

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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Friday, April 21st, being Good Friday, and a statutory holiday, the Morning Guardian will not be issued on Saturday. The Evening Guardian will not be published on Friday but will be published as usual on Saturday. Advertisers please note these changes.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1916.

## THE NEW ECONOMY

In our yesterday's issue we referred to an incident which took place in the course of Mr. George E. Hughes' speech on the budget when he was called to order in respect to certain language he used regarding the letting of Imperial hay contracts.

The matter came up yesterday in camera when the journal of the House was under consideration and as no reference was made to the matter when Mr. Hughes resumed his speech later it may be taken for granted that it was amicably arranged. Mr. Hughes discussed at considerable length the various questions before the House. He evidently appreciated the point made yesterday that no member of the Opposition had pointed out any specific instance of extravagance on the part of the government and proceeded to take up the administration of Falconwood. He pointed out that this cost \$11,000 more than it did five years ago and alleged that this was partly due to the practice of taking supplies without tender. He made no allowance for the fact that the cost of everything had advanced in price since 1911, or that the patients were receiving a better quality of foodstuff than under the Liberal regime. But the inconsistency of the hon. gentleman was manifested a little later when after having bemoaned the increase in staff and administration expenses, he boldly asserted that the institution was understaffed so far as medical attendance was concerned and urged upon the government the necessity of appointing an assistant medical superintendent. This would mean an addition to the administration expenses of from two to three thousand dollars and one would like to know what the criticism of Mr. Hughes and his leader would have been had the government anticipated his recommendation in the last financial year. It becomes more evident as the debate proceeds that the Opposition are all helplessly at sea with regard to the internal economy of government administration. They do not take the trouble to personally investigate matters of prime importance but are satisfied to accept any street corner gossip reflecting upon the administration and debate upon it at length as though it were incontrovertible fact. Already during the session every head of a department has exposed the falsity of the charges that have been levelled against their respective departments and to-day the Opposition are in the unenviable position of having been unable to substantiate a single one of their pre-election and post-election allegations.

Hon. Murdoch McKinnon in the course of a comprehensive and informative reply to the leader of the Opposition and other members of the House regarding the administration of his department showed that the hon. gentlemen opposite were wholly ignorant of the facts and details which they attempted to criticize. He took point by point the criticisms levelled and showed by indisputable evidence that the would-be critics had rushed in where more astute politicians would have hesitated to expose their own weakness and the government's strength. So far the government has had not the slightest difficulty in proving that its administration of the affairs of the province has been characterized by wisdom, economy and efficiency which has left practically no room for the adverse criticisms of the Opposition.

In this case it may be said with truth that what the Opposition has gained in numbers in the present legislature it has sadly fallen away in strength, for the Hon. John Richards, although blessed with only one follower was far more effective in holding his own than has been Mr. Bell who is blessed—perhaps cursed—with too many co-leaders.

## THE COASTWISE TRADE

A petition signed by practically every merchant, sea captain and ship owner in the province is about to be presented to the legislature drawing attention to the disabilities under which sailing vessels in Maritime waters are operating on account of the unequal competition with steamers, many of them foreign owned, the consequent decline of the ship-building industry, and asking that the Federal authorities appoint a Royal Commission "to visit our Island and our va-

rious ports with a view, after all facts are submitted, to pass remedial legislation."

The disabilities complained of may be briefly summed up as follows: After lying idle for five months of winter schooner owners are detained weeks at a time at coaling ports because of the preference given to larger craft, most of them foreign, entailing serious financial loss upon said owners and driving many of them out of the business, with the result that freights, especially on coal, have very greatly advanced and are still advancing.

It is pointed out that if such legislation were granted as would remedy these conditions the result would be a revival of the shipbuilding industry in this province as well as in the other Maritime Provinces, a consequent decrease in freights, an increase in the number of men engaged in the mercantile marine and many other benefits.

The petition as already stated, is very numerously signed and is being similarly supported in the other Maritime Provinces. That owners of sailing vessels have a grievance and have had it for some time will be freely admitted. It is the case of the weak against the strong, the case of the slow sailing vessels against her more speedy rival the steamer. The coal companies give the latter quicker despatch because it pays them to do so. The steamer carrying some hundreds of tons carries more coal and is therefore a better customer of the coal companies than the little sailing vessel and gets the berth at the chutes while the latter has to wait for weeks. The detention in idleness of the vessel and her crew takes away all the profit of the trip. To remedy this legislation is asked for to compel the coal companies to load sailing schooners in their regular turn on arrival. This it is believed would remedy the trouble that more of our people would engage in the coasting trade and that there would be a resulting revival of the ship building industry.

The suggestion has been made that the Federal government should for a number of years offer a bonus or subsidy to Island ship-builders so as to encourage the building of small wooden ships of say from forty to two hundred tons here. We are told by those in a position to know that there is still sufficient lumber in this province to maintain a fair volume of shipbuilding for many years, and we have no doubt that with a small bounty as an inducement, together with reasonable protection for the small craft in competition with larger steamers in the coal trade there would very shortly be heard again the hum of industry in the many shipyards throughout the province.

In our sister provinces the coal and iron industries are encouraged by bounties and bonuses. There is no reason why similar help should not be given to the shipbuilding industry which is still a possibility in our province.

## TO SAVE THE BIRDS

A practical move has been made in the direction of carrying out an interesting line of Nature Study by the Literary Society of St. James Church in the taking up of the study of bird life. The bird life of this province, while not as complete or extensive as in densely wooded countries, is still sufficiently abundant and varied to form a most interesting study. The aim of the society is not exclusively to study the bird life of the province but to conserve it. It is well known and it is a matter of regret that many of the birds that once enlivened our forests and made them both picturesque and melodious have practically been banished through the combined efforts of the pot hunter and the denuding axe of the forester. Not many years ago a carefully compiled list of the birds of the province showed that we had in all about 200 different species of birds. What reduction has been made in this list is not known but it may be taken for granted that the numbers is very much less than it was, say fifty years ago. The remaining ones are however worth taking care of and it is hoped that within a short time a law will be enacted making it illegal to kill any of our native wild birds. With such a law and with the introduction of other varieties suitable to our climate our remaining groves and clumps of forest may yet be musical with the sweet songs of birds and enlivened by interesting and picturesque bird life.

The first step in this direction is to become acquainted with the birds, to know them, to study their habits and to learn to love them. This is the aim of the Society above mentioned in adding the study of birds to the programme for the coming summer. It is the intention to have a number of addresses delivered by some of the experts of the Agricultural Department and we understand the first will be given by Prof. S. B. McCready of the Nature Study Department of Prince of Wales College. It is the intention also to encourage Nature Study by offering prizes for the best photographs of birds and animals in the wild.

The move is an excellent one and should receive all possible encouragement and it is hoped that as a result the man with the gun in search of innocent and useful birds will be less in evidence than he is at present and that his place will be taken and more usefully and humanely filled by the man or the boy or the girl with the camera.

## Provincial Legislature Hon. A. E. Arsenault Scores Opposition

TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH.

Mr. JOHN McMILLAN continuing the debate said he thought that the sum of money spent on war purposes was not too much. The women had contributed about \$15,000, and surely a rich province like this could do more than it had done.

Mr. DALTON: How much has your leader given?

Mr. McMILLAN said he did not know, he had not asked him.

Mr. A. P. PROWSE said it came with very bad grace for a party that had been in power over twenty years with nothing but deficits to find fault with the present Government because it had one deficit out of four years' administration. No one could foresee the present war, nor the expenses that it would entail. If they took out the amount expended for war purposes, it would be found that the Government during the past four years had not only made revenue meet expenditure, but had had an average surplus of \$4,000. No man who wished to get at the truth could gainsay these figures. The Leader of the Opposition had complained about the smallness of the teachers' salaries. Well, under the Liberals it was true the teachers were not sufficiently paid indeed they did not get enough to keep body and soul together. That had been going on for years, and then the Liberals took away the supplement. The Leader of the Opposition complained that the teachers do not get enough, yet instead of giving them anything additional, the Liberals took away what they had. Mr. Prowse referred to the past speech of Mr. Bell, dealing specially with the disgraceful Pineau incident, the disfranchisement of the Dominion officials, and the gerrymandering of King's County. If there was any unpopular man in the Province it was the Leader of the Opposition, judged by his past record. The Opposition had been too extravagant, yet not one of them had pointed out a single item which they considered extravagant. In the session before the last election the then Leader of the Opposition was specifically challenged to indicate any item of expenditure that he could suggest should be reduced, and he failed to mention any reduction whatever. It was therefore quite uncalled for for the Opposition to cry out about extravagance and not to be able to say where reductions could be made.

Mr. LEA followed and dealt with orders and agriculture on similar lines to his previous speech on the address. Under the present system the expenditure had not met with unanimous approval. With regard to the oats question, he did what he could in his district, and did not think he should be held responsible for looking after the work in Charlottetown.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON next spoke and referred to the platform with which the Government went to the country in 1912, and quoted from the Premier's Budget speech in 1915, in which he said if they could not make ends meet they would resign in favour of better men. (The Premier: The Opposition will not better men.) Laughter. He also referred to the Premier's remark that he hoped the day would never dawn when they would spend five cents in a dishonourable way, and that if they did so it would be their last. (The Premier: That is quite true.) He also quoted the Premier to show that he had promised rigid economy and that no money or liquor would be used for election purposes. (The Premier: That also is quite true.) Mr. Johnston then referred to the member for Bradshaw and made a violent personal attack upon him, using language of such a nature that the Premier rose to a point of order and the Speaker ruled Mr. Johnston was out of order. Mr. Johnston then took up the Morwenne case and said he had been appointed attorney for the owners in an action against the Government. He quoted from what he termed "his brief" to show that the Morwenne arrived at Havre on December 25 and did not get a berth until December 28, said the bumping for which he was held responsible, was the fault of the Premier and Mr. Newbery signed the charter party. He asked Mr. McLean, who had accompanied the Morwenne as supercargo, whether the delay was not such as he stated.

Mr. McLEAN: No, you are not correct.

Mr. JOHNSTON maintained his information was correct as it was supplied by the owners of the Morwenne, and proceeded to state that in addition to the delay occasioned in France, the vessel was also unnecessarily delayed five or six days in England endeavour-

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ing to get coal. The charter party stipulated that the vessel should return to St. John's, Newfoundland, or some other port in North America selected by the owners, but the Premier had disputed. From papers brought down in the House that day, he observed that there was another charter which stated that the alternative of returning to St. John's or a port in North America was at the option of the charterers, but he argued that the agreement which the owners held was the correct one.

The PREMIER rose to a point of order. He said it was against all the rules of that House for a member who represented an outside party, who threatened legal proceedings against the Province to obtain access to papers to further his case by having them brought down in answer to a question in that House. It was an extraordinary thing, an unheard of thing, for a member to take advantage

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## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUSE.

ALLS WELL

We thank Thee, Lord, For mercies manifold in these dark days;

For hearts of Grace that would not suffer wrong;

For all the stirrings in the dead dry bones;

For bold self-stealing to the time's dread needs;

For every sacrifice of self to Thee;

For ease and wealth and life so freely given;

For thy deep sounding of the hearts of men;

For thy great opening of the hearts of men;

For thy close knitting of the hearts of men;

For all who sprung to answer the great call;

For their high courage and self-sacrifice;

For their endurance under deadly stress;

For all the unknown heroes who have died;

To keep the land inviolate and free;

For all who came back from the Gates of death;

For all who passed to larger life with Thee;

And find in Thee the wider liberty.

For hope and righteous and Enduring Peace;

For hope of cleaner earth and closer heaven;

With burdened hearts, but faith unquenchable.

We thank Thee, Lord!

JOHN OXENHAM.

## French General Kissed Canadians

LONDON, April 17.—Struck on each shoulder with the flat of the General's sword, and kissed on each cheek by the General, 25 Canadians received medals of the French Legion of Honor at the hands of General D'Ossees, of the 38th French Army Corps. The ceremony was described in a letter from Lt.-Col. Charles H. Mitchell, consulting engineer, of Toronto, to Archdeacon Cody, who read it at the morning service at St. Paul's Church yesterday.

Everybody in my army corps, from the private soldiers to the highest British officers, knows how gallantly the Canadians acted, and knows equally well the Captain

## Gets Life Sentence

that without them the Germans would have reached Calais. There is not the slightest doubt about that," was part of the speech of the French leader.

General D'Ossees' men were to the left of the Canadians during the gas attack of last April, and he asked each recipient of the decoration whether they had been there.

Lt.-Col. Mitchell received the officers' Cross, and Capt. Eric Popler, of the 3rd Field Co., C.E., was also decorated.

## REGINA, Sask., April 13.—Up to last evening it was estimated over five thousand people had been forced to leave their homes by the flooding of Waskada Creek, and property damage was then estimated at ten thousand dollars. The district through which the creek flows is inundated to a depth of eight feet and over one hundred houses are in imminent danger.

## WILLIAMINGTON, April 18.—Ernest Schiller, Alias Clarence B. Hudson, who formerly took possession of the private soldiers in the highest British officers, knows how gallantly the Canadians acted, and knows equally well the Captain

to change the

## Helping Easter Customers



Probably one of the best showings ever made by Patons in early Easter accessories. Neckwear and Easter Gloves has just arrived in time for Easter Saturday. Who does not want a pair of new gloves for Easter? Notwithstanding the war in France we have been able to get from our glove manufacturers one of the finest stocks, all that is new in gloves. White, Black, Black with white points and White with black points. Special washing gloves at 1.00 a pair. Colored hosiery for Easter. Thirty of the newest suits for ladies, only one of a kind. Ladies sport coats in a large variety. You will find one of the best Easter millinery displays. Do your Easter shopping Saturday at Patons.

## PATONS

SUITS.

Our CLOTHING SALESMAN said to our Clothing Buyer the other day, "what are you going to do about that \$14.50 Serge Suit?" He referred to our Special, he said you can't go on selling that suit at the same money, because it is going to cost you more money. "Yes," our buyer said, "it is quite true, but our Customer is not going to pay the advance we are just going to do with less profit and sell the Suit at the same price." PATONS \$14.50 Suit has them all trimmed. SEE THEM.

PETROGRAD, April 18.—Official communication today describes artillery in the region of Ikskul and the sectors west of Jacobstadt. All enemy attempts to advance were repulsed by our scouts. In Gailala the enemy made desperate attacks on Popovomogilla, but all were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. We captured an enormous quantity of rifles, arms, cartridges and telephonic material, periscopes, bombs and caissons.

In the Caucasus Coast region our troops pursued the Turks and occupied the village of Drona Ten Versts east of Trebizond. The capture Trebizond is officially confirmed.

"The Haberdashery"  
 Easter Novelties  
 —IN—  
 Neckwear

See our magnificent showing of Easter Ties, including Coin Spots, College Stripes, fancy foulards, Bias effects and Blacks with combination of cerese, orange, purple, paddy green, Belgian blue or white. Everything that's very new is here along with a splendid range of more conservative designs.

We want you to see our showing of neckwear as we have surpassed all former efforts in our assortments.

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