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UP FROM THE OLD MILL STREAM

Most of the industry in our Piedmont Carolinas was a "down by the Old Mill Stream" when this century began. The rains came, and sometimes the little riverside plant went out with the flood.

Then adventuresome engineers began to turn power wasting at falls and shoals into electricity. They transmitted it to sites located a safe distance from the rivers. These sites rapidly grew into towns. Factory loss by flood ended.

Such river sites as could be reached and profitably developed were "used up." Too, it was found that, in time of drought, streams proved inadequate to power needs in the awakened Piedmont.

By 1920, facilities for steam generation were begun and have continued steadily until today they provide most of the power delivered by the Duke System. One plant now under construction, the third in our present expansion program, will produce more than one-sixth as much power as was used last year in all the territory served by the Duke Power Company.

DUKE POWER COMPANY
Serving the Piedmont Carolinas



Queen City Trailways

Green Sees Growth In Samuel Gompers' Ideals

(Continued From Page 1)

Mr. Green said in part: "Though not a large man, Samuel Gompers had a magnetic personality and a commanding presence that forged him to the front as a leader. With a rich and powerful voice and a rare ability to plumb the mind and feelings of his listeners, his was a high crusading spirit that voiced the struggle of his fellow workers, urging them to join unions and to agitate, educate and organize and enlist others in the battle for human freedom. There was a radiance in his gift for living and enjoying homely details and this gift drew men to him in the sincere comradeship.

"In the economic relations—where men and women determine their work lives—he conceived of the development of economic order by mutual contracts guided by basic principles of human welfare and scientific law. He sought to establish economic government in which all concerned in production should have representation and voice. He declared, 'We want more, we demand more, and when we get that more, we shall insist upon again more and more and even more until we get the full fruition of our labor.'

"Shorter hours and more pay," he said, "are the most revolutionary forces in the lives of workers."

"As Samuel Gompers journeyed across the country to what he knew was his last labor convention in El Paso, he wrote a personal and final message to labor. In it he embodied his creed. I felt it a great honor that he sent for me and asked me to read it for him as he explained that his eyes no longer served him. That message ended:

"As I review the events of my 60 years of contact with the labor movement and as I survey the problems of today and study the opportunities of the future, I want to say to you men and women of the American labor movement, do not reject the cornerstone upon which labor's structure has been built—but base your all upon voluntary principles and illumine your every problem by consecrated devotion to that highest of all purposes—human well-being in the fullest, widest, deepest sense."

"The organization which Gompers built has withstood the grilling tests of business prosperity and depression. Because of its services it has gained and held members to work on for ever higher standards. The organization he built stands today unchanged in basic principles. As new problems have developed we have applied the old guiding precept and have added a bit here and there to procedures. There has been growth without change of purpose or goals. Our foundation rooted in understanding of human dignity with inalienable right to freedom, will remain unchanged.

"We pledge our founder loyalty to the principles he upheld. We know that the freedom we enjoy was gained by the sacrifices of men who understood and accepted responsibility. If we are to continue to enjoy this freedom we must also share responsibility for exercising rights and maintaining freedom."

Mr. Woll said in part: "The life and labors of Gompers effectually and impressively dramatize and symbolize the growth and greatness of the American democracy and of its people. Here was an immigrant boy who came to the American shores and rose to the greatest achievements in our land and who has merited the overwhelming applause of its people.

"Gompers was not only the architect who made the blueprints for the creation of the American Federation of Labor; he was also the builder who carried out the details of those plans, and the care-

taker who zealously guarded the main principles upon which the organization was built.

"Gompers realized that the labor movement of no single country could remain free and stay prosperous long if the working people of other lands were not free and were subjected to low standards of life and labor. That is why he pioneered in the organizations of the International Labor Organization and laid special stress on raising the standards and improving the conditions of the toiling folks in the underdeveloped countries.

"The labor internationalism of Gompers takes on special living significance today in view of the recent developments in the organization of over 50 million free trade unionists under the banner of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. It is in this spirit and aspirations of Gompers that the activities of this new world confederation of free trade unions will have to be activated if this new world labor body is to fulfill its intended mission.

"The soul of Samuel Gompers has continued to live on in its potent influence on our national life and customs. It lives today in the daily lives of millions of Americans.

"May I, therefore, venture to propose that we give rise to a new conception of our evaluation of the services rendered by Samuel Gompers expressed in the setting aside of January 27th of each succeeding year as Samuel Gompers' Birthday and that this day be solemnized as a holiday to be observed throughout the nation so that his rightful place among the great of America may no longer remain void and so that to labor of America be accorded, too, the honor of having contributed to the building up of a truly great democracy such as the world has never known before."

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California LLPE Sets Spring Meet

San Francisco.—The California State Federation of Labor has called a state convention of California's Labor's League for Political Education immediately after March 29, closing date of the primary filing period.

Each local, council and labor league affiliate will be entitled to one delegate.

The federation selected the week of October 9, 1950, for the annual convention to be held in Santa Barbara.

Clerks Pact Speeds Shopping; Praised

San Francisco.—A strikeless wage negotiation which enabled Christmas shopping to proceed uninterrupted was negotiated by the AFL Retail Clerks Local 1100 for 6,500 members in large downtown department stores.

The agreement provides \$2.50 weekly increase for nonselling employees; establishment of a \$15 minimum guaranteed commission on top of regular wages each month, and a greater measure of union security. The 6-year contract may be

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reopened on wages, hours and welfare benefits.

The San Francisco Call-Bulletin editorialized:

"San Francisco downtown department stores and the AFL Clerks union have added a refreshing and, indeed, exemplary note to local labor-management relations

... there was no hot headed recriminations, no hurling of strike threats and no angry exchanges.

"Let's hope that the methods in this case, methods whose effectiveness has been proven by results, will set the pattern for all of our labor-management discussions in the future."

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