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A Step In The Right Direction.

We have been shamefully wasteful, as a Nation, of our fields and forests and the waste continues. Few farmers guard the fertility of their soil as they should do. Scarcely any farmer replants when a tree on his farm falls. One of these days, unless there is some concerted movement to replant much of the beauty of this Bluegrass Region of Kentucky will disappear, and much of its fertility.

Anyone who is able to remember the beautiful woodlands of only a few years ago, and looks at them now, can see that tree after tree is plentifully dotted over this region forty years, must realize how shamefully we are squandering.

The slaughter of our trees began with the growing of tobacco, but even when green sod was broken for burley and the stumps of bluegrass acres appeared, farmers ever thought of replanting when a spot was cut down.

In France it is necessary to secure a government permit before a tree may be cut down, and we believe now that French law does not permit a tree to be planted, when one is destroyed. We need such a law in America, and in all of the States perhaps, but an American farmer's good sense should teach him not to misuse his soil, not to destroy his forests, to replant when a tree does die. Today in the Louisville Times, when a man misuses his soil, he "robs the unborn."

The Roosevelt administration is the first national administration, in our memory that has taken any definite steps toward a solution of the problem of preserving natural resources. The Resettlement Administration may not be the best solution, but it is a beginning. In supporting it Senator La Follette of Wisconsin truly said:

"This is an effort, feeble and experimental, perhaps, to meet the problems that wasteful use of our most precious resources hasbrought upon us."

"Instead of curtailing this program, we should be insisting our resources in that direction.

"Despite all the political and prejudiced attacks when history values the efforts of this Administration, this beginning which has been made to find a solution of the problem will stand as one of the most significant and constructive."

A Republican Point Of View.

When June until November orators will show from the rapping stump, radios will ring, propaganda will clatter from the printing presses, for we are to have another Presidential campaign.

It promises to be a better campaign. The great monied interests of the East that sought rescue at the hands of President Roosevelt in March, 1932, when our entire banking structure tottered on the crumbling edges of ruin, are now safe, and hunger came more for the flesh-pots of special privilege, for the license of the old order under which their fortunes had been made, than for the bread of economic chaos. It is from these that the fight on the New Deal comes, we think, and not from the great body of Republicans throughout the country. The attitude of the rank and file of voters, desperate at party, is very truly reflected in the following editorial paragraph, which appeared recently in a Portland, Oregon, Republican newspaper:

"The chief effect of the Roosevelt cries is to make votes for the President. The American people are civilized, God-fearing folks. The great mass will never punish a public man for putting bread into the mouths of the hungry and faith in the land into their hearts; for saving their homes and farms from going under the mortgage; for trying to find jobs for the jobless."

June Drownings.

While the average number of drownings per month in the United States is 500 it is estimated that June claims 1,500 a year or more than 50 lives a day.

Red Cross experts, who have made an inexpensive study of the problem over a long period, declare that most of these drownings are preventable and that a surprising number of them are directly due to carelessness and disregard for the common rules of water safety.

Paramount among the causes of June drownings is that swimmers, forgetting the fact that they are not in a good condition or practice as they were at the end of the season last fall, plunge confidently into the water and attempt to swim as some point far beyond their reach. Swimmers should remember that the distance they could swim last fall and that which they swim at the opening of the season are entirely different things.

Another easy way to get from this world into the next is to rush in to plunge into cold water too soon after eating. At no time should a person go swimming until two hours after a meal. In the late spring and early summer when the water is colder than it will be later in the season, it is better to wait even longer than that. Even then it is much safer to enter at a shallow point and remain there for awhile before venturing into deeper and more treacherous water.

Rules of water safety which all swimmers should observe are:

Look before diving.

Be sure the water is at least seven or eight feet deep and free from hidden stumps and rocks. Look before diving.

Don't swim alone. If you do there will be no one to help or even give alarm in an emergency.

Avoid long swims after a season of inactivity.

When attempting distance swimming always be accompanied on a boat.

AN EDITOR'S RANDOM THOUGHTS

Up before Breakfast, mighty betimes for me, and out into my garden where Spring burgeons though the chill in the air is that of late September. And there stroll, admiring the gorgeous beauties of a shell-pink, pagoda-like, dome into its full glory, the loveliest I think, that ever I saw. In truth my garden flares into colorful life since the rains with the white and gold of shasta daisies, the misty blue of delphinium and the deeper azure of anchusa. And there are flags of white and ivory and purple and hidden away be hind the ramant foliage of sturdier flowers, a little bed of old-fashioned clove pinks perfume the air with a scent that is in itself a memory of "old forgotten, far off things." Wee, modest flower, "its as quaint as high-waisted gowns, knee breeches and powdered hair, as sweet as old lavender, as graceful as a minuet."

"A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot," sang the poet and indeed it is. My garden is a tiny plot, but it will bear a deal of wandering within. For the Universal Mother bestows impartially the beauties of her springtime colorings upon cottage flower beds and great formal gardens alike and though I have frequently envied the rich their terraces and vistas, their flagged walks and lily pools, one may bring beauty enough to a backyard garden—a cool little cup of beauty that may be gratified delicately, without that sense of insufficiency which I feel always in the enjoyment of a more prodigal outpouring of Nature's spring time loveliness.

So to sit a moment in my summer house, bare of lattice and rafter now, but I hope covered in six blue moon flowers and soon Japanese morning glories and see the Mate, Mother and Nestlings inside under the August moon. I shall have me an azure roof by day and by night. Now through the June I sit watching over a nest of martins, thirty-two in all, busy with the cares of family, though it the young are all fledged I have seen them when a beautiful crested bird comes to rest in a weeping willow for a moment. And, perhaps, what is to the birds a matter of more economical possession of bed can be found than a martin house. Its rooms are neat and modern, the doors are round holes and busy and industrious birds should be provided artificially. This fact, tended with the fact that a martin house visited my garden and should be of sufficient importance to be given a prominent place. The martin is a bird of many States of the Union and is kept there more important and popular who are dependent upon insects for food, and this number has increased mostly since the advent of the boll weevil. The martin is a bird of distinct personality. There is a pair that has occupied the martin house for many years, and they are dependent upon the public for protection. They have been taken care of temporarily by friends during periods of illness, but they will not be tamed. The best way to provide for old people who are dependent upon the public for support is through a system of old age assistance.

In May, 1935, the Congress of the United States passed what is known as the Social Security Act, which, among other things, provided for joint cooperation with the states in furnishing of old age assistance. At the time of the passage of the Act, thirty-three states had old age pension laws. In all cases, however, the benefits from these laws are supplied wholly by the States. The federal law provided for joint participation on behalf of the state and the national government.

In conformity with the federal Social Security Act, the 1936 regular session of the Kentucky General Assembly passed what is known as an old age pension law. This law provides that the needy persons who have attained the age of sixty-five years and have resided in Kentucky for at least five of the nine years next preceding the application for assistance, have not sufficient income or other resources to provide a reasonable subsistence, are eligible for assistance under this Act. The administration of the Act is placed in the hands of the State Department of Welfare, presently headed by Miss Lucy Gaines. It is provided that the administration is to be in the hands of responsible persons so that the money will be spent for the purpose except in cases where the applicant is bed-ridden. The Act provides for a board of visitors, consisting of seven responsible persons, to be made up of equal contributions from the federal government, the state and the county. It is anticipated that approximately $3,000,000 will be required annually to finance the program. This money will be received in the form of the State will receive between four and a half and five million dollars annually from the federal government.

Under the terms of the recent act, the State is supposed to match the federal funds on a dollar for dollar basis. The county is required to match the state funds on the same basis. The money is to be paid to the recipients of assistance through the county. The money is to be handed to be held so that the county will be responsible for the amount expended. The property is held as collateral security to be foreclosed by the county for payments given the individual.

Under the terms of the act, property exempted, should go far toward relieving the desperate condition in which 65 persons in this state in spite of the fact that they have worked through a lifetime, are compelled to throw themselves upon the public for support. The plan is to provide definite security for this type of people.

50 Years Ago

Thursday, June 10, 1886

Warmth tested to persons who have been taking water from pens.

Fifteen persons sharing about 40 bushels of potatoes raised by Messrs. Lusby, Sandusky and Myers.

Charles Sanford breaks both bones in his right foot at Sanford Iron & Steel Co.

Mayor James H. Barnett raises price of city election to be held Monday, June 14th, to choose a City Attorney and Councilman.

Lancaster Central Record—

The whole country has been startled by the revelation of the existence of an organization of negro soldiers called the Black Legion. It appears that the boasted secret society has been in existence for at least two or three years and comprises more than it has a membership of 6,000 men. The object of the organization is for the protection of the women's auxiliary has been instituted. Like similar blacked vigilante societies which take the law into their own hands and mete out punishment to transgressors of moral and civil law, this group has done more harm than good. It is a menace in the established law of our nation. The organization claims that it is "to promote the best interests of negroes and American citizens" and that while they may be of may have been its objective, history has proved time after time that some such "cooperation" and "cooperation" also in business is absolutely wrong. It would simply build up a new set of monopolists, who, when entrenched, would again squeeze out the little fellow. Free competition is not half as terrible as the tyranny which would spring from the loins of business co-operation. Competition helps the ablest, and those who serve the public best, but monopoly helps but the strongest, regardless of service or ability.

Democracy rests upon the keep their freedom by balancing class with class and not letting any one class get too much the upper hand. Our fathers showed that they understood this perfectly, in political science, by the manner in which they so carefully endeavored to balance the executive, legislature and judicial functions, and the respective rights and duties of the state and federal governments.

WHY INVESTIGATE?

(Louisville Times.)

If there isn't enough militant Americanism in a majority of the forty-eight States to deal with subversive agencies, black, white or purple, when, or if, they disturb the peace, an investigation of such organizations would result in what?

The Federal Government's strength is the strength of the people. There is no division of public sentiment as to whether Karpis-Robinson or Dillinger should be taken in from the cold or shot if, when effort at capture is made, they resist arrest.

Therefore the Federal Government's firing squads of law and enforcement officers is reduced by every State in which such a grim duty may be harbored.

The various organizations mentioned by Representative Dies of Texas as existing in New York as worthy of investigation, if they have membership will gain national strength, or a real inspection, unless confidence in one such that an investigation by Congress could only retard them.

If New York, which proudly calls itself the Empire State, can not call up its citizenry and put them back its Black Shirts "or other" terrible secret society out of existence at the spectacle of one-tenth of the various factors have contributed to make the problem of dependency and the present high cost of living need for old age security will be solved. Many of these factors which force every one. The Federal Government is placed in look forward in the average case to a life of approximately twelve years of dependency, with the exception of time during which they are employed. Many of these factors are beyond the control of the individual. They include among others the following: Lack of thrift in the individual, lack of training, lack of opportunity, lack of ambition, lack of initiative, lack of industry, lack of ability, lack of health, lack of interest, lack of energy, lack of intelligence, lack of character, lack of courage, lack of honesty, lack of loyalty, lack of truthfulness, lack of sobriety, lack of economy, lack of foresight, lack of concentration, lack of perseverance, lack of ambition, lack of ambition, lack of ambition