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Importance of Oil

IN VIEW of the oil drilling campaign which is being instituted on the Queen Charlotte Islands, Prince Rupert takes a direct interest in oil more than merely from the standpoint of its use as a fuel. The monthly letter of the Royal Bank of Canada, which is about to be distributed to the public, contains an interesting treatise on oil from the general economic aspect.

It has had many ups and downs, but oil is so firmly established in our way of life that it will hold the centre of the natural resource stage for many a year to come, says the letter. Hardly any other substance illustrates so well how science and technology may be combined to contribute to human efficiency and comfort.

In many enterprises there is no substitute for oil. It is a primary source of power for industrial nations, and, says an article in the New York Times, regardless of any developments that now seem likely with respect to atomic energy, oil will continue to hold its importance.

Raw materials have always been vital in Canada, and every new source raises our prospects of continued prosperity. Upon these raw materials we have built a superstructure giving employment in the fields of production, technology, manufacturing, transportation and marketing.

Canada has always had to import the bulk of the petroleum products she used. If it should be possible to triple Alberta's production, we should be independent of United States supplies.

Saving United States exchange would be the great national benefit. Alberta, of course, is realizing a large new income as the result of these discoveries. The government revenues have been increased by the sale of crown lands and by royalties on production. There has been increased employment, and business has prospered because of big expenditures for exploration and development.

Oil industry planning is of the long-range kind, and is not a month-to-month operation. Looking ahead, analysts see an increasing demand for petroleum. They say that both as fuel and as raw material for chemical industries petroleum will remain among the leading minerals for many years. Splitting the petroleum molecule into almost every possible combination of its constituent parts has opened up entirely new vistas for scientific exploration, with what expansion of industry we cannot even guess.

PARADOXICAL

FOR THE YEAR ending September 30, the people of Canada have managed to salt away what amounts to \$7,000,000,000 in the shape of bank deposits. And the banks, with an eye to making money work, have loaned more than \$2,000,000,000 to provincial governments, manufacturers, churches, cities, fishing interests and districts. Both the deposits and loans are higher than what they were a year ago.

Yet from one end of Canada to another, there are complaints, of course—living costs, lack of employment, pension criticism—little that reflects a degree of prosperity making it possible for wage earners to live and at the same time enjoy a cash surplus as seen in bank savings.

Chartered bank loans have all been larger than what they were the previous year and that is not without significance.

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LETTERBOX

SHOULD HAVE ADVERTISED.
Editor, Daily News:
"Prince Rupert Forgets." That was what I read in Monday's paper. I don't believe that at all.

Attendance might have been as great as that of the Legion dance if the notice of the Memorial Service had been as prominently displayed. Why wasn't it on the front page? Surely it was as important as the dance. At least we would have known where and when the service was to take place.

I hope that next year all Remembrance Day services will be announced on the front page so no one will have an excuse for not attending.

Thank you for your space.
MRS J. M.
(The Remembrance Day service was a featured subject in a full page advertisement on the Friday preceding Armistice Day.)

STOP SIGN CONTROVERSY

Editor Daily News:
An old saying that "fools step in where angels fear to tread" may be applicable to the controversy between taxi operators and Mr. Ferguson president of the Ratepayers' Association regarding the five stop signs at Third Avenue and McBride Street.

For my part I think Mr. Ferguson erred in committing the Ratepayers' Association to the views expressed in his letter of November 14. I attended the meeting on November 15 and cannot recall from the minutes read, any reference to the four stop signs in question.

I further believe that the purpose of a ratepayers' association is economy in civic administration. The employment of a couple of police officers, loitering in the dark as Mr. Currie says, on the Court House grounds is poor economy and should be condemned by the Ratepayers' Association even though the city council may think it good business.

GEORGE B. CASEY.

INTEREST IN P.T.A.

(Continued from Page 1)

retary, Mrs. Greissel, was able to dispose of the various items speedily. Formation of study groups, reports of committees, the film on Sex Education for the School were considered.

A gratifying report was that of membership convener Mrs. Watmough when the meeting learned that the paid-up membership was 164. Mr. Cheeseman's grade won the prize for obtaining the greatest number of members, namely fifty, and Jimmy Davidson, who enrolled eleven members, received the prize on behalf of the grade. Runners-up were Dick Flood and Carl Jackson.

Refreshments were served by the committee under chairmanship of Mrs. P. Bond, Miss Y. Larson was accompanist. Great interest was shown by the parents as they visited the different rooms.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

A million dollars worth of Japanese oranges will start rolling toward Canada this Christmas season, say British Columbia importers. The movement from Nippon will begin the latter part of November. The first two shipments will be for eastern Canadian consumption. The flavor will be much superior to what it was back in 1942-45.

E. T. Applewhaite, M.P., has discovered that Eastern Canada remains far from being well informed about the Canadian West, particularly the north. Already, in interviews, and in addresses both within and without the House, he has done much to correct this. . . Canadians need

not charge the United States concerning ignorance of the Provinces. We can find plenty of examples without leaving home.

Nothing is so gratifying to a wife as to see a double chin on her husband's old flame.

The aldermen, Monday evening spoke of the city's numerous "free-roving dogs." They could be regarded chiefly as a nuisance. It could also be mentioned, in passing, that the city has a large number of the free-loving species.

Now that a passenger steamer has been lost almost in the harbor of Vancouver, Ottawa may

Harold Helgeson returned to the city on yesterday's plane from a business trip to Vancouver.

have reason to think a coastguard service is really necessary for the coasts of Canada. The need has been urged and advocated often enough. And here's a forceful example. A steamer piles up on the rocks, handy to the shores of Stanley Park. A steamship, with passengers, wrecked in one of the country's chief seaports!

During last September, 1,631,000,000 cigarettes, according to the Bureau of Statistics, were smoked in Canada. How many were tailor made and how many consumers had mastered the art of rolling their own, Ottawa neglected to say.

A man is judged by the company he thinks nobody knows he's keeping.

Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Richardson of Tiel, have been visitors in the city, returning by today's plane to the Queen Charlotte Islands.

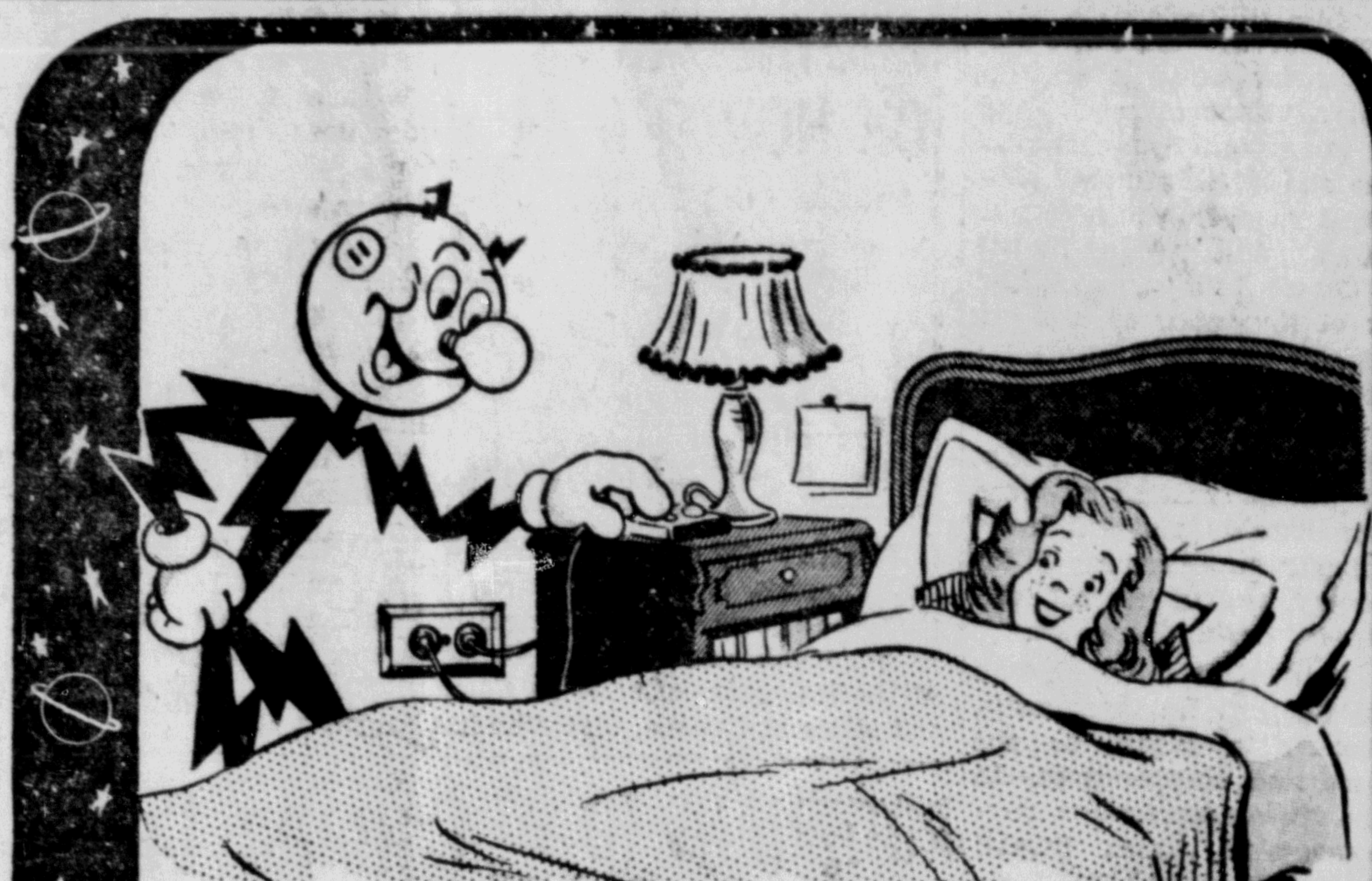
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