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The Editor's Woes. Oh! sad, indeed, is the editor's lot. Each day he is forced to endure enough to drive most men insane. Who would not rather be a farmer than an editor? From the knave to the hewer of his pet exchequer To the duke with the cigarette. There's the crank subscriber who makes a row When his paper is not delivered. And who never offers the least excuse When his bill remains unpaid: And passion poet with scolding son, Who would not set the world aflame, And the bold, bad man with the thirst for gore Who prates of an injured name. Yes, this world is far from a power of peace To the editor, poor man. And he finds it hard to exist at all. No matter how he may plan. For the one who gives him a kindly word There's a home beyond the skies. And abundant entrance into the gates Of eternal Paradise. —Frank H. Welch, in Western Journalist.

DELaware COUNTY FARMER'S INSTITUTE. (Continued from last week.) Why Do We Rent Our Farms? By C. H. Johnson. The subject is a broad one and could be answered in many ways. I shall in the first place try to show the necessity of one renting his farm; in the second place the advantages thereof; and in the third place the wretched recklessness in renting. In the first place there comes a time in declining years when one must depend upon his own strength for support, and I think I can safely say there is no place so unfavorable in securing the needed help to rightly conduct the farm as right here in Delaware county. Why is this? Simply from the fact that we live in the favored county of Delaware and State of Iowa, which excels all other states in its rich soil and general adaptability to so readily respond to the needs of the progressive husbandman. The young men living in the 20th century with all the grand opportunities that are before them, will not long remain on the farm as hired help. They will either rent a farm or buy and own their home. With these facts confronting us many are compelled to rent. In the second place many have invested large sums of money in land as a safe investment, with the view of renting and are justified in renting their farms. The third class are the young men who are lured from the farm by the imaginary inducements offered in the city. They will offer as a reason for the change that they can secure work in some of the large factories and have a better time than they could have on the farm. Getting that in a measure this might be true (which it is not) remember that you are the servant of that corporation and have no assurance of holding your job; while on your own farm you are the corporate body and general manager and no one but that Power which controls the destinies of men can release you from your position. I think that the record shows that nine out of every ten of the laboring men in the cities never own their own home. Not long since I was in Chicago and was invited by one of the foremen of the McCormick Harvester Co. to visit the plant. As we passed in at the outer gate there were from seventy-five to one hundred men standing outside waiting. I inquired what they were waiting for and was told that they were looking for a job. Who ever heard in Delaware county of a man waiting at the outer gate of the farm looking for a job? Young men let me advise you to stick to the farm; your own home which, next to your family, should hold your undivided attention and care. There is much to stimulate and inspire one in securing his own home, and allow me to impress his thought "Home" upon your minds by quoting the sublime words of Dryden, "Home is the sacred refuge of our life."

A Billion and a Half Congress. The congress which has just adjourned appropriated over \$1,500,000,000 from the national treasury for the support of the government for two years. This is the largest amount expended by the government ten years ago. It is a vast increase over government expenses during the Spanish war. It is more than four times as much as was expended during the civil war when the cost of the armies in the field was a million dollars a day. When Speaker Reed was reproached with the fact that the congress in which he was "crab" was a "billion dollar congress" he replied that this is a "billion dollar country." It might be described as a country of billion dollar trusts. This rate of public expenditure cannot go on forever. Under the apparently illimitable property of the country there lurks always the danger of panic, disaster and bankruptcy. If this condition shall be precipitated it will be caused mainly by the fact that the money of the people is being withdrawn from the uses of legitimate business by the enormous accumulation of hundreds of millions of dollars as "surplus" in the national treasury. If the powers that be are wise they will take in sail before the storm comes, but there do not seem to be any signs at present that this prudent policy will be adopted.—Chicago Chronicle.

A Combine Against the Farmers. A proper case for investigation by the attorney general of the United States, with a view to proceedings under the Sherman anti-trust law, would appear to exist in the reported federation of grain dealers in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois and Minnesota, under the general title of "The National Grain Dealers' Association." Its object, according to the Northwestern Agriculturist, is mutual protection of dealers and boycott of the smaller commission firms and farmers' elevator companies. Companies of the latter description have been growing in popularity in the grain state, and instances of their profitable operation, under a system which saves to the producers a large share of the money heretofore going into the pockets of middle-men, are encouraging their multiplication. To check this growth, and retain the business in the hands of members of the Grain Dealers' Association, a kind of pressure clearly illegal and "in restraint of trade" is resorted to. According to the Agriculturist, when the association learns that a shipment has been made by a farmers' elevator company, a letter is sent to the commission firm before the arrival of the grain. Here is a sample of the communications received directly from the state branches of the association: "We desire to advise you that the Iowa Grain Dealers' Association does not recognize farmers' elevator companies. We shall use all legitimate means to protect our members from such competition, a competition that is successful means that the grain dealer who would earn a legitimate profit must go out of business. We state our position plainly that you may decide on such a policy toward these farmers' elevator companies as you may consider for your best interest, and hope you will continue to work in harmony with us."

Why Do We Rent Our Farms? By E. M. Carr. The question propounded by the subject might be facetiously answered by saying, because it pays. But such an answer would be little more than an evasion. If it did not pay to rent farms, the terms landlord and tenant as applied to farm lands would long since have become obsolete. It seems to me that an enumeration of the conditions, which make it profitable for land owners and land workers to engage in the business of farm renting, would be a responsive and, according to the completeness and correctness of the enumeration, an instructive answer to the question. In a favored land, farm renting is profitable to the parties to it immediately concerned and beneficial to the state for very many reasons. It would not be practicable in a few minutes talk, to attempt to cover the whole subject. I shall be satisfied if I am able to make a few suggestions which may help to trend the discussion in the right direction and induce others to elaborate and explain. To commence with, I will assert what I believe to be true, that the good corn and meadow lands of north-eastern Iowa are as good agricultural lands as can be found upon the face of the earth. That they are having another great advantage, that of being admirably located so far as markets are concerned. Chicago, destined in the near future to become the metropolis of the continent, is within two hundred miles of the eastern border of this county; about the same distance up the Great River are the twin cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, which control the business interests of the north and northwest; while about one hundred miles further away are the cities of St. Louis, Kansas City and Omaha, the gateways of commerce to the south, southwest and west. This is a sort of border land where the merchants of these different cities compete for business. And, again, it frequently happens that there is a greater demand and better price for some particular product in one of these cities

than in any of the others, and the farmers who have a choice of so many markets occupy vantage ground. My object in calling attention to these things is to establish the fact, that a good farm in this locality is a choice piece of property, and when properly managed will produce sufficient to richly repay the expenses of cultivation and a good interest on the investment which it represents. To my mind the chief value of our lands is due to the fact that they are in what is known as the "Corn Belt", the zone where Indian corn attains its greatest perfection. No other grain yields food for man and beast so bounteously, and with so little labor, as Indian corn. Corn is easily king of agricultural products, and it follows that good corn lands are the most valuable lands for agricultural purposes. I am aware that there are some parts of the "Corn Belt" where the percentage of good corn land is greater than in Delaware County. This is owing to the fact that the land in those sections is more uniformly dry than it is here with us. But I doubt very much if that is any advantage. Our damp or low lands produce more hay and pasture than the drier lands, and this enables our farmers to keep more cows and stock of all kinds than can be kept by the farmers in the dry counties. As a result of these conditions Delaware County farms are kept in splendid condition without the expenditure of a dollar for fertilizers. These are but a few of the reasons why many land owners in this vicinity, who cannot conveniently work their own lands, had sooner rent than sell. These are but a few of the reasons why many other men had sooner have half the income from a good Delaware County farm, than the entire product of a farm in some less favored locality. But I must leave to others the completion of the enumeration which I have scarcely commenced, and pass on to another feature of the subject upon which I desire to say a few words. I have already said that I considered the business of farm renting beneficial to the state. Every man who rents a farm is an independent man, the owner of at least a half interest in the business in which he is engaged. Such men are nation builders and nation defenders. Rome in the days of her greatest vigor, when it was said of her that she sat upon her seven hills and from her throne of beauty ruled the world, was practically a nation of farmers. At that time every Roman citizen was allotted a certain quantity of land, usually about six acres, which he was expected to cultivate with his own hands; and the expectation was made good, not alone by the ordinary citizens, but by the greatest commanders and statesmen in the country. And while the Romans cultivated their own fields they were invincible. No state is insecure while a considerable number of her citizens are independent agriculturists. I need not go back to history for proof to support this assertion. Those who can recall the events of a little more than thirty years ago will remember what took place in Paris about the close of the great war between France and Germany. The Commune, an organization of desperately lawless men, took possession of Paris and commenced to turn the hands of civilization backward. They set fire to public buildings and proceeded to destroy the ancient monuments and treasures of art in that handsomest city of modern times. Paris in the frenzy of despair was as helpless as a child in the coils of the Commune. But outside of the big city there were legions of French yeomanry and 90,000 of them went to the rescue and law and order were soon established. Nations like cities become decadent when their wealth producers lose their independence, when a few persons think for and exercise authority over very many. In these days of changing conditions, it would be a national calamity should some great trust purchase all the good corn lands of the Central West, and cultivate them with hired help, under the direction of superintendents, the same as most every other great industry in the country is now being conducted. Never wrote a poet more truthfully than the one who penned these lines: "Ill fares the land to hasten ill a prey, Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

BEING A GOOD FELLOW. It is a Losing Game in the Long Run For Most Men. Any sensible young man ought to know that he can't be up late nights abusing his stomach and be in full possession of his faculties for business the next day, and he ought to know also that a man must be clear headed and in full possession of his faculties to hold his own in the keen competition of life. Your "good fellow" is popular for the time being, but when his money is gone and he has lost his job and is on his knees begging the "good fellow" business doesn't get him anything. It's "poor fellow" then—another good man gone wrong, and "the boys" are ready to hail another "good fellow" who has the price. We don't mean by this to say that "the boys" are mercenary. They don't altogether pass up a "good fellow" when he goes broke, but it isn't the same. They say he hit the booze too hard and couldn't stand the pace. They feel sorry for him, but he is out of it. His good fellowship doesn't excuse him even in the eyes of his friends for having thrown away his opportunity. The young man who gets the sleep his system needs, is temperate in his

habits, lives within his means and shows up for work in the morning with a clear eye and active brain—that's the man business men are looking for. They want employees whom they can trust. Having worked hard and laid by a competence, they want to throw some of the burdens off, and they won't throw them off on the employee who is too much of a "good fellow."

Oh, what's the difference; a Carpet is a Carpet." This expression is sometimes heard. It is not true, however. In one sense of the word a Carpet is a Carpet only when it fills the requirements of a Carpet, and in order to do this it must embrace quality, artistic design and artistic coloring. RICHARDSON'S SUPERLATIVE CARPETS have a world wide reputation for these essential points, and we cordially invite you to examine this really valuable display at our store.

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There is one enemy for which the pansy lover must watch like a lynx, and that is a little green worm that seems made on purpose to devour pansies. Where he comes from or why he should exist at all is a mystery. But if you find your little plants stop growing and see the leaves perforated with small holes and your blossoms gnawed behind, your enemy is there. Eternal vigilance alone will save you. Your face must be brought to the surface of the ground. Kneel and turn up every leaf. Doubtless you will find the small green monster curled up and hiding, sucking out all the juices of the plant and so becoming exactly its color, which makes him so difficult to find, and if not checked he will utterly destroy it. He will devour it in a few days.

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PLAY FLINCH! Its the Popular Game of the season. We have a large stock of them, smooth finish and decorated backs. Get a set and PLAY FLINCH! E. T. Grassfield, ANDERS Central & PHILIPP, Pharmacy.