Having spent a day over this, I thought I'd share the results...

I have geographical data, and use polar stereos (around the S pole).
Simple contours are fine, but filled ones cause trouble. OK, so the manual
says that this is liable to happen with certain projections. What I have
found is that filling works, but only if you specify CELL_FILL and *don't*
specify C_LABEL. Since my "contour wrapper" routine added c_labels automatically,
my routine kept screwing up.

So, if I have a question, it is: why does c_label stop the fill working?

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