

SAM'L GOMPERS' CAREER ENDED

Labor Leader Died at 4:10 Saturday Morning at San Antonio After Brief Illness of Bronchial Trouble

GOMPERS BE BURIED IN SLEEPY HOLLOW

New York, Dec. 13.—Gompers will be buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery near Tarrytown, New York, it was said here by Harry H. Moness, personal friend of the late president of the American Federation of Labor.

San Antonio, Dec. 13.—Samuel Gompers, president and founder of the American Federation of Labor, died at 4:10 this morning, yielding to a bronchial attack that developed while he was in Mexico City.

Mr. Gompers had been improving during the night and had taken two or three naps, but a change occurred at two-thirty o'clock and his heart began to fail refusing to respond to drugs. He was conscious much of the time and was able to talk to his physicians about administering a hypodermic. Apparently he knew the end was near and called some of his closest friends to his bedside with whom he talked over his own funeral arrangements.

The primary cause of the labor leader's death was acute heart disease with pulmonary oedema complicated by advanced nephritis and arterial hypertension.

Mr. Gompers had been improving during the night and had taken two or three naps, but a change occurred at two-thirty o'clock and his heart began to fail refusing to respond to drugs. He was conscious much of the time and was able to talk to his physicians about administering a hypodermic. Apparently he knew the end was near and called some of his closest friends to his bedside with whom he talked over his own funeral arrangements.

The body of the dead leader lay in a great bronze flag-draped flower-banked casket in an underground parlor here this morning while thousands of union workers in overalls, in grimy shirts, in white collars, representing every line of labor, filed past to do him homage.

Samuel Gompers, founder and organizer of the American Federation of Labor and its president almost continuously since 1881, rendered service to the United States during the World War by assisting that great organization in support of the government and its war aims.

Before the United States entered the conflict, he combated enemy influences active among the nation's workers and, by refusing to send delegates to peace conferences in Sweden and Switzerland, kept American labor free from entangling negotiations with pacifist organizations in countries which later became enemies of the United States.

More than a year before America took up arms Mr. Gompers pledged organized labor to support of national preparedness.

When the resumption of unrestricted submarine warfare by Germany early in 1917, brought the United States to the verge of war, Mr. Gompers cabled the head of the German Federation of Trade Unions, urging that he use his influence to prevail upon his Government to avoid a break with America.

Three days after the United States declared war on Germany, he announced, for the Federation, "full and unqualified support of the government" on the part of America's workers, with the promise that leaders of labor would use their influence to prevent any attempt to take advantage of the war emergency to press claims for changes in existing industrial conditions.

He exerted his influence, through the heads of unions, in the settlement of a number of strikes in manufacturing throughout the country engaged in war work, notably in the shipping industry.

Following the application of Emperor Nicholas of Russia, Mr. Gompers sent a message to the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates at Petrograd, warning them against agitators, particularly those in the employ of Germany.

In midsummer of 1917 Mr. Gompers formed and headed the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, which marshaled the labor forces of the country for active support of the government in the war. Coincidentally he denounced various "peace councils" organized in the United States as "masking a nefarious propaganda of treachery in the name of democracy."

Later, speaking, as he announced, for American Labor, Mr. Gompers declared that "so long as Germany is ruled by an autocrat, so long as Germans occupy our land of French, Belgian or Serbian soil, it is useless to invite representatives of the workers of the United States to talk peace around a conference table."

SUBPOENA COUSIN OF PRESIDENT HARDING

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Counsel for Charles R. Forbes, former director of the Veterans' Bureau, announced today that they had issued a subpoena for Francis E. Pope of Spokane, Washington, a cousin of the former President Harding, to appear in the trial of Director Forbes and J. W. Thompson, Chicago contractor, for conspiracy to defraud the Government.

BIG DEMAND FOR CALIFORNIA'S ORANGES

San Francisco, Dec. 13.—(Special)—Although orange shipments from the Tulare district are already ahead of last season's output by one thousand cars, indications are that San Francisco will experience a Christmas orange shortage. Virtually all the Tulare district crop is going to Eastern cities.

RETURN FROM CONVENTION

Among those returning Friday from the Baptist State Convention at Raleigh were: Dr. J. H. Thayer, Rev. R. F. Hall and E. F. Aydt of this city, Rev. G. P. Harrill of South Mills, Rev. W. J. Byrum of Moyock and Rev. S. F. Hudson of Shiloh. Dr. S. H. Templeman of this city returned Wednesday because of illness.

LABOR UNIONS FROM PROSECUTION

Combination in restraint of trade; and the law regulating punishment for contempt of court. He was also directly responsible for the legislation which created the Department of Labor as a separate department of the Federal government with a cabinet member at its head.

The legislation exempting trade unions from the anti-trust laws, regulating punishment for contempt, and limiting the use of the injunction which was included in the Clayton Anti-Trust law passed by the Sixty-third Congress grew out of litigation against trade unions and their officials, with which Gompers was directly concerned.

The contest section of the Clayton Act was framed to meet conditions which arose through the conviction of Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, officers of the American Federation of Labor of contempt of court in 1908. Justice Daniel Thew Wright

of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia sentenced the three labor leaders to jail for violation of an injunction prohibiting the Federation from boycotting the Burks Store and Range Co., of St. Louis. An appeal carried to the Supreme Court set aside by the Supreme Court on the ground that the statute of limitation had expired before the second proceedings were begun.

During the seven years this case was in litigation, Gompers exerted his influence so effectively that the Clayton revision of the anti-trust laws.

Throughout the 20 years of anti-trust agitation which followed the enactment of the Sherman anti-trust law, Mr. Gompers was active in procuring legislation and litigation against the big combinations of capital which had grown up in the industrial world.

He conducted a campaign against the United States Steel Corporation which culminated in an extensive investigation of that concern by a committee of the House of Representatives.

In his long administration of

Christmas Seals Care For Her



The Christmas Seal campaign is on. The little girl in this picture is only one of thousands being cared for in the institution benefiting by the seal sales.

EFFORT AGREEMENT FAILS

Washington, Dec. 13.—Another effort for agreement on decision on the postal pay increase bill failed today in the Senate.

The American Federation of Labor, Mr. Gompers was constantly called upon to avert threatened schisms in the organization and to bring together fractious elements which developed from time to time. By his efforts compromise after compromise was effected, and the unity of the "trade union" system of labor organization as opposed to the "industrial union" system, and his efforts and those of his followers developed the American labor movement along the lines of the former plan.

He was constantly called upon by unions affiliated with the Federation to act as arbitrator and mediator in labor disputes and he probably settled by his individual efforts more strikes than any other man in labor history.

Samuel Gompers was born in 1850. His father was a cigar-maker and Samuel was the eldest of eight children. His mother was a woman of excellent education and through her influence he was led to study. Notwithstanding the fact that at the age of 10 he began to help his father support the family, he went to school after his sixth to his tenth year.

Continued on page 4

MEN'S FEDERATION AT MT. HERMON ON SUNDAY

The Men's Christian Federation will go to Mt. Hermon Methodist Church Sunday afternoon.

All members of the Federation or ladies desiring to go are asked to gather at the Junior Order Hall at 2:30 Sunday afternoon. Those who can bring cars are asked to do so.

On Tuesday night at 7:30 the Federation will hold a service at the Christian church.

Attendance at the morning prayer services in the Junior Hall, is daily growing larger, in spite of the fact that practically everybody is very busy during the Christmas rush.

BOMBING PLANES ARE ALL OBSCLETE

Washington, Dec. 13.—Recent attacks of the Virginia Capes on the battleship Washington, scrapped under the Navy Treaty, demonstrated that new bombing planes will have to be developed to carry more destructive bombs.

Major General Patrick, chief of the Army Air Service, declared before the house investigating committee. Present bombing planes, although as good as those of any other nation, Major Patrick added, are in his opinion "obsolescent, due to the heavier armor of modern battleship."

Oil Men to Fight Further Increase in Gasoline Tax

Consumer Paying Tax Without Grumbling at Present Prices Gasoline but Producers Look for Flare-back When There's End of Low Prices

By ROBERT T. SMALL (Special Contributor)

Forth Worth, Dec. 13.—As a result of the informal conferences held here during the meeting of the American Petroleum Institute the oil producers and distributors of the country have decided to make an aggressive fight against a further increase of state taxes on gasoline.

Some states already are assessing a tax of three cents a gallon and a few of these are proposing to raise it to four. The tax burden is being borne without any great complaint at the present moment because of the low price of gasoline, but the moment the cost of motor fuel begins to mount, as the oil men say it must within the next few years, there is certain to be a great outcry and the oil companies feel they will be heavily assailed. Therefore, while they do not have to stand the tax which is always passed on to the consumer, they feel the industry owes it to the motoring public to do all it can to keep the tax within reason.

There is a tendency in virtually all the states to look to a gasoline levy as a means of raising additional revenue. Judge Ames I. Beatty, head of the Texas Company, frankly discussed the situation with his fellow oil executives.

"Nearly all of the states now impose a tax of some amount on each gallon of gasoline sold," he said. "The tendency is pronounced and continuous. The states that are lower than others are inclined to increase their rates. Each seems afraid that it may not obtain its proportion of revenue compared with other states. What will be the situation when production declines and is less than potential consumption? Prices will advance. They will advance and these taxes will apply nevertheless and be passed on to the consumers. They will be just that much added to a price already considered high for a product that must be had. The taxes are not so objectionable when the price is low and in most states they serve an important purpose. But when prices go high, without the taxes, it may be found necessary to revise the rates downward. What the trade can stand now it may not stand then. It is always difficult to reduce taxes, and we may see the time when these taxes will oppress consumers on the one hand and cut into our sales on the other. That will be bad for the industry, bad for the public and bad for the state."

The oil men of the country are

going to try to protect the public in another respect—that of reducing the industry of the fake and flashy promoters. This is one case in which the co-operation of the Government at Washington is desired.

There are no actual statistics available, but the statement has been made here that the chance of a "wild catter" drilling in hit or miss fashion bringing in a paying well is just about one in several hundred. Even where geologists have surveyed a field and reported conditions favorable chances are enhanced to only about one in 50—certainly not more than one in 20. The best advice given to a public that is lured so often to invest in oil ventures which are little understood, is to buy stock only in a company which is in continuous business and capable of drilling wells over a number of years. Such a company should get a definite return according to the law of averages but those who back a company or an individual prepared to drill only one or two wells, are indulging in a hazardous speculation for high stakes, like betting on a horse in a race of a hundred entries, and have no just cause for complaint if they fail.

Yet the romance of oil is far from dead. Only this week in the new field at Wortham, Texas, two sunners have been "shot" running thousands of barrels a day and worth millions of dollars. Here the field had been explored by the geologists, the students of rocks and sands of land conformations and "domes" and success at certain points seemed almost guaranteed. Yet but a short distance away from the gushers another well had been drilled deeper and deeper with the prospect that at best it may be nothing more than a "pumper" from which a few barrels a day may be reluctantly extracted at high cost. The geologist is not infallible; he cannot tap the rocks and produce oil at will. If his task of "finding oil" was an exact science, oil would be less valuable than it is today. Many dry hole tragedies have had as their requiem: "the geologists said there was oil."

But speaking of "domes" in connection with oil, the name of a certain Texas spot was not mentioned during the entire session of the oil men. That dome does not mean as much in the industry as the public has imagined. The position of the Institute is that the Fall scandals did not touch the industry as a whole.

This Baby Was Sold for \$48



Robert Milton Barton, 2 months old, was sold for \$48 before he was born. His parents, John and Phyllis Barton, of Cleveland, promised to let a woman adopt him if she would divorce that man. They said they could not afford to pay him, but after the matter came to the attention of Judge George S. Addams, a witness testified the Bortons wanted the \$48 to pay on an automobile. They deny this. The court ordered them to take the baby back again.

Again Split Fifty Fifty In Match With Hertford

Honors Again Even When Cagers Meet on Hertford Outdoor Court in Double Header Basketball Contest Friday Afternoon

A fifty-fifty division of honors was again the result of the return engagement played by Elizabeth City boys and girls on the outdoor basketball court at Hertford Friday afternoon, the boys losing and the girls winning, the margins of defeat and victory being larger in each case than in last week's game.

Overcoming the handicap of a foreign field and an outdoor court, the home-town girls played an unusually good game and piled up a 16 to 12 score over a heavier but less-active sextet. Much of the credit for the gratifying performance of the Hess City girls is due to the alertness and tenacity of the guards, backed by consistent shooting on the part of the forwards. Margaret Sawyer, captain of the team, led in individual scoring, closely followed by Belle Miller and Monterey Cartwright. For Hertford, Jenkins and Towe tied for honors, each having six points to her credit.

No ribbi is offered for the overwhelming defeat of the local boys. They were clearly outplayed by the machine-like precision of their rivals, who demonstrated great ability in brilliant passing and accurate goal-shooting. Only in the first few minutes of play did the Elizabeth City boys seem at home on the court, but after going the score in the first quarter, they were unable to find the basket again except at rare intervals. The final score was 46 to 16. For Hertford, Chappell at forward and Dick White at center,

made unusual records, each scoring 17 points during the game. Lineups follow:

Table with columns for E. City, Hertford, Girls, and Boys, listing players and their positions.

Grain Farmer's Stocking Be Full Christmas Morn

More to Spend by Half Billion than This Time Last Year while Even Cotton and Tobacco Growers Have a Little Cash Tucked Away in Their Jeans

GLEE CLUB GOES TO KANSAS CITY

Notable Recognition for Carolina Glee Club Which Is to Appear in Elizabeth City in January.

Chapel Hill, Dec. 13.—The University Glee Club has accepted an invitation to appear before the National Music Supervisors' Conference at their annual convention in Kansas City, Mo., in April.

Negotiations are also under way for concerts to be given by the club en route to Missouri in Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis, Nashville and St. Louis. If the invitations from these cities are accepted, the entire trip will last 10 days. Some 40 men will be taken and they will travel aboard a private Pullman.

This is believed to be the longest and most pretentious trip ever made by a glee club in the South, and it is felt it will bring widespread recognition for the University as well as the glee club.

The Missouri invitation comes as a direct result of a concert which the club recently gave in Winston-Salem before the Southern Music Supervisors' Conference, when the Carolina men received high praise.

The present membership of the club comprises 60 men, and with 29 to be eliminated competition for the western trip is especially keen. Prof. Paul J. Weaver, director of the club, has announced that there will probably be a few vacancies after Christmas, at which time new candidates will be given an opportunity to try out.

The Missouri invitation comes as a direct result of a concert which the club recently gave in Winston-Salem before the Southern Music Supervisors' Conference, when the Carolina men received high praise.

The present membership of the club comprises 60 men, and with 29 to be eliminated competition for the western trip is especially keen. Prof. Paul J. Weaver, director of the club, has announced that there will probably be a few vacancies after Christmas, at which time new candidates will be given an opportunity to try out.

On Tuesday night at 7:30 the Federation will hold a service at the Christian church.

Attendance at the morning prayer services in the Junior Hall, is daily growing larger, in spite of the fact that practically everybody is very busy during the Christmas rush.

EIGHT ARE DEAD IN A JAP NAVAL WRECK

Tokio, Dec. 13.—Eight bodies have been washed ashore and about 40 persons are in peril aboard the special service ship Kwanton which was wrecked in a blizzard off Tsuruga, Western Japan. A destroyer received five bodies and 20 men, and another wrecked ship, the Kwanton, carried a crew of 150 men.

DENIES REPORTS OF OFFER OF BRIBE

Duquoin, Ill., Dec. 13.—Francis Pope denied today he had been offered one million dollars "or any other sum" to use his influence to obtain Presidential consent for sale of the government's wooden fleet. Informed he had been subpoenaed to appear in the trial of Forbes and Thompson Pope said he would testify he had "not even heard of the Thompson contracting interests."

OTTON REPORT

New York, Dec. 13.—Cotton futures opened this morning at the following levels: December 25.10; January 25.10; March 25.55; May 25.85; July 24.05.

THE NATIONAL BANK TO GIVE AWAY TREE

The First Citizens National Bank will give away the big Christmas tree in the back of the bank building to some member of their 1925 Christmas Savings Club. Every member of the club who has placed in a box a few days before Christmas the box will be opened and the person whose name is on the first number drawn will receive the Christmas tree. For each of the next twenty numbers drawn the fortunate club members will receive a handsome purse. 13p. adv.