

Coverlin, Ohio  
March 4, 1906.

My dear Brother:-

You have not heard from me nor I from you for about six weeks, I guess. Perhaps you are too busy to write to me & perhaps waiting for me to go first.

I want to tell you what I am doing now in my spare time. I am working for a prize, the first prize, of \$100.00. I am just about sure of getting it because it takes an awful lot of work. I've spent about six hours already. I'll explain; it is to find the most number of words which can be made out of Y I O Grape-Nuts. The rules are mighty simple; no name of person will be counted but any other word, counting geographical names will be counted that are authorized by Webster, the letters in Y I O Grape-Nuts may be repeated in the same word. And for convenience all ~~letter~~ words <sup>beginning</sup> with the same letter together, as all beginning with a under a, E under E, etc. Both the singular & plural count, as, grape, grapes. The lists of words will be examined April 30<sup>th</sup> and all lists must be in by that time. No money is required, only a statement stating the good Grape-Nuts has done to your health. Send to Postum Cereal Co. Battle Creek, Michigan by April 30<sup>th</sup>. The first prize is \$100.00 next twenty, \$10.00 each, next ten, \$5.00 each, next three hundred, \$1.00 each.

I am sure I will get the prize because I started at the beginning of the dictionary & got every word (as far as I have

gone) with the letters in that are given. I just finished  
the words beginning with A. There are an awful lot,  
with those letters in <sup>(1055)</sup> one thousand and fifty-five.  
As far as I have gone in the E's I have got one hundred  
and eighty-five (185). Of course there are more in A than in  
any other letter, unless it is S. I've worked at least six  
hours already, so by the time I get through I will have  
earned the \$100. Mamma thinks that I will win it too.

I am now very much interested in gasoline launches.  
Edward Clarke has the patterns for a 16 foot launch  
and is now building one. It is really not a hard job  
because the patterns are full-size for every piece and  
there are detailed instructions. I can get the lumber  
for this launch for \$13.00 and the hardware necessary  
for \$1.50. The paint & fixings would not cost more than  
\$6.00 and then I would have a launch of my own which  
the company that makes the patterns of it, would charge  
\$100 or more for. The engine I can get with all fixings  
ready to use for \$48.50, a 1 1/2 horse power gasoline engine.  
If I could make one of these boats, next summer I could  
earn money with it over at Vermillion by taking people  
riding & perhaps a chance to sell it. It would be worth  
about \$135. to sell. Besides the money that I could earn, I would  
be having a nice vacation.

Now, I want to ask you if you will lend me \$15.00  
so that I can start to make this launch right away.  
Of course it would not be right for you to lend it to me  
until your debts here are paid, so I do not know when  
I can start building. But I do hope that I can start  
pretty soon as summer is not far off.

From 287 West College St,  
Oberlin, Ohio.



Mr. William H. Belden,  
Monroe,  
Washington.



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