

# CHRISTMAS — AT — CLARKE BROS.

Opening of Holiday Goods Dec. 7 and following days

LIFE has no nobler pleasure than that of friendship. At the end of the busy year, full of effort and struggle, comes the season when we forget the trials and welcome the opportunities, when we count our friends, when we choose for them remembrances, not because of their cost, but because of the pleasure they will bring, when we realize to the full that life is worth living because for once it is unselfish.

## The Worries of the Season

If our store may play its part during the trying days that lie between now and Christmas Eve, if it may lighten the strain of your purse (for everybody's is too small at such a time), if by good service and splendid assortment for your choosing it may help to keep the puzzle wrinkles from your forehead, it will have done all we have hoped and planned to have it do. We have given very careful thought to things useful. The list below does not represent all of what we have on our counters, but we trust its suggestions may prove helpful to you. If you should see any article that you would like later on, we will gladly put it aside for delivery at a future date. We would suggest, however, that you do this at once, while our stocks are complete and before the best are taken.

### Fancy and Useful

We have many novelties in fancy and useful articles for Christmas Gifts, including Mirrors, Photo Frames, Leather Hand Bags, Brush and Comb Sets, Clocks, Jewel Cases, Music Rolls, Atomizers, Cigar Cases, Leather Travelling Cases, Brass Novelties and many other articles that space does not permit us here to mention.

### Gifts for Women

Had you thought of a dress or waist pattern for Xmas? Such a practical gift as this would be welcomed surely and then it would serve to remind the one who wears it of the giver. We are also well supplied with fancy neckwear, handkerchiefs, table linens, napkins, towels, gloves, boots and shoes, rubber footwear, winter jackets, umbrellas, fancy linens, etc.

### Gifts for Men

There are many nice appropriate things to give a man and yet, when one sits down to think of something suitable it is not an easy task. What to give father, brother, husband, son or friend can be found in our store. Neckwear, gloves, suspenders, hosiery, coat sweaters, hats, caps, mufflers, overcoats, suits, underwear, boots and shoes, rubber footwear, fancy shirts, etc.

### Xmas Cards

We have them in endless variety, little remembrances of the season, such as everybody is looking for, 12c per dozen.

### Books

A good book for girl or boy is the choicest of gifts. We invite you to our Book Department.

### Holiday Stationery

Why not give stationery? Always an acceptable gift. We have a most attractive assortment. Dainty boxes containing high class stationery, quality the very best and style strictly up-to-date.

Price 15c to \$1.00 per box

### Fountain Pens

Why not give a real good fountain pen? Buy the best as a poor pen is a poor remembrance. We sell "Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pens" and they are fully guaranteed.

Prices \$1.25 to \$5.00 each

### Silverware and Cut Glass

Among the pretty novelties for Christmas giving there are many dainty things in Silverware and Cut Glass which not only adds attractiveness to the table but in themselves are serviceable. We invite your inspection when visiting our store.

## FINAL WORD

Buying early is an immense advantage. In the first place it is possible to make much better selection as the stock is more complete. In the second place you have more leisure and can take your time in buying. We are always pleased to put away goods selected early and deliver them at anytime you desire.

Soliciting your Holiday Trade and wishing you a Merry Xmas

We are, yours very truly

# CLARKE BROS

BEAR RIVER, N. S., November 27th, 1915.

### DEEP BROOK

November 29

Miss Josephine Sullis was at home over last Sunday.

Miss Edith Longley of Paradise is the guest of her cousin, Miss Marion Spurr.

Mrs. F. W. Rice left for Sydney last week to join her husband, Capt. Rice at that port.

Mrs. J. S. McFadden and little son Lawrence, are spending the week at Capt. W. U. Spurr's.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Sullis of Digby visited relatives and friends here on Sunday the 28th inst.

The Dorcas Society enjoyed a social evening in Union Hall on Wednesday 17th. Red Cross work is being carried on, and preparations for Xmas sale are in progress.

### DEEP BROOK SCHOOL

Report for the First Quarter

GRADE IX.		Averages
Ethel Purdy	.....	73.3
May Ruggles	.....	73.2
Neva Masters	.....	74.2
Nina Adams	.....	73.5
Max McClelland	.....	63.8
GRADE VIII.		
Vera Ditmars	.....	72.3
Helen Jones	.....	70.2
Cecil Purdy	.....	64
Mary Vroom	.....	62.8
GRADE VII.		
Frances McClelland	.....	74.8
Walden Berry	.....	65.7
Hazel Pinkney	.....	61
Bertha Lent	.....	60
Kathleen Vroom	.....	57.4
Gertrude Curtis	.....	57.2
GRADE VI.		
Margaret McClelland	.....	71.6
Hilda Adams	.....	61.6
Courtney Purdy	.....	55.8

For perfect attendance:  
Helen Jones  
Walden Berry  
Courtney Purdy  
Ralph Ruggles

### PORT WADE

November 29

Miss Lottie Holmes has arrived home from Lynn.

Miss Ethel Reynolds is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Wallace Nelson.

Mrs. D. A. Mason went to New Germany to visit her father for a few days.

We are glad to know that Mrs. George Johnson is recovering from a bad fall.

Mr. Rogers and Mr. Harold Riordan, who have been in the West, arrived home Saturday.

Miss Alberta Apt from Annapolis Royal, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Della Apt.

Mrs. Howard Burke, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. C. S. Crowley at Digby, returned home Saturday.

Mr. Percy McGrath, who has been in the Schooner Grace Darling, came home last week from Yarmouth.

Mrs. John Snow, accompanied by her son James, went to Halifax on Friday to see her son Frank, who has been ill with measles at the hospital and is on the dangerous list.

### LOWER GRANVILLE

November 29

Mrs. Archie Troop of Belleisle, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Robblee.

Sch. Capt. Geo. Johnson took a load of wood to Digby the 23rd, and arrived back on Saturday.

Miss S. Manning who has spent the last few years in Digby, has moved here, and will occupy Mr. Geo. Anthony's house.

The Red Cross Supper given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Winchester, the evening of the 24th inst., was a decided success in every way. The supper was all that could be desired. The house was beautifully decorated with the flags of the Allies, the maimed and wounded soldiers were again soliciting contributions, and the sum of \$53.70 was added to the funds of the Red Cross Society. The Society will meet at Mrs. J. R. Elliott's Wednesday evening, December 1st.

The fact that restriction of the liquor traffic in Great Britain has been followed by a tremendous reduction in drinking, by few arrests, by better labor conditions, as declared in a parliamentary report, will give a tremendous impetus to the movement for peace as well as war-time restrictions. The war is proving a powerful temperance advocate, and is teaching lessons which can never be forgotten.

The sinking of the steamer Bosnia, following closely the destruction of the Ancona, has resulted in a determined agitation for the adoption in the Mediterranean of measures similar to those which have checked submarine activities in the North Sea.

### A BRITISH SECRET GERMANY WANTS

While the Germans are struggling to find food substitutes, and are even reported to be serving flour made from wood pulp, Professor Bottomley has announced in Great Britain an extraordinary means of increasing the production of ordinary agricultural products. According to the London Chronicle, he delighted members of the Royal Botanic Society recently with a demonstration of his discovery. The process consists in the treatment of ordinary raw peat by means of bacteria, which, within four or five days turns the peat into a black substance containing fifty times as much valuable plant food material as ordinary manure. On ordinary agricultural land peat has given an increase in potatoes of 123 per cent., compared with those grown with no manure, and of 75 per cent. and 41 per cent. compared with those grown in artificial manure and farmyard manure respectively. In one experiment with onions treatment with the peat was followed by an increase of 41 per cent. Equally successful results have been achieved with turnips, radishes, parsnips, peas and other vegetables, and the effect of humogen on flowers, both with regard to the foliage and blossom, is very remarkable. In another instance, a box was filled with moss, planted with four potatoes, and placed on the roof of the college in the Strand. Once every week the moss was watered with extract from the bacterized peat. After eight weeks the box was as full as it could be of fine new potatoes.

If humogen, as Professor Bottomley calls this plant food, turns out as successfully on a large scale as it has in the experiments, the growing of farm and garden produce will be revolutionized. It foreshadows an era of plenty, and an era of cheap living, such as the world never knew. Considering the standing of Professor Bottomley—he had been professor of botany in King's College, London, since 1892, and is a recognized authority on biology as well—it seems strange that the British Board of Agriculture should decline to take the discovery up on the ground that "no result had yet been obtained which demonstrated its utility for agricultural purposes on a field scale." We give the hint to our Department of Agriculture, which would doubtless be only too delighted to have the opportunity of being the first to test it on a large scale. Only one month before the war, a German professor tried to inveigle Professor Bottomley into giving him a sample of the bacteria for the German Board of Agriculture. He didn't get it.

### SAFETY FIRST SLOGANS

The Safety First movement is moving along the same lines as the health movement, of which it is a part. It has reached the stage of education through slogans. Safety First literature teems with them. The walls of workshops are covered with them.

Among the following drawn from the Inland Steel Company and other sources, employers might select an assortment:

"Short cuts sometimes result in sharp cuts at the hospital."

"The safe route may be the longest, but is safest."

"A fire department without firemen is just like safety devices without safe and careful operators."

"Keep out of debt and danger. Both are alluring, yet poor friends to make."

"Sweep without dust. It's safer. Dust carries many diseases and endangers the health."

"Peace, prosperity and good health depend on the selection and proper preparation of normal food material."

"Smallpox is here again; to avoid danger of catching this disease be vaccinated and have your family vaccinated."

"If you are sick or injured, go to the emergency hospital and consult the doctor."

"The difference between a wise man and a fool is the fool's mistakes never teach him anything."

"An able body is the reward of safety. Untold misery the penalty of carelessness."

"A preventable accident is a disgrace to the foreman in whose gang it happens."

"The best safety device known is a careful man. If man is careful he will not be injured."

"The thinker will not drink. The drinker cannot think."

"Any fool can take a chance. It takes brains to be careful."

"It's better to be careful 15,000 times than to be injured once."

"It takes only a moment of carelessness to cause a lifetime of suffering."

"When hurry interferes with safety, cut out the hurry."

"Teach the new man how to avoid accidents. He may have a wife and family who love him."

"Leave the booze alone. You can work better without it and there is less danger of getting hurt."

Ladies!

Think well of the grocer  
who handles

# PURITY FLOUR

More Bread and Better Bread

### ALFALFA, WHAT AND WHY

(By Aubrey Fullerton in Onward)

The first garden in the world, as everyone knows, was in Asia; but it is perhaps not so generally known that many fruits, flowers and plants that are highly prized in Canada to-day came from thereabouts. We owe to old Asia far more, even in this respect, than we commonly realize. Some of the most valuable plants on our Canadian farms were long ago immigrants from the other side of the world, though we now regard them as quite our own.

One such importation is alfalfa, a plant that nowadays is being much talked of among farmers all over the Dominion. So valuable is it and even so wonderful, that not only the farmers but the whole nation has reason to be interested in its growing and harvesting. City people and country folks alike are interested in our national production of wheat; the production of alfalfa.

The name, at least, is becoming familiar. It is a rather pleasing name, and is believed to be an adaptation of an old Arabian word that meant "The best sort of fodder." In Europe the plant is always called Lucerne, but in this country the Asiatic name is used, and is now a fixed form.

Alfalfa then, had its original home in the south-westerly parts of Asia, a long way, surely, from our Canadian farms. It is said to be the oldest as well as the best, fodder plant in the world, and was grown in Persia in very ancient times. About 500 B.C. it was taken from Persia to Greece, where it fed the flocks and herds of the barbarians who, in Roman times, overran the country. The plant spread to Italy, then to northern Africa, whence it was taken by Arabs to Spain. The Spaniards carried it over to Mexico, from which they were then colonizing, and from there it crept up to California, the Western States, and in due course to Western Canada. The eastern parts of North America received their first supplies of the new wonder-plant through the English and French colonists, who brought them over from Europe.

Even the universal potatoes have not had wider travel than this. Alfalfa the warm south of Europe and in cold Siberia; in California, and on the prairies of the Canadian North West; is now grown almost everywhere; in old countries and in new; and under almost every condition of soil and climate. It is no wonder that a plant so adaptable as this should be highly esteemed.

What makes alfalfa valuable, however, is not so much its willingness to make itself at home as its remarkable food qualities. It is one of the natural foods known as proteids; that is, food-stuffs that contain from fifteen to eighteen per cent. of nitrogen, which is largely the secret of the animal body. Alfalfa is the richest nerve and muscle development of the animal body. Alfalfa is the richest protoid of all our common field crops, and will yield more food nutrients of all kinds per acre than almost any other crop. For these reasons it is invaluable for both man and beast. One of its ancient names meant "horse fodder," indicating its value as a food for one kind of animal. Its benefits to man are indirect, but easily traceable, for its rich supplies of protein to make the flesh and bone of various stock animals, which in turn contribute to the human food supply. Alfalfa is fodder for the herds that feed ourselves.

This very useful plant is a near relative of the clover family, but has features all its own. Like the clover, its leaves are made up of three leaflets, but the central leaflet, instead of springing close from the other two, has a short stalk. The flowers are purple, in clusters of from ten to twenty. There are no creeping roots or runners, as in the case of the clover, and another characteristic feature is its tap-root, a strong main root that in old plants is sometimes an inch thick and goes deep into the soil. Side roots branch off from this tap-root.

It would be expected, of course,

that with such a wide distribution throughout the world, and under such varying conditions, certain differences would have been developed in the nature and appearance of the plant. There are a great many different varieties, a result chiefly of geographical conditions. Habits of growth, size of plant, shape and color of leaves, succulence of the stems, etc., are different. Alfalfa seed from France would not likely take well in Manitoba and in general the more hardy varieties are required for any part of Canada. Once the right seed is found for a particular place and soil, however, and proper cultivation given, a permanent crop is assured. Alfalfa lives under favorable conditions for twenty or thirty years, but as yet the best results in this country show a lifetime of five or six years.

Aside from its own value as a fodder plant, alfalfa is worth much to the land itself. In these days, when the need of increased production is being emphasized it is important that the land be made to yield as largely as possible, and it has been proved repeatedly that a crop of alfalfa helps to make other crops after it. A rotation of alfalfa with these other crops increases the production from fifty to one hundred per cent. Thus experiments at a government station in Alberta showed a yield of fifty-nine bushels of wheat to the acre, instead of the usual twenty or thirty bushels, on land that had borne alfalfa the year before. The remarkable effect of the alfalfa in enriching and cultivating the soil in which it grows is one of its best features, and makes it all the more a great national benefit.

It is now about twelve years since the first successful crops of alfalfa were grown in the Canadian West. They were in Southern Alberta, and many other parts of the prairie country have since followed suit. One farmer in Saskatchewan now has twelve hundred acres under crop from seed that he imported from Siberia. For the past three years the Saskatchewan Government has offered cash prizes for the best ten-acre fields. Mr. C. C. James, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, has advised western farmers to grow alfalfa instead of wheat. In Ontario also good results have been secured, and in some parts of the province alfalfa has been grown for fifteen years or more. Generally speaking, however, this forage-plant is a new crop, which is only now beginning to be grown on a large scale throughout Canada. Hundreds of far-seeing farmers in all the provinces are trying it out, for they know its worth to their land and stock.

The introduction and cultivation of alfalfa in Canada is another case of the wise co-operation of man with the resources of nature, and Canada, perhaps more than any other country, stands to gain from this new and wonderful crop. We shall all share its benefits, as already we share in the national benefits of our wheat yield. A new grass crop is not so romantic, perhaps, as a new Burbank fruit crop, but its final results may be greater and in increasing the earth's productivity it is one of the Creator's chosen instruments. The ancient fodder-plant that was known in Asia so long ago, but is still new to us in Canada, is one of nature's blessings to the world.

### PAPER CLOTHES FOR SOLDIERS

Many of the big paper manufacturers in England are turning out paper waders and waistcoats as fast as they can for British troops. These garments are water-proof for a long time. Of course they wear out more quickly than ordinary clothing, but they will stand a continuous soaking for nearly a week in the trenches before becoming useless.

The time for voluntary enlistment in Great Britain has been extended until December 11th, after which conscription may be put in force. It all depends on the number who enlist before this date.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

Read the Monitor's Special Subscription Offer at  
top of column 1, page 5, and then  
send in your subscription