

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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FRIDAY MAY 12, 1916.

## THE IRRESPONSIBLE MR. HUGHES

We publish in this morning's issue the reply given by Mr. A. A. McLean, to the aspersions made by Mr. J. J. Hughes with reference to the patronage list in Prince Edward Island. The Patriot had from time to time published extracts from Mr. Hughes' speech, and with more consideration for Mr. Hughes than that gentleman had for himself or the province he misrepresents, prudently withheld many statements which it would have been more creditable to Mr. Hughes if he had never uttered them. Doubtless under the inspiration of Mr. Hughes' presence, the Patriot in its issue of yesterday publishes the whole speech. It is no credit to Mr. Hughes and is, for the most part a slander on the province.

It will be remembered that Mr. Hughes' speech was one of the many petty, carping, puerile criticisms which goaded Mr. Michael Clark, of Red Deer to the scathing rebuke he administered to his fellow Liberals for wasting the time of the parliament and the time of the country, for "losing their sense of proportion in the greatest crisis that has ever been passed through by this country, by this Empire and by the world's prospects of the advance of civilization."

Mr. Hughes did not see the "greatest crisis," he saw only that "not a Liberal has been found to provide supplies" for the army; that powder milk was being supplied to the troops in Prince Edward Island to the ignoring of the Condensed Milk Factory, that a Liberal paper in Charlottetown had asked for and been refused the privilege of inserting an advertisement asking for students for the Military College at Kingston. And in order to make these charges as glaring and as damaging as possible he stated that he had been told "that it has been found that the supplies are about 20 per cent. short of weight"—this shortage having occurred in his own constituency at Souris. When challenged to give names he of course could not; he was content with making the insinuation.

In our yesterday's issue we published from Hazard the names of the parties in Prince Edward Island from whom the government purchases its war supplies. In the list is the firm of J. J. Hughes & Co. Ltd., of which Mr. Hughes is the senior member. This information, given in the House of Commons by Hon. Robert Rogers was supplemented by the statement that 61 firms were invited to tender and that 28 tenders were received. We do not presume to single out from the list of successful tenderers those belonging to the Liberal party, but the fact that Mr. J. J. Hughes & Co. Ltd., are included gives the lie direct to the insinuation that no Liberals need apply.

The assertion of M. Hughes that the contractors were supplying goods 20 per cent. short weight is a libel not only on the contractors, not only on Souris but on the whole province and is one that ought to be resented by every Islander whatever his party connections may be.

It is characteristic of the "Hughligan" class of politicians that they do not hesitate to sacrifice their country for personal and political ends. The Militia Department would be justified in withdrawing from local contractors the right to supply the troops or to withdraw the troops to some centre where there are no Mr. Hugheses to blacken the reputation of its business men.

Mr. A. A. McLean refuted many of the charges made by Mr. Hughes and it is singular to find the Patriot, while publishing Mr. Hughes' charges refrains from publishing the list of contractors which he asked for and obtained.

## WOODEN SHIPBUILDING

As prayed for in a petition signed by practically every merchant, firm, dealer, shipper, ship owner and ship captain in the Province the legislature at the recent session as already announced, passed a resolution asking the federal government for certain measures of assistance in the encouragement of shipbuilding. Similar action, we understand, is being taken in the other maritime provinces with a view to a revival of shipbuilding and shipping in these provinces.

Mr. Alex. G. Baillie, of Halifax who has for a number of years interested himself in this very important matter, and through whose efforts the petition above mentioned came to be so heartily supported, accompanied the petition with a letter which throws a good deal of valuable light on the subject. Mr. Baillie deals first with the cause which reduced the schooner business of the maritime provinces to the unsatisfactory condition in which it is found to-day. This cause is the unequal competition between the small schooner and the large steamer. Both are engaged largely in the coal carrying trade. At the coal ports the steamers are given a preference with the result that the schooners are often delayed for days, sometimes weeks, this making their voyage so unprofitable as to discourage the owners and drive them out of business. Were this remedied by legislation which would compel the dealers to give schooners and steamers alike their legitimate turn at the loading docks. Mr. Baillie thinks it would greatly stimulate shipping. Such legislation is one of the measures by which the Federal Government is expected to revive the ship building business.

As to shipbuilding itself Mr. Baillie states that there is a sufficient quantity of lumber in Prince Edward Island to maintain a considerable shipbuilding industry for a number of years. If this be so, and it is undoubtedly true of certain sections of the province there is no reason why, with the prices available for ships at present, some of our enterprising people should not engage in the business at once. There are few of the old shipbuilding firms left among us; the business would have to be begun anew, but this is true of practically every line of industry or business that we could engage in. The impetus in any undertaking is its profitability and there is no doubt that vessels of all kinds would to-day command prices that would make the enterprise abundantly profitable. The initial expense is of course a stumbling block, while in any new undertaking, and shipbuilding now would be new even in Prince Edward Island, there are uncertainties which the prudent investor will do well to guard against. To meet this quite natural obstacle and in view of the general benefits likely to accrue from a revival in Canada of the shipbuilding industry, the federal government is asked to give a bonus of so much per ton for the first few years. Such a concession on the part of the government would, we have no doubt result in the inauguration of shipbuilding in those parts of the province in which suitable lumber is available.

Mr. Baillie in the letter above-referred to says: "I found in talking to quite a number of reliable people; that were a law in force to give coasting schooners two lay days at coal ports and demurrage after that with a government inspector to see the law enforced, together with a federal government subsidy to wooden shipbuilding for a period of years, there would be construction work started at once on at least nine schooners of a carrying capacity of from 150 to 250 tons and at least 20 building this winter."

What such a shipbuilding revival would mean for this province may easily be imagined. Additional labour for skilled workmen, sale of lumber, work for saw mills, an impetus to the carrying trade and further employment for sailors and sea captains, with a greatly increased convenience for coal merchants and their customers, to produce dealers in the removal of the serious handicap they are now labouring under on account of the scarcity of bottoms.

It is hoped that the federal government will see its way to assist this potential industry the benefits of which would be reaped by the whole dominion.

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## RUSSIANS LOSSES

(Special to the Guardian.)  
 LONDON, May 11.—The late reports show the Russians have been repulsed in an attack on the Germans South of Garbunovka suffering heavy casualties. Constantinople Chronicle: Victories for the Turks against the Russians in Northern Asia-Minor and Northwest of Mush and the defeat of the Russians with heavy losses and the capture of some prisoners near Mount Bathli.

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## Fennell & Chandler VICTORIA ROW

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Charlottetown

## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUSE.

### A MOTHER OF FIVE.

She mothered five!  
 Night after night she watched a little bed,  
 Night after night she cooled a fevered head,  
 Day after day she guarded little feet,  
 Taught little minds the dangers of the street;  
 Taught little lips to utter simple prayers,  
 Whispered of strength that some day would be theirs,  
 She gave her babies to the Nation's good.

She mothered five!  
 Night after night they sat about her knee,  
 And heard her tell of what some day would be,  
 From her they learned that in the world outside,  
 Are cruelty and vice and selfishness and pride;  
 From her they learned the wrongs they ought to shun,  
 What things to love, what work must still be done,  
 She led them through the labyrinth of youth,  
 And brought five men and women up to Truth.

She mothered five!  
 Her name may be unknown save to the few,  
 Of her the outside world but little knew,  
 But somewhere five are treading Virtue's ways,  
 Serving the world and brightening its days,  
 Somewhere are five, who, tempted,

stand upright  
 Clinging to honour, keeping her memory bright,  
 Somewhere this mother toils and is alive  
 No more as one, but in the breasts of five!

## Address and Presentation

A very pleasant evening was spent in the new hall at Victoria on Monday evening, April 24th, when the rate-payers of the school district held a social in honour of Messrs Howard and Fredrick Clarke, who are about to depart to Western Canada. A short program was rendered and the following addresses:

Messrs. Howard and Fredrick Clarke, Dear Fellow-Citizens:  
 We, your neighbors and friends, cannot permit you and your families to leave this community without expressing to you our very great regret.  
 We recall with pride that for many years the family to which you belong has been identified with every movement that would make this a better place in which to live.  
 Your grandfather, "Michael Clark," whose name the older people remember with respect and reverence, was one of the Pioneers in the agricultural development of this country, and it is owing to him and his children, and others like them, that this district is known as second to none in "Prince Edward Island" in intelligent and up-to-date farming.  
 Those of the older generations have passed to their eternal reward, and you old homestead, and your family, has followed in the excellent way pointed out to you by your fathers. In some measure you have succeeded in improving upon the conditions which you found, and today you have the proud satisfaction of knowing that the old homestead, and nearby farms, have steadily improved since they came into your hands.

The labor which you expended in the development of pure bred cattle, not only built up for you one of the best herds in the Province, but also greatly enriched neighboring farms.

It is a pleasure to remember that you and your families have been interested in every cause that would effect the betterment of the community. We will miss you in all the activities of our social, and industrial life; regret your departure and wish you God speed in the newer section of the great Dominion to which you go. For we are glad that you are to remain fellow-citizens with us under the "Union Jack," and trust that in your new home, with larger opportunities you may work out a happy and satisfactory destiny under the blessing of Almighty God.  
 Victoria, P. E. I., April 24th, 1916.  
 Signed: E. Boswell, Chairman; Rev. George M. Young, E. H. Wright, Jabez Lea, John C. McDonald, Webster Souther, W. M. Lea, F. W. Snow, Jack Lea, and others.

## ENEMY ABANDON WITH GREAT LOSSES

(Special to the Guardian.)  
 PEKING, May 9.—The following official communication was issued today. The Germans have again bombarded Ikskul Bridge-Head, On the Dvina near Jacobstadt our artillery dispersed enemy working parties. Caucasus Front. In the direction of Erzincan during the course of the day the Turks made stubborn but unsuccessful attacks against our positions. Having suffered crushing losses the enemy toward evening abandoned the offensive, in the direction of Diarbir we dislodged Turks, from the chain of mountains extending south of the Dvina. In the direction of Bagdad after dislodging the enemy