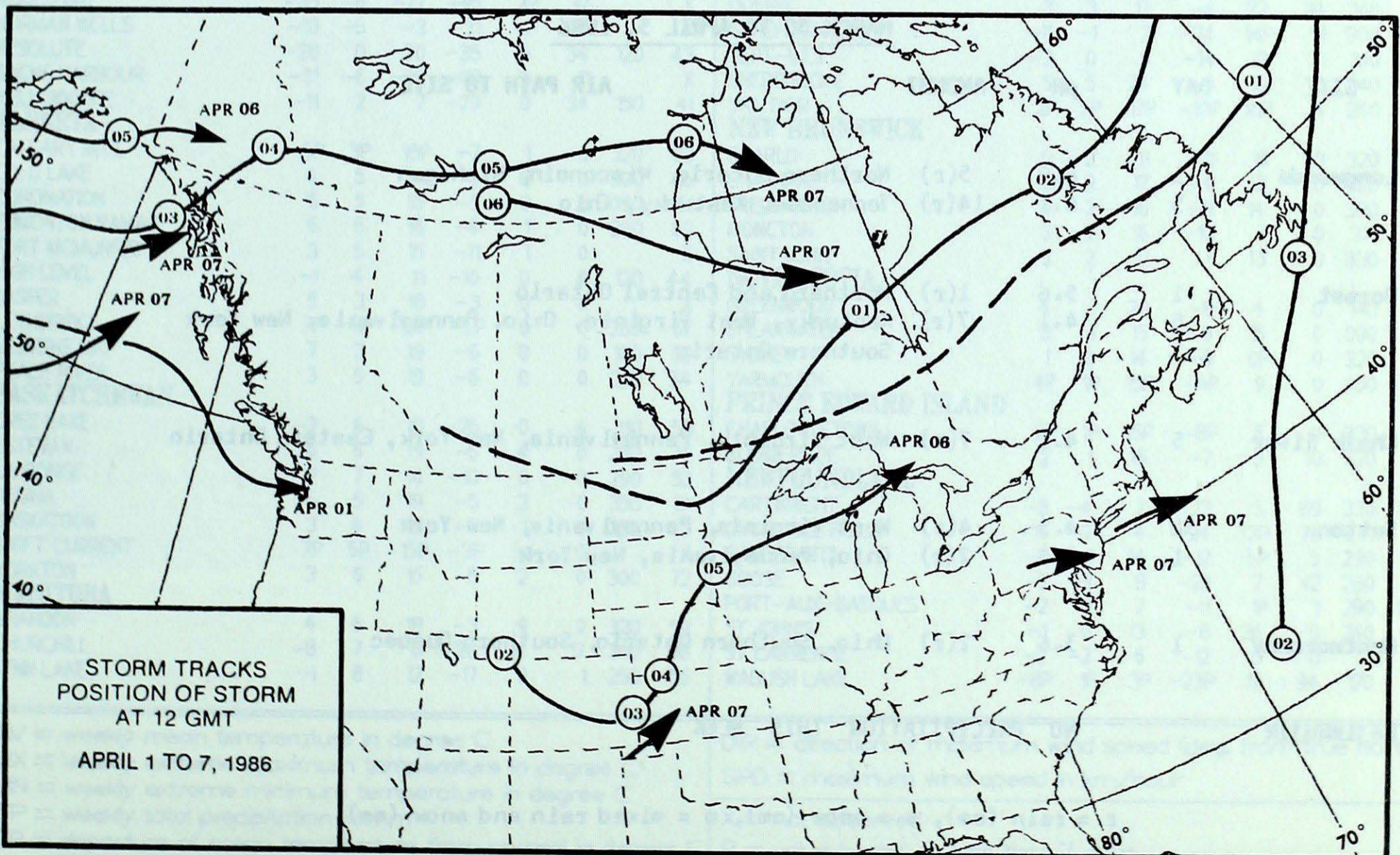


50 - KPa HEIGHTS
5 - DAY MEAN
01.04.86 TO 05.04.86
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 (DAM)



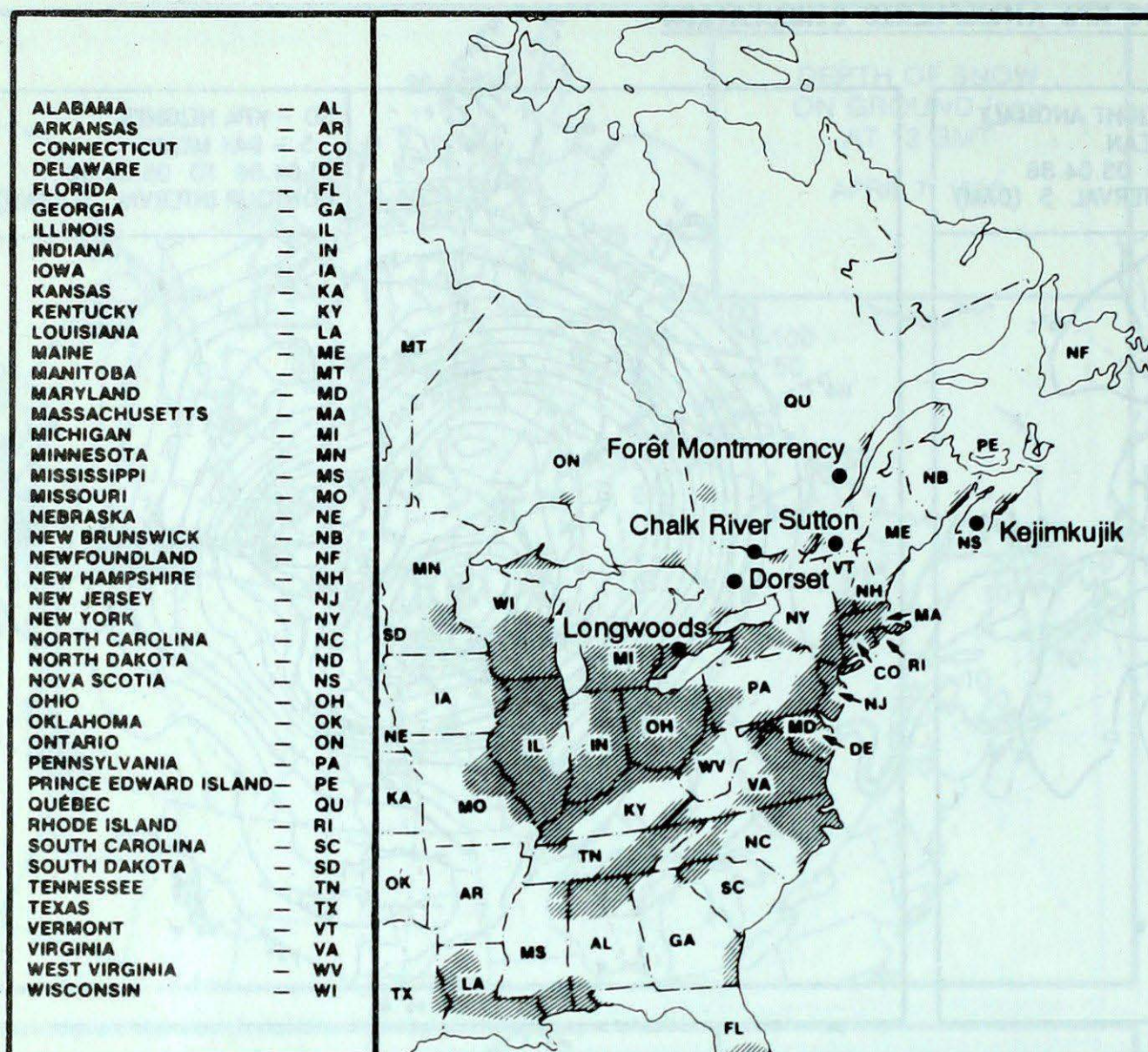
MEAN 50 KPa HEIGHT ANOMALY (dam)
April 1 to April 5, 1986

MEAN 50 KPa HEIGHTS (dam)
April 1 to April 5, 1986



ACID RAIN

ACID RAIN REPORT



The reference map (left) shows the locations of sampling sites where the acidity of precipitation is monitored. All are operated by Environment Canada except Dorset which is a research station operated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. The map also shows the approximate areas (shaded) where SO_2 and NO_x emissions are greatest. The table below gives the weekly report summarizing the acidity (or pH) of the rain or snow that fell at the collection sites and a description of the path travelled by the moisture laden air. Environmental damage to lakes and streams is usually observed in sensitive areas regularly receiving precipitation with pH less than 4.7, while pH readings less than 4.0 are serious. For more information concerning the acid rain report, see Climatic Perspectives, Vol. 5 No. 50 p. 6.

MARCH 30 TO APRIL 5, 1986

SITE	DAY	pH	AMOUNT	AIR PATH TO SITE
Longwoods	1	6.0	5(r)	Northern Ontario, Wisconsin, Michigan
	5	4.1	14(r)	Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio
Dorset	1	5.6	1(r)	Northern and Central Ontario
	5	4.1	7(r)	Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York Southern Ontario
Chalk River	5	4.1	7(r)	West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Eastern Ontario
Sutton	30	4.5	4(r)	West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York
	1	3.8	2(r)	Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York
Montmorency	1	3.6	2(r)	Ohio, Southern Ontario, Southern Quebec
Kejimikujik				NO PRECIPITATION THIS WEEK

r = rain (mm), s = snow (cm), m = mixed rain and snow (mm).

