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THE SCENT OF THE ROSES

(Thomas Moore)

Let Fate do her worst; there are relics of joy,
Bright dreams of the past, which she cannot destroy;
Which come in the night-time of sor-row and care,
And bring back the features that joy used to wear.
Long, long be my heart with such memories filled,
Like the vase in which roses have once been distilled—
You may break, you may shatter the vase if you will,
But the scent of the roses will hang round it still.

MORE DICTATORSHIP

Following the refusal of Superintendent of Public Instruction W. C. Bell to sell at the direction of Kentucky's gubernatorial Mussolini, textbook contracts that he had not read, nor been given an opportunity to study, Governor Flem Sampson has appointed an "acting secretary," who signed as directed.

The Governor's frantic haste and high-handed procedure in the matter of these contracts arouses the suspicion that the contracts are such that they will not bear a reasonable consideration of their provisions. Contracts binding the taxpayers of Kentucky should not be of the sort that will not stand consideration and thorough publicity, if in the people's money that is being pledged, not Governor Sampson's, Mr. Bell realizes this; Mr. Sampson knows it, of course, but chooses to ignore it.

"The public generally" says the Lexington Herald, "lacks information concerning the contracts that have been made but the full facts should be brought to light, and quickly. This concerns not only the taxpayers of Kentucky, but the children of Kentucky because the future of the Commonwealth, whose welfare, it would seem, is being made a veritable football of politics."

If Mr. Sully elected head of the schools of the state may be removed and secretaries appointed from almost his approval or slumber, Kentucky loses the services of a capable chief.

At least one thing the people have left to resort to the courts for determination of the whole story runs.

A REAL ISSUE

How very much better it would be to make the cause of Kentucky's mentality and physically sick the paramount political issue instead of "tearing our hair" over some of the "issues" that have been exploited in political campaigns in this State. "These poor sufferers will never be helped, unless that help is made the paramount political issue," says Dr. Woodford Bunn, and doubtless that is true.

Yet public interest may make an issue of the shameful condition of Kentucky's asylums and jails, if it can be enlisted. The Mercury joins Abe Bun in its appeal in "newspapers, to the ministers who preach the gospel of the compassionate Jesus, to the women of our States to force this issue in the front."

Editor Bonar's stirring appeal, "Man's Inhumanity To Man" is published elsewhere on this page.

"I REMEMBER WHEN—"

Thirty-five years ago last Monday morning, snow weighted the branches of trees in full leaf; wrecked corn blown high in the furrows; lay like powder on the satin cheeks of roses; spread its white counterpane over beds of plums, red and yellow.

Foolish perhaps, unfashionable survey in these pining times of awkwardness to admit memory of the great snow of the night of May 20th, 1894. Its hum? The temptation to reminisce grows stronger with the inexorable march of the years. Only Saturday, when a beautiful little son of Man O' War streaked through the slop of Churchill Downs to eternal glory, why was it the Ben Brush, the Kentucky Derby of the nose and nose thoroughbred heads that used to adorn the Corner-Jockey at Derby time, when that metropolitan sheet, not as metropolitan, was "Marse" Henry's paper," and ranked with the family Bible in Democratic homes?

No impression, psychologists tell us, is ever lost. It is the human brain, Plastic surely is the mind of youth. Thirty-five years ago last Monday, when a very little son of Man O' War streaked through the slop of Churchill Downs to eternal glory, why was it the Ben Brush, the Kentucky Derby of the nose and nose thoroughbred heads that used to adorn the Corner-Jockey at Derby time, when that metropolitan sheet, not as metropolitan, was "Marse" Henry's paper," and ranked with the family Bible in Democratic homes?

Finish perhaps, unfashionable survey in these pining times of awkwardness to admit memory of the great snow of the night of May 20th, 1894. Its hum? The temptation to reminisce grows stronger with the inexorable march of the years. Only Saturday, when a beautiful little son of Man O' War streaked through the slop of Churchill Downs to eternal glory, why was it the Ben Brush, the Kentucky Derby of the nose and nose thoroughbred heads that used to adorn the Corner-Jockey at Derby time, when that metropolitan sheet, not as metropolitan, was "Marse" Henry's paper," and ranked with the family Bible in Democratic homes?

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