

FARM AND HOME

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"He Can Who Thinks He Can,"

Is a motto which, while it cannot be taken in absolute literalness, is true nevertheless of far more people and more conditions than the majority of persons have any idea. It applies with force just now to thousands who need vacations and think they cannot get away. One who has no desire for a change may need one all the more on this account. The danger with all of us, pretty nearly, is of getting into a rut. We must be continually broadening, or fall behind. And the man who has rubbed up against his fellows is the one who has confidence in himself and the tact and self-possession to transact business. If your regular duties are confining, have as extensive a trip as possible, to see new activities and meet new people. A friend of mine who was reared on an eastern farm and is growing into a large sphere of influence in the great west, said in June, speaking of men passing the "dead line" of usefulness: "A man passes the dead line when he stops breaking new ground. He should not stop as long as he has health and strength" Out and away, brethren and sisters, for a broadening vacation!

Boys and Trusts.

"A boy can scarcely hope ever to be at the head of an independent business of his own," says a contemporary, speaking of the trusts and the way they treat our sons and brothers. True enough, the row of the independent small producer or dealer grows harder to hoe each year. If there is any consolation in viewing the way in which conscienceless monopolies are throwing men out of employment it is in the knowledge that they must keep the ablest and best or go to pieces. Several friends of mine have been thrown out of work by the consolidation of factories in a trust, but other

friends have been promoted, who are generally acknowledged to be more capable. Competition is so hot after the sugar trust, the match trust, and a score of others, that favoritism, the elevation of incompetent relatives and friends, will wreck the combines, and they are beginning to find it out. There is already reported a difficulty in finding young men equal to the strain of the leading positions in these concerns. Combination means fewer workers, but stronger ones. There is one field, thank Providence, in which there can be no monopoly, and that is the growing of crops.

Two Weeks Longer.

There is some lively reading ahead, in the columns of Farm & Home, from the answers to our questions concerning farm help, the secret of getting and keeping good men. Though the contest is open till Aug 1 the letters and postals are coming in freely. The contestants evidently know what they are talking about, and say just what they think. The prize answers may not have arrived yet; there is time for thousands more to have their say. The first prize is two dollars, the remaining three prizes are one dollar each. Actual experience, rather than opinions merely as such, will count with the judges. Farm and Home wants a flood of light thrown on the conditions as they exist in different parts of the country.

Only 340 able men out of the original 1059, comprising the first Canadian contingent, sent to Africa, tells with terrible eloquence what the boys suffered in the war for the support of the empire. More than two-thirds of the regiment killed, wounded or made ineffective by disease. Scarcely another regiment in the whole army has a record of sacrifice equal to this. What a welcome the boys will receive on

their return home! And have England's sons ever performed more valiant service?

The well-prepared and magnificent display of Canadian timber at the Paris exposition was awarded first premium. It was well earned and completely out-distanced most of the European countries.

Heartless indeed is the wretch who will palm off an alleged proteid food of especial value to soldiers in the field, for sordid gain. The Montreal contractor escaped altogether too easy by the emergency food commission's report. He should be given a severe dose of medicine labeled justice.

The vacation habit has spread rapidly among farmers in the past seven or eight years. It is a splendid sign.

The magnificent outlook of early spring for the immense acreage of fall sown wheat over Manitoba is changed into one of grave uncertainty. Some say that of the 1,800,000 a sown, 1,000,000 will not be cut, it having been stunted by drouth and hot winds. A failure in the wheat crop means much as affecting the general prosperity of the province. Light rains fell early in the month, and as wheat has again started to grow improved conditions prevail.

The Casey drainage bill, perhaps one of the most important as affecting farming interests, before the house of commons, was, early in the season, referred to the railway committee. Of course the committee, dominated by railroad influence, has turned the bill down. This is a most unsatisfactory disposal of a measure which farmers have been demanding for years. But to secure the enactment of measures of this kind, means work for the interest benefited and farmers will find this

can only be done through organized and co-operative effort.

Twenty-Five Dollars for Nothing.

Look over the advertisements in Farm and Home for Aug 1 and Aug 15, and decide which you think is the most effectively written; that is, which advertisement is so expressed as in your judgment to best accomplish its purpose of making known, or increasing the demand for, the article advertised. Write the name of such advertisement in the coupon below, together with your own name and address. The advertisement that gets the largest number of votes will be the correct answer, and the coupon earliest mailed that names this advertisement will win the \$25.

\$25 Advertisement Prize.

I think the advertisement of

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in Farm and Home of AUG.....
1900, was the most effectively written advertisement printed in Farm and Home during August. Send the \$25 prize (if awarded me) to my address as follows:

Name

Postoffice

State

Fill out this coupon to-day and mail to Farm and Home, Chicago, Ill. or Springfield, Mass.



Bird's-Eye View of a Corner of the 2500 Experiment Plots at the Ontario Agricultural College with Farmers' Institute Excursion Party.—See Page 312.