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GOMPERS DIES THIS MORNING IN TEXAS CITY

LABOR CHIEF PASSES AWAY AT SAN ANTONIO EARLY TODAY

HAS BEEN ILL FOR WEEKS

Trip to Mexico City Where Elevation Affected Him Believed to Have Hastened Death

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 12.—(A. P.)—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, is dead. The last wish of the veteran labor leader, that he die on American soil, was granted when, 21 hours after his return to the United States from Mexico City, he breathed his last in a hotel here. Labor associates were at his bedside when the end came at 4:10 this morning. James Duncan, vice president of the federation, who stood shoulder to shoulder with his leader for 44 years, held one hand and William D. Mahon, of Detroit, held the other. The parting was pathetic. Gompers' last thought was of the American institutions he labored to maintain. When the end was coming, he said: "Nurse, this is the end. God bless our American institutions. May they grow better day by day."

Gompers has been ill for several months, but his condition was not regarded as serious until last Saturday when the altitude of Mexico City is said to have aggravated his weakened condition.

(By United Press) Samuel Gompers was the controlling spirit of organized labor in the United States.

Starting at the age of fourteen, when he was an apprentice cigar maker, Gompers devoted virtually his entire life to advancing the welfare and interests of the working masses.

Gompers was one of the founders of the American Federation of Labor and was the last survivor of the group which planned its organization.

For more than half century, political ambitions, lucrative business opportunities and the lure of fame were unable to deter him from his trade union activities.

Gompers was born in a London slum quarter, January 27, 1856, and at the age of 10 was put to work in a shoe factory, but soon became an apprentice to the cigar trade. With his parents and several relatives he came to America in 1863 and was naturalized as an American citizen when he became 21 years old.

It has been often said that Gompers was one of the most skilled cigar makers in the trade and always was assigned to "rolling" the most expensive cigars.

In 1864 he became the first registered member of the International Cigar Makers' Union and was soon elected secretary. Shortly afterward he was advanced to the presidency and was never removed from that office.

When the American Federation of Labor was organized in 1881 Gompers was offered the presidency, but refused and served as vice president. The next year pressure was so great that he became president and he con-

(Continued on Page Two.)

LOCAL HOTEL MAN ELECTED

Edward W. Miller Is Third Vice in State Association

Portland, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—G. O. Madison, of Portland, was selected president of the Oregon State hotel association; A. N. Pierce, of Salem, first vice president; J. A. McLean, second vice president; Edward W. Miller, of Grants Pass, third vice president; Glen B. White, of Portland, treasurer; F. W. Beach, of Portland, secretary. A resolution was adopted which urged the construction of the Redwood and Roosevelt highways.

(Continued on Page Two.)

PREMIER OF SWEDEN IS SERIOUSLY ILL TODAY

Copenhagen, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Hjalmar Branting, premier of Sweden, is seriously ill, according to advices received here today saying he had developed inflammation of the lungs and that grave fears for his recovery are entertained.

DOES U. S. EDUCATION LOWER BIRTH RATE

Chicago, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—Families of mine laborers, gravel-pit workers and janitors in the United States are increasing twice as fast as those of preachers and teachers, according to Frank E. Hand, supreme vice-chief ranger of the Independent Order of Foresters, in an address here. "A recent investigation of 929 typical families showed that people of high education had an alarmingly low birth rate," said Mr. Hand, who is director of the society's orphanage at Oakville, Ontario. "It was found that janitors and sextons, miners and quarry workers, had an average of 3.6 children per family. Ministers, teachers and stenographers averaged 1.8 children per family."

SITTER GIVEN LONG SENTENCE

Shedd Bank Robbery Results in Two Prison Terms

Albany, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Joe M. Sitter was sentenced to 15 years in prison for complicity in the Shedd bank robbery. Clarence Replige produced a birth certificate showing him to be only 17, and was turned over to the juvenile court.

Albany, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Clarence Boggie and Lauren Neilson were found guilty last night of complicity in the Shedd bank robbery.

Chamber of Commerce News Notes

The leading feature in the 1925 chamber of commerce programme is that of land settlement and the most important incident to this feature is the development of the market for the products of the land.

It is not generally appreciated what a volume of produce is imported into Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, Crescent City, northern California milling sections and tributary territories.

Much of these importations can be supplied by our local producers, by reason of the kind of settlement going on upon our irrigated lands when families are settling on small tracts capable of intensive production.

There is a present market in Grants Pass for certain commodities at least, to the amount annually imported, provided these commodities are furnished in such quantity and so standardized as to equal those imported.

Our consumers are willing to buy home grown products, and our merchants are willing to handle them under the above conditions.

The chamber of commerce programme consists in co-ordinating factors of the problem—the producer, the merchant and the consumer. Certainly if these three can meet upon common ground and work in unison, many thousand dollars which are annually sent abroad never to return, can be kept within the community and be made to serve local requirements.

A general committee representative of these three elements should be able to organize the programme and a sub-committee representing each, the producer, the merchant and the consumer should be able to carry out the details of the plan.

We are fortunate in having certain instrumentalities already organized, viz: the Grange, the Farm Bureau, and the Farmers' Co-operative association. We consider these essential to the campaign and entirely competent to give the necessary aid to the individual producer.

The merchants are entirely competent to organize their part of the common enterprise and the consumers can be organized for concerted

(Continued on Page Two.)

INCREASES OF POSTAL RATES ARE FAVORED

ALL CLASSES OF MAIL EXCEPT LETTERS WOULD BE AFFECTED

NEW MAKES RECOMMENDATION

Will Cover Approximately the Additional Cost Provided for in the Vetoed Pay-Bill

Washington, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Postal rate increases on virtually all classes of mail except letters, were recommended to congress today by Postmaster General New. New recommended rate advances to yield \$66,393,750 a year, approximately covering the additional costs provided for in the vetoed postal pay increase bill.

ENGLISH LABOR GAINS VOTES

Election Nets Them Million More Popular Ballots

London, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Labor is far from down-hearted over the result of the recent election. Although it lost nearly 50 seats, the party gained more than 1,000,000 new voters, demonstrating that the Socialist movement in British politics is not only alive and kicking, but growing lustily as well.

After all, the sweeping change in party strength in the house of commons, which the election brought about, was due greatly to what Lloyd George and others have assailed as unjust and undemocratic anomalies in the British election system. In three-sided contests the existing system permits the election of a candidate by a minority of the voters, as the high man of the three wins.

A year ago the luck of the three-party fighting went to Labor and against the Conservatives. This time the reverse happened. The Conservatives polled less than half of the votes cast by the populace, but won more than two-thirds of the seats. For every seven votes that were Conservative, Labor got five. Yet more than 400 Conservative candidates were elected, while Labor won less than 160 seats. The

(Continued on page five.)

BRITISH PLANES MUST NOT DROP OUT BOTTLES

London, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—The air picketer of the future will have to be careful what he does with his empty bottles and other refuse. According to recent regulations laid down by the British Air Rules Committee, a pilot or any other person guilty of throwing bottles or material of any kind over the side of an aeroplane to the danger of the public beneath will be liable to six months in the penitentiary, a \$1,000 fine, or both.

ITALIAN STEAMER IS SUNK AFTER COLLISION

London, Dec. 13.—(Special)—The Italian steamer Laura was sunk last night in the English channel after coming into collision with the British steamer Lorenzo. The Lorenzo was bound from Dunkirk for Yokohama.

CANNERY WANTS PRODUCTS

Arrangements Made to Take Certain Classes of Produce

Those people of the valley who desire to grow certain products for the Bagley cannery in the upper valley will be certain of a market this season, following the visit of H. B. Howell, of the farm bureau, J. W. Lucas, of the Chicago Land Company, and a representative of the Chamber of Commerce. These gentlemen met with the cannery operators and were assured that certain crops would be in demand and that all of these that could be grown would find a ready market there.

The products mentioned especially were Etersburg 121 strawberries, all everbearing blackberries, Cuthbert red raspberries and gooseberries. In addition, experiments will be made on a small amount of spinach for canning. This spinach will average three tons to the acre and will bring \$60 per ton, it was stated. Only a limited amount of this is desired, however, this season. Last season blackberries brought five cents per pound, strawberries six cents, Cuthbert raspberries, eight, and gooseberries from five to six.

It was suggested that people clearing up the small tracts in the irrigation district, who desire to plant a small amount of these, which will find a ready cash market, will be able to have something to bring them some money during the summer. A small amount of land planted to these products will bring in considerable funds at a time when these are needed most.

GRANT PROBE OF EDITORIAL 'ON UNDERWOOD'

SENATE WILL INVESTIGATE CHARGES HURLED BY NEWSPAPER

SENATOR HELD INFLUENCED

Alabama Power Company Behind Him, Says Herald—Statements Are Branded As "Lies"

Washington, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Senator Underwood today obtained the unanimous consent of the senate for the senate investigation of statements made concerning the Underwood Muscle Shoals bill and himself in an editorial appearing in today's issue of the Washington Herald. The editorial referred to the judiciary committee, which was given authority to subpoena the author of the editorial, and other persons "to get to the bottom of the charges." Underwood branded as "lies," the charges in the newspaper that the Alabama Power Company had influenced him in the preparation of the bill.

CANADIAN BANK IS ROBBED

Unidentified Man Is Surrounded Near Seattle

Seattle, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—An unidentified man, believed to be a member of a band which yesterday held up the Nanaimo branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, was surrounded in the woods north of Seattle today. The man was traced after a spectacular pursuit of the eight bandits from Nanaimo to Seattle, in which Canadian and United States patrol boats joined.

SKIRTS WILL BE SHORTER NEXT YEAR

Cleveland, O., Dec. 13.—(Special)—The National Cloak, Suit and Skirt manufacturers' association met here and approved style recommendations for next spring and summer.

Skirts, as an average, will be worn 10 inches from the ground, and in extreme cases 15 inches. Sprightfulness of style as well as of color emphasizes the new spring creations.

GERMAN AVIATOR FLIES 300 MILES AT LOW COST

Berlin, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—R. Botsch, a South German aviator, recently made 300 miles in three and one-half hours in a ten horsepower glider fitted with an auxiliary "tomit" motor. The cost of the trip was \$1.25 for oil and gasoline.

INSANE MAN FLAYS TRAIN FOR A MATCH

Norwich, N. Y., Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—Sheriff Leon M. Wainwright captured an escaped inmate from the Binghamton state hospital after the man had taken possession of the Haynes flag station of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad and flagged every train that came along to ask the engineer for a match.

The man drove the regular flagman from the station, filled up his pipe and sat down to await developments. Finding that he had no match, and having driven everyone else from the station, he adopted the novel expedient of asking each passing engineer for a "light."

Today the maniac is safely back in his cell.

POPE DENIES ALL CHARGES

Spokane Man Says He Was Offered Money for Influence

Duquoin, Ill., Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Francis E. Pope, of Spokane, cousin of President Harding, denied here today that he had been offered \$1,000,000, "or any other sum," to use his influence to obtain the presidential consent for the sale of the government's wooden fleet, as charged in Morimer's testimony in the Forbes trial.

Notre Dame Is Picked to Win Game

Pasadena, Calif., Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—When Knute Rockne's rollicking horsemen gallop into the Rose Bowl here on New Year's day in an attempt to twist the tails of Pop Warner's Leland Stanford Cardinals it will be the first time the Catholics have played on the Pacific coast and the third time a leading eleven from the middle west has clashed with a California team.

In 1894 Stanford defeated Chicago in a post-season tilt and in 1921 the University of California humbled Ohio State, 28 to 0.

Harvard has defeated Oregon, Oregon has smashed the University of Pennsylvania, and Washington State has taken Brown into camp in other noteworthy east-west contests, but memories of these games will be dimmed by the Notre Dame Stanford clash.

Never has interest in football been as keen on the slopes of the Pacific as this year and never has a game de luxe, such as the Rose Bowl battle, been offered at the season's finale.

Stanford, should it lose to Notre Dame, and it doesn't look in the cards as though anything else could happen, will have no regrets. The Palo Alto institution has an eleven of veterans, one of the strongest Redshirt teams in history.

Stanford's great drive from behind to finish its game with California in a 20-20 score makes Warner's outfit the strongest team west of the Rockies, with the possible exception of Andy Smith's Golden Bears. Smith's team, as the California-Stanford game demonstrated, hasn't the reserve power of the Cardinals. Neither has California such smashing ends as Stanford, nor as brilliant passing backs. Nor has California a Nevers.

Ernie Nevers, Stanford's huge fullback, is the greatest individual player the west has ever produced—the coast's "Red" Grange. Like Grange, he has been stopped already this season, and Notre Dame's smashers may stop him again. Injured three times this season, Nevers was out of all of Stanford's big games, but he is expected to be in fine fettle for the Pasadena fray.

Notre Dame will enter the lists a slight favorite, at least among the intelligencia of the gridiron.

ANNUAL NAVAL BILL CARRIES LARGE AMOUNT

APPROPRIATIONS REPORTED TO THE HOUSE TODAY TOTAL \$286,385,578

IS SLIGHTLY UNDER BUDGET

Is Over Eight Millions More Than During Current Year and Is Only Cut of Million

Washington, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Appropriations totaling \$286,385,578 for the maintenance of the navy during the year beginning next July 1, were carried in the annual naval bill as reported to the house. The aggregate is \$8,210,117 more than the amount provided for expenditure during the current fiscal year, and approximately a \$1,000,000 under the budget estimate.

WINNER DEDICATES SCHOOL

Exercises Held Friday Afternoon on Evans Creek

Dedication exercises were held Friday afternoon at the new union school building at Wimer, in the Evans creek valley, when the handsome structure recently completed was consecrated to the cause of education.

The assembly room was filled with the students and others of the district during the rendering of the program, which was commenced at 2:30 o'clock, and continued during the afternoon. Patriotic songs were sung by the members of the male quartette from Rogue River. The dedicatory address was delivered by Rev. V. K. Allison, of the Ashland Christian church, and Rev. Gray, the Rogue River Presbyterian church, gave a short inspirational talk.

In the presentation of the building, first to the county school authorities and then to the district school board, E. E. Dimmick, as chairman of the board of directors, represented the district, and Miss Burr the office of the county superintendent of schools.

The new building is one of the best rural schools in the state of Oregon. It is to house the students from five consolidated districts, including all of the Evans creek valley above the town of Rogue River.

Three auto buses now carry the boys and girls from their homes to the school, and high school facilities are in contemplation. The building is of concrete construction, 66x96 feet in dimensions, now housing three departments, and with provision for two more departments later. It has a full basement containing large play room, furnace room, and other features, while on the main floor are library and teachers' room. The entire building is lighted with electricity from a plant established in the basement. The structure cost about \$18,000, financed by a bond issue.

PROGRESSIVE MEET IS CALLED

Executive Committee Meets and Sets Date for Sessions

Washington, Dec. 13.—(A. P.)—Members of the executive committee of the conference for progressive political action, the parent body behind the presidential candidacy of Senator La Follette, voted Friday night to call a national convention in Chicago February 25 to determine the future course of their movement.

Although the question, under debate all day, had developed a division of opinion regarding the advisability of the step, Basil M. Manly, of Washington, chosen to announce the result of the deliberation, asserted there was substantial unanimity for the course decided upon.

There were 20 votes for the resolution calling for a general convention to pass upon the future course of the movement, a statement said, and 13 votes against such a gathering.

