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THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1937

Practical Christianity.

The result of the Primary may be taken, we think, as a mandate from the people to Kentucky's Governor to carry on the work he has so ably begun. With it goes tremendous responsibility. But Governor Chandler will not disappoint those of us who have watched with admiration the steady development of his vigorous administration seems assured, now that for the first time in many years a Governor has refrained from crucifying her chief executive with the election of an inimical Legislature at the beginning of his third year.

The Governor expects to put off the State debt before he goes out of office. That will be fine—but will seem to those of a "practical turn of mind his outstanding accomplishment. But to those of us who are profoundly dubbed "sentimentalists" for concern for the cure of Kentucky's mentality, the years ahead in his program.

It is the belief of The Mercury that the establishment of a two-unit hospital, where mentally ill could be diagnosed by competent psychiatrists and curative treatment prescribed and administered by competent experts in their respective fields, would be the most constructive thing that could be done for the future of Kentucky. It would seem to those of a "practical turn of mind" to be a outstanding accomplishment, but to those of us who are profoundly dubbed "sentimentalists" for concern for the cure of Kentucky's mentally ill, an honor long to be proud of.

So far public opinion and the press which has been so vocal in the matter, there may be no reason to believe that the proposal will not be favorably received by the next Legislature. It is not only humane but economical to provide adequate and scientific treatment for competent experts in their respective fields, which would be far cheaper in the long run than the present plan, which amounts to little more than incarceration. Many of the children of feeble mind and borderline mentality could be trained to be useful citizens, instead of becoming a burden to society, as they do now. Many others could be restored to normal health and happiness, instead of being confined for life in the asylum. Many of the criminal class could be saved from a life of crime, instead of being turned out to prey upon society after serving their terms in prison.

Governor Chandler has been a friend of the unfortunate, and we believe he will be glad to sponsor this humane and economical measure. We hope he will, for otherwise it is not likely to be considered by the next Legislature.

An Industry Too Valuable To Lose.

A bill to legalize dog racing in Kentucky is to be introduced at the next session of the Kentucky General Assembly, according to the attorney for a dog racing track recently closed by action of the Attorney General's office, reports the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Courier-Journal is timely. It is also right. The Tribune is timely, too.

"Dog racing was originated or at least put on commercial basis, by the gangsters of Al Capone's day," Saturday at a conference held in the office of the Attorney General. "It is a dirty, white affair."

"We understand that some of the members of the legislature are opposed to it. The humane society has fought valiantly to stop many of the practices, but we could name to a certain extent."

"The type of courts attracted to dog races, it is said, does not attract the better class of people."

"The state already has a racing industry. The horse industry in Kentucky should be protected as long as it is legalized. Horsemen are not always what they should be, but the group as a whole is a fine one. The folks who play the horses, for the most part, can afford to lose a few dollars in the sport of it. And they bring millions of dollars into Kentucky."

"Kentucky does not need dog racing."

Kentucky does not need dog racing, nor can Kentucky afford to embarrass its thoroughbred breeding industry by legalizing pari-mutuel wagering at dog tracks.

Counties bordering the central Bluegrass Region, where the great breeding estates are located, may think that we are not interested in the matter. We should realize that we are, should remember that Thoroughbred industry helps make Kentucky, Kentucky, benefiting all sections of the State.

And let those of us who have grown gray-headed on the fringe of the central Bluegrass, wonder that Louisville has ranked world champion horse racing in Louisville, Latonia and other Kentucky tracks, might destroy it, recalling the thousands of dollars now in bloom and in Fayette, Bourbon, Woodford, Clark, Jessamine, and other counties.

And it is well to remember that with all of the gangster element eliminated from the sport, it is impossible to describe a circle with a thirty mile radius around Lexington as be corner and green of this horse industry tobacco the manufacturers are apt to need for many years to come. And it would be like "killing the goose that laid the golden egg."

Yes, the exercise that have an horse-breeding farm should be definitely aware of authority—and interested in the preservation of the Thoroughbred industry in Kentucky, vigorously opposed to legalizing dog races.

Hemp.

Hemp! For so there is trouble in the word, per haps because it brings back memories of boyhood when the rich green blossom of the countless acres, on very hand—memories of mill August afternoons, when the gone blazed upon the reverie at dinner, that passed on stinking heaps of fragrant mornings when the shocks were spread and bay and dog turned against the sky, when the cloth-mad that scampered from beneath the tents of brittle reeds, or at evening when the mist hung behind with the promise of snow and the hills were dotted with homecoming wagons, the purple of the shade of winter coming. Cutting, shocking, spreading, shocking again, breaking, with old harvesters, but for all things, breaking back in the warm pungency of the fragrant dust, hemp was a crop that the needs, delightful memories of the carefree days of childhood remember.

We loved the hemp fields of Kentucky that used to be and we are sorry that the passing of that crop has now become king and vanished an industry in which Lexington alone, a few years ago, was paying ten million dollars annually. Altered trade permit in some of the Bluegrass counties, but the hemp industry has supply used to Wisconsin farmers by one each longer broke acres, the fields that were the great emerald inland ocean.

AN EDITOR'S RANDOM THOUGHTS

Awake early, despite the fact that it is the Sabbath and I might be shed, but such is human nature, that when we have nothing to do we can't sow nothing. Which thought the venerable Samuel Johnson, I think, it was put down in his writings. "When I was young," said he "and had some penny, I did by industry regain a crew equal to that growing old and possessing the penny I first had, that I have lost my taste for the amusement of life. It seems to me to be a great misfortune for the young of the young these days, over which we of the old can only shake our heads and hold up our hands in amaze, forgetting that if our past were "an open book" it might be denied the privileges of the middle. For each generation is much alike and the world moves on its way, despite the wise smiles and temper them mightily to enjoy.

So by parable and proverb and deed, very still and for all the ages. And right sadly I miss the better of my people matters, who left my home on circumscribed pathways to observe the reminiscences for journeying as I had intended. I have been with the times, and I feel that it seems to me that there is a reliance a fresh show of the Almighty that the people of this land have the outstanding accomplishment, with all the Bible and the Constitution, to be proud of.

Yet, I am not so sure that we are not in some respects headed in the wrong direction. Are we not in danger of losing the fundamentals of life? Are we not in danger of losing the fundamentals of life? Are we not in danger of losing the fundamentals of life?