

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa.

The Island Guardian Publishing Co.

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MAR. 16, 1955

The British Market

Between 1900 and 1941 Canada's imports from the United Kingdom ran annually at rates between 15 to 40 per cent of our total imports.

According to the Globe and Mail, there is a direct cause and effect relationship in these percentages. Our buying enabled Britain not only to buy our food production according to her need, but encouraged her to make both dollar and sterling capital investments in the development of this country.

Now it would appear that big business in the United States is planning to open the market there to British imports in order to increase the volume of American foodstuffs sold abroad.

"Unless we mend our trade practices," warns our Toronto contemporary, "the next stage will be a bitter competition for overseas sale of foodstuffs.

Britain's New Oil Refinery

Britain has moved firmly into the lead as Western Europe's biggest oil refinery with the opening of a new processing plant near London. It is the Kent plant of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., located on the Isle of Grain in the Thames estuary.

Western Europe now has the ability to process some 1.6 million barrels of crude oil daily, out of a world total daily refining capacity of about 13.4 million barrels.

The new refinery, notes the Wall Street Journal, is another step in the process which has increased British refining capacity 800 per cent since 1945.

With the loss of Abadan, the world's biggest petroleum processor, AIOC refining capacity around the world dropped from 630,000 barrels daily to about 130,000 barrels capacity.

Isle of Grain refinery, Anglo-Iranian can now refine approximately 340,000 barrels of oil a day. Crude oil for the new plant will come chiefly from Kuwait, a small sheikdom down the Persian Gulf from Iran.

Bigger Tax Burden

The U. S. News and World Report does not share the view expressed in some quarters that tax levies in this country are less burdensome than in the United States.

Specifically, says this authority, U. S. taxpayers carry a load that is less than 32 per cent of their national income.

"There is one big difference though—one that has special attraction for wealthy and higher-income taxpayers in both countries. The U. S. government draws more than 82 per cent of its revenue from direct taxes—on incomes of individuals and corporations and on estates and gifts.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Ides of March have passed, but wariness is still not to be altogether neglected.

Easter may fall as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. This year, falling on April 5, it may be regarded as early.

Reports of the rest period for the Commonwealth Division in Korea indicate that it is sufficiently strenuous for the troops to look forward to the life of relative ease at the front.

Charlottetown's proposal to require employers to collect current poll tax is attractive from the City's point of view because it is difficult and expensive to collect the large number of small payments.

The Tariff Board has decided that new oil or gas-burning furnaces installed since September 26, 1951 are not liable to sales tax, though this had been collected.

Canada may well be grateful for Russia's latest exercise of the veto.

It would have been a matter of pride to have Mr. L. B. (Mike) Pearson as secretary-general of the United Nations but it would also have been an embarrassment. It is not always possible to comply promptly with the resolutions of the U. N. and it would be difficult for our U. N. representative to be required to put pressure on the Canadian government when internal factors, such as Dominion-Provincial relations, made compliance difficult.

Aubrey Vincent Beardsley, English artist, died this date 1898. He worked for various illustrated papers at the age of 20; and next year illustrated the "Morte d'Arthur".

The new law requiring New York State hunters to wear their hunting license number on their back has wide possibilities. Car license plates are an old story but owners of firearms, merchants, doctors, dentists, lawyers and teachers could be so identified, perhaps with an appropriate uniform to match.



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

OUR COURT DOCKETS

Sir,—The new Temperance Act was to be a great improvement on Prohibition. It was to lessen the consumption of liquor, reduce drunkenness, and to abolish bootlegging; but the very reverse has resulted.

Refunds For Furnace Purchasers

(Frank Swanson in The Citizen) Thousands of Canadian homeowners who bought furnaces after Sept. 26, 1951, are entitled to around \$1,000,000 worth of sales tax refunds, it was learned today in the wake of a recent Tariff Board decision.

TESTIMONY

England has not nurtured me, but I can hear an ocean-carried wind whistling over the Bristol arid; can see her tall impressive ships clean-etched against the sky.

The Poet's Corner

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Dinner At Eight

(The London Daily Times)

Anyone who writes about our ancestors' meals must face comparison with Sir Jack Drummond and his wife, authors of "The Englishman's Food" (Gape), who were murdered last summer in the French Alps.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) DECREASE IN CRIME "The business of the Supreme Court is progressing, but it is not of a nature to attract public attention. The Chief Justice, in his charge to the Grand Jury, laid particular stress upon the remarkable fact that, notwithstanding the great increase of the population, from immigration and other circumstances, there was an obvious decrease of crime, there being, in fact, nothing on the calendar worthy of special remark.

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Notes By The Way

There will be 48 horses taken to London for the famous musical ride of the Mounted Police before the Queen. This is a spectacle distinctively Canadian, and likely to make a tremendous hit in Britain.—Ottawa Journal.

Notes By The Way

Maybe they have something at that. To end a wave of drunkenness in Istanbul, Turkish police now take disorderly persons to first aid hospitals where they are injected with a drug that makes them sick.—Niagara Falls Review.

Notes By The Way

It is strange that so many cats are killed on the highways at night in view of the fact that cats are supposed to possess night vision far superior to that of man or most other animals. Apparently the blinding glare of car headlights is too much even for "cat eyes".—Brookville Recorder and Times.

Notes By The Way

A committee of Parliament has been told that as a result of last summer's blaze about 75,000 books in the Parliamentary Library, damaged by fire, smoke and water, must be rebound at a total cost of \$170,000. Some people are sure to ask whether all these books are worth saving, or if advantage shouldn't be taken of the fire to do some large-scale housecleaning in the parliamentary book racks.—Ottawa Journal.

Notes By The Way

Small Diesel "switchers" used on the railway track inside the Steel Company of Canada at Hamilton, Ontario, are operated by a one-man crew, in contrast to the gradually disappearing steam locomotives, which require a fireman. Organized labour is demanding that all such Diesels have a two-man crew. No one has discovered anything for the second man to do on a Diesel except to turn on the windshield wiper. And, in Hamilton, it doesn't always rain.—The Printed Word.

Notes By The Way

The cost of operating a motor vehicle depends considerably on where you live, according to figures provided by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Taxes and licences are lowest in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, averaging \$55 per vehicle and highest in Quebec where the average costs are \$138. Here are the averages for 1951: Newfoundland, \$108; Prince Edward Island, \$83; Nova Scotia, \$107; New Brunswick, \$111; Quebec, \$138; Ontario, \$78; Manitoba, \$86; Saskatchewan, \$85; Alberta, \$78; British Columbia, \$81; Yukon and Northwest Territories, \$55.—Niagara Falls Review.

Notes By The Way

As an antidote to all the distracting news of these days, we appreciated an item from Wolseley, Saskatchewan, Charles Kenmore from Ottawa and girl by the name of Caroline Kaye Tompson from Nova Scotia. Because their initials and surnames were the same, their mall was frequently mixed up. Getting it straightened out meant that they got to know each other well. So they were married. That ended the mall confusion. And a few days ago more than 276 friends called on them to help them celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. We hope the Post Office Department was not overlooked. It ought to get some credit for the success story.—Calgary Albertan.

Notes By The Way

Mayer Whitton of Ottawa is demonstrating one of women's very strong points as holders of public office. Women do not fear to face up to issues which might be termed "moral." Unfortunately, many men who hold such offices are fearful of taking definite stands on these great moral issues, fearing "loss of face." Many men have a definite weakness in their eagerness to be good fellows.—Owen Sound Sun-Times.

Notes By The Way

The British are great sticklers for traditions, and among these is that of the fox hunt. This was demonstrated the other day when the Earl of Bathurst was out with his hunt, the Vale of White Horse. The hounds had raised the fox and chased it along the railway tracks. The Earl stood on the tracks to stop the oncoming train, so as not to endanger the dogs. They killed the fox on the tracks. Such are the traditions of the hunt. It probably never occurred to the Earl to call off the hounds if it were possible—so the train could proceed on schedule. The passengers probably wouldn't mind—except those with queasy stomachs—getting a vicarious thrill from the hunt.—Windsor Star.

Notes By The Way

A device which is being installed in an increasingly large number of Manhattan apartment buildings—the "mechanical milkman"—is of more than passing interest to Ottawa housewives. Placed in apartment house lobbies, these refrigerated machines vend quart containers of milk at the drop of a 26-cent piece and return three cents to the purchaser—the chair store-price of milk. Besides making milk available 24 hours a day to persons who lack their own refrigerator, the "mechanical milkman" allows the distributing companies to save the cost of deliveries without inconveniencing their customers.—Ottawa Citizen.

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The Age-Old Story

Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them

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