

THE CANADIAN THRESHERMAN AND FARMER

CANADA'S LEADING AGRICULTURAL MAGAZINE

E. H. HEATH,
PRESIDENT

E. W. HAMILTON,
MANAGING DIRECTOR

F. C. BRAY, TREASURER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY



E. H. HEATH COMPANY, Limited,
WINNIPEG, CANADA



(MEMBERS WESTERN CANADA PRESS ASSOCIATION)

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1313 MARQUETTE BLDG.
CHICAGO, ILL.

AUTHORIZED BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, OTTAWA, CANADA, FOR TRANSMISSION AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

Nov.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

1915

OUR GUARANTEE

No advertisement is allowed in our columns until we are satisfied that the advertiser is absolutely reliable and that any subscriber can safely do business with him. If any subscriber is defrauded E. H. Heath Co., Ltd., will make good the loss resulting therefrom, if the event takes place within 30 days of date advertisement appeared, and complainant be made to us in writing with proofs, not later than ten days after its occurring, and provided, also, the subscriber in writing to the advertiser, stated that his advertisement was seen in "The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer." Be careful when writing an advertiser to say that you saw the advertisement in "The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer."

THE LATEST IN SHEAF-LOADERS" on front cover of this issue has suggested to us, as it probably will to many readers, a train of thought which might lead to amazing results. The "heart" of that picture, we think, is in the dog. All these things suffer from reproduction, but even in the picture that dog speaks in language far more telling than anything we can print of the delight he is experiencing in his "job." For the moment he is happy in the companionship of his young master, and proud of the fact that he is considered strong enough to provide the tractive power for that great load of grain and "beef" to which he is yoked. Had you been there when the picture was taken, you'd have seen the flame of enthusiasm flashing in that dog's eye, and when you touch the spark plug of enthusiasm you strike a living force that cannot be dealt with on dead surfaces.

NOTHING IS SO CONTAGIOUS AS ENTHUSIASM. That dog "caught" it from someone else, and ten chances to one it was from the boy. We haven't had

the privilege of meeting that boy yet, although he sent us this picture of himself and his pal, but we are as sure as we are now writing about him that he is a dyed-in-the-wool enthusiast—on at least one point. More than likely that will be found to be some feature of the farm that intensely interests him. We are not familiar with his case—how he is encouraged or disheartened, but we think we have guessed right the very first time when we say that neither he nor his dog are the victims of any "polar frost of indifference" at the hands of those who have bred them.

MAY WE PUT IN A STRONG PLEA at this time for the boys and the girls of our farm homes? Let us cease talking about them being the "hope of the country" and get down to the real business of taking them to our hearts, and by "every wile that's justified by honor," harness them to the service of the country in that capacity in which they have proved themselves again and again to be the actual leaders in intensive productive effort. Have you noticed what the boys and girls just across the line have been doing during the past 3 or 4 years? Do you know that in one State alone (Ohio) twelve hundred boys in the summer of 1914 added \$20,000,000 to the productive wealth of that State? By the application of brain work, they raised the average yield of Corn per acre from 35 to 81 bushels.

THIS GREAT ACHIEVEMENT is but an incident of what is going on there and in the neighbouring States who are catching fire all the time and refuse to play second fiddle in this fine orchestral symphony. The business men of the State sent round the hat among themselves and sent the

entire twelve hundred boys to Washington, to New York City and later gave them a trip to the big Panama show at San Francisco. One of these boys was champion corn grower of Ohio two years in succession, raising 131 bushels on an acre in 1913 and 153 bushels in 1914, but the old heads of Ohio felt that it was the entire twelve hundred boys who deserved their gratitude and all the encouragement they could give them.

SOME CLASS TO THIS METHOD of handling a bunch of boys! The first of these boy corn champions was one unpretentious youth of 14 years who in 1910 raised 228 bushels on one acre. This was in the State of South Carolina. He has been called "the greatest human advertisement ever let loose" and, as will be gathered from the above record from Ohio State, his wonderful performance has set a match to the zeal of the "entire country under cultivation." And he has been beaten by a competitor in Alabama who raised in 1913, 232 bushels of corn at a cost of less than 20 cents a bushel. Not any of these results were obtained at haphazard. It was scientific treatment of soil and all other conditions kept going by that unquenchable enthusiasm—that white-heat interest we find only in young souls.

AND WHAT OF THE GIRLS? Well their story is scarcely less remarkable if we had space to tell it. They have also distinguished themselves in corn growing but have established still more wonderful records in growing and canning tomatoes and other vegetables as well as fruits according to the advantages or limitations of soil and climate of their respective states. One average example is that of a young lass who raised 5,354 pounds of tomatoes on a tenth of an acre at a net profit of \$132.39. Another in 1914 raised 7,027 pounds, also on a tenth of an acre, preserved 1,620 pounds of these in cans and glass jars, reaping a profit of \$146.20!

OUR CANADIAN BOYS AND GIRLS will never suffer in comparison with their cousins across the line—if they are given a chance. We hear quite a good deal of isolated cases in which the young people of our Prairie Provinces are doing fine things. We are not in the least belittling what has been done or is in progress. Our plea is "pile on the encouragement" and let there be no voice raised to dishearten any effort of the kind. We shall have something more to say about what is due to the boys and girls in our next, which will be the Christmas issue. These war times and the drain they are making on our young manhood are raising some serious problems, the end of which we cannot yet foresee, but we know that if they are to be solved it will be by the boys and girls of to-day. In God's name open your heart to them.

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