

GOMPERS WRITES LABOR DAY HISTORY

President of American Federation Originated Movement at Meeting in New York in 1882.

NOW HOLIDAY IN ALL STATES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Samuel Gompers, founder and president of the American Federation of Labor, gave out for publication today some interesting historical matter on the observance of Labor day.

"Undoubtedly the first suggestion of setting apart a day in each year to be observed as Labor day," said Mr. Gompers, "was conceived by the late P. J. McGuire, who was at that time secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. The suggestion occurred during the period when the Knights of Labor was in existence, P. J. McGuire being a member of that organization.

"Writing for the American Federationist in 1902, P. J. McGuire had this to say: 'Fagan feasts and Christian observances have come down to us through the long ages. But it was reserved for this country and for the American people, to give birth to Labor day. In this they honor the toilers of the earth and pay homage to those who from rude nature have derived and carved all the comfort and grandeur we behold.

"More than all, the thought, the conception, yes, the very inspiration of this holiday came from men in the ranks of the working people, men active in uplifting their fellows and leading them to better conditions. It came from a little group in New York City, the Central Labor union, which had just been formed, and which in later years attained widespread influence.

"Gompers Originates Idea. 'On May 3, 1882, the writer made the proposition. He urged the propriety of setting aside one day in the year to be designated as Labor day, and to be established as a general holiday for the laboring classes. He advised the day should first be celebrated by a street parade, which would publicly show the strength and esprit du corps of the trade and labor organizations. Next the parade should be followed by a picnic or a festival in some green, the proceeds of the same to be divided on the semi-co-operative plan.'

"It was further argued Labor day should be observed as one festival day in the year for public tribute to the genius of American industry. There were other worthy holidays, representative of the religious, civil and military spirit. But some representative of the industrial spirit, the great vital force of every nation. He suggested the first Monday in September of every year for such a holiday, as it would come at the most pleasant season of the year, nearly midway between the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving, and would give a wide scope in the chronology of legal holidays. Many were the cogent reasons he advanced, and at once the idea was enthusiastically embraced.

"First Parade in New York. 'The first Labor day parade and festival of the Central Labor union of New York City on September 5, 1882, was simply an imposing success. From that day on it became a fixed institution in every city of the land. The plan was next endorsed by the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, and the general assembly of the Knights of Labor. It spread rapidly from city to city and from town to town. City councils and state legislatures took it up and made it a legal holiday, until finally, June 23, 1894, it became a national holiday by act of congress.

"The initial action taken setting apart one day in the year on which to review the activities and beneficial influence of organized labor occurred at the afternoon meeting of the third day of the fourth annual session of the Federation, October 3, 1884, the convention being held in Schloesser's hall, Chicago, Ill. The resolution creating Labor day was introduced in the convention by A. C. Cameron, a delegate from the Chicago Trades and Labor assembly, and was as follows:

"Resolved, That the first Monday in September of each year be set apart as a laborers' national holiday, and that we recommend its observance by all wage workers, irrespective of sex, calling or nationality."

W. J. Hammond, representing the International Typographical union, from New Orleans, La., was president of this convention. The delegates to this convention numbered only twenty-six.

"The federation held its annual convention at Columbus, O., December 8-13, 1886. At this session the officers reported the following: 'At the fourth session of the federation a resolution was adopted making the first Monday in September of each year labor's national holiday, and recommending its observance by wage workers generally throughout the country. This met with response that exceeded the most sanguine expectations. In our great manufacturing and distributing centers thousands of workmen marched to procession and participated in the festivities of the picnic grounds, where the most skilled mechanics and workers in professions and laborers united in a common celebration, exchanging friendly fraternal greetings while they listened to the champions of labor discussing the economic and political questions of the day. The good effects of this are so well understood that we recommend its more general observance until, until it shall be as uncommon for a man to work on that day as on Independence day.'

"In order that there be no misunderstanding with reference to the action of congress in enacting legislation upon this subject, it is well to state that the law passed by congress on June 28, 1894, described above, as making Labor day a national holiday only provided that Labor day should be observed in the District of Columbia, as well as the then territories.

"New States Line Up. 'Nearly all of the states in the union now have statutes making the first Monday in September a legal holiday, thus observing Labor day.

"Labor day was established in the various states in the order and on the dates named below:

- 1887, February 10, Oregon.
- 1887, March 2, Colorado.
- 1887, April 4, New Jersey.
- 1887, May 1, New York.
- 1887, May 1, Massachusetts.
- 1887, March 20, Connecticut.
- 1887, March 20, Nebraska.
- 1887, April 2, Wisconsin.
- 1887, April 2, Ohio.
- 1887, February 10, Maine.
- 1887, February 10, Washington.
- 1887, March 4, Montana.
- 1887, March 4, Kansas.
- 1887, March 11, Tennessee.
- 1887, March 11, New Hampshire.
- 1887, March 17, Illinois.

UNION LABOR WILL MARCH ON MONDAY

Plans for Labor Day Parade and Program for Afternoon Announced by Committee.

PICNIC AT THE GERMAN HOME

All arrangements for the observance of Labor day by the labor unions of Omaha have been completed, the committee in charge making a full report on its plans at the meeting of the Central Labor union on Friday evening, when the program was approved. The forenoon will be devoted to a parade demonstration in which the unions will take part, while the afternoon will be given over to sports and speaking at the grounds of the German Home on South Thirteenth street. Dancing and a moving picture exhibition will fill out the afternoon and evening.

Reynolds is Marshal. T. P. Reynolds, president of the State Federation of Labor and of the Omaha Central Labor union, will be marshal of the parade, and James Swanson and Raymond Zeig will be his aides. The parade will form at Labor temple, Nineteenth and Farnam streets, and at 10 o'clock will march over the following route: East on Farnam to Twelfth, north to Douglas, west to Sixteenth, north to Chicago, countermarch on Sixteenth to Howard, where it will disband.

Speaking will begin at the German home grounds at 2 o'clock. The speakers will be Anton Johansson of California, Harry Blackmore of St. Louis, T. W. McCullough and Miss Gladys Shamp of Omaha.

Following is the order in which the parade will form, the unions marching in report at 3 a. m.:

- FIRST DIVISION: Mayor and Mayor of Police Band, Central Labor Union, Theatrical Stage Society, Moving Picture Machine Operators Band, Iron Moulders' Union, Stationary Firemen's Union, Card and Label League.
- SECOND DIVISION: Ladies' Auxiliary of Carpenters' Union, Carpenters' Union, Painters' Union, Chimney Sweeps' Union, Firemen's Union, THIRTH DIVISION: Bricklayers' Union, Stone Cutters' Union, Cement Workers' Union, Building Laborers' Union, Electrical Workers' Union, The Lathers' Union.
- FOURTH DIVISION: Brewery Workers' Union (three locals), Bartenders' Union, Machinists, No. 21, Machinists, No. 10, Iron Workers' Union, Hoisting Engineers' Union, Elevator Constructors' Union, Bill Posters' Union.

Formation of parade. First Division—On Nineteenth street in front of Labor temple.

Second Division—On Douglas street east of Nineteenth street.

Third Division—On Douglas street, west of Nineteenth street.

Fourth Division—On Nineteenth street, south of Farnam street.

Program for Afternoon. Afternoon program at German home grounds on South Thirteenth street. Speaking at 2 p. m.—Speakers: Anton Johansson of California, Harry Blackmore of St. Louis, T. W. McCullough and Miss Gladys Shamp of Omaha.

SPORT EVENTS. Union Label Contest—First prize, \$4 box union cigars; second prize, \$2 union hat; third prize, \$1 union hat.

60-Yard Dash (for union men only)—First prize, \$4.50 union made shoes; second prize, \$2 union hat; third prize, \$1 union hat.

60-Yard Dash (married ladies)—First prize, \$5.50 union made shoes; second prize, \$2.50 union hat; third prize, \$1 union hat.

100-Yard Dash (boys under 16 years)—First prize, \$2 cash; second prize, \$1 cash.

50-Yard Dash (girls under 16 years)—First prize, \$2 cash; second prize, \$1 cash.

50-Yard Dash (fat men, 25 pounds and over)—First prize, \$4 box union cigars.

100-Yard Dash (fat ladies, over 175 pounds)—First prize, \$4.50 union made shoes; second prize, \$2.50 union made shoes.

Running Broad Jump—First prize, \$2.50 union made hat; second prize, \$1.50 union made gloves.

Standing Broad Jump—First prize, \$2 union made silk shirt; second prize, \$1.50 box union made collars.

Pie Eating Contest (for children)—First prize, \$2 cash; second prize, \$1 cash.

Milk Drinking Contest (free for all)—First prize, \$2 cash; second prize, \$1 cash.

There will be dancing, a band concert and free moving pictures at the grounds during the afternoon and evening.

Butler Wants Coin Paid Into School Fund of South Side. Superintendent Butler of the department of public accounts and finance will make claim against the school district of Omaha for \$2,100, said to have been paid into the school fund by the South Omaha police court for a period of four years. Mr. Butler explains this amount represents costs which should have been credited to the city instead of the school district.

GRAIN PRICES SENT DOWN BY FINE CROP WEATHER. Perfect weather all over the country sent grain prices down to a new level. Wheat was the heaviest loser, the decline on it being 2 to 3 cents, sales being made at 80 cents to 81 cent per bushel. Wheat receipts were sixty-four carloads.

Corn sold the lowest in more than a year, setting down to 6 cents per bushel, though the bulk of sales were higher, some reaching 7 1/4 cents. Receipts for the day were sixty cars.

Oats lost but 1/2 cent. The prices were 24 1/2 cents per bushel, with receipts twenty-four cars.

COMMERCIAL CLUB TO PAY RENT FOR AUDITORIUM. In conference the city commissioners agreed to rent the Auditorium for the shops will close during the entire day. The city ticket and freight offices will close at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, not to open until Tuesday morning.

OMAHA WELSHMEN TO HOLD BIG PICNIC ON LABOR DAY. The Welsh of Omaha and vicinity will have a basket picnic at Miller park on Labor day and a concert in the evening.

Apartment, flat, house, and cottages. A "For Sale" ad will turn second-hand furniture into cash.

CHILD BURNED AS DANCES AT BONFIRE; MOTHER IS INJURED

Viola Strong, 4 years of age, suffered painful burns Friday afternoon while playing around a bonfire at the rear of her home, 112 North Twentieth street. The child is being attended at St. Joseph's hospital. Mrs. Strong is injured.

ROBBERS GET CASH FROM THREE PERSONS

James Colker of the Brunswick hotel has asked the police to assist in the search for \$55 taken from his room. Colker was asleep when the money was stolen.

Charles Miller of Concordia, Kan., was held up at Twelfth and Douglas streets by two men, who persuaded the Kansas to turn over \$12. The two strangers had revolvers and declined to give Mr. Miller receipts for the money.

Adelaide Katenmeyer, 225 South Twentieth street, reported the loss of her handbag and \$25 taken from an office in the City National Bank building.

HORSE RUNS INTO G. B. BRIGHT'S AUTO

The sight of a horse running into an automobile caused considerable interest last evening at Fourteenth street and Capitol avenue. The steed of R. E. Henderson, mail carrier, became frightened at the Billy Sunday tabernacle and started to run in the opposite direction.

The animal ran headlong into the front of the automobile of George B. Bright of 205 Bristol street.

SOUTH SIDE MILK MEN BOOST THEIR PRICES

Dairy Inspector Bessie reports he has been advised by South Side dairymen that milk in that territory will be 3 cents a quart, an advance from 2 and 7 cents. The explanation is that compliance with Greater Omaha milk and dairy regulations increases the expenses of these dealers.

OFFICER FIRES SHOT AT FLEEING THIEVES

Police Officer English discovered two men attempting to break into James Harns' saloon, at 2801 Farnam street, early Saturday and fired two shots at them. He believes one of the men was hit, as he cried out as if in pain and stumbled. The pair made their getaway north on Twenty-eighth street.

TWO MORE SUITS ARE FILED AGAINST ROAD

Two more suits growing out of alleged obstruction of water in the Elkhorn river by a railroad bridge embankment have been filed against the Union Pacific railroad. J. W. Rapp and Sons ask \$1,600 as alleged damages to their fields by reason of the overflowing water, and Joseph Odenrider asks \$2,999 for the same cause.

RAILROAD AGENTS PASS OUT TICKETS TO DEN SHOW

The Union Pacific advertising department has just finished sending out to western agents 75,000 complimentary tickets to the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ien den. These tickets have gone as far west as the Pacific coast and all the intermediate stations. At these points they are given out by the agents to returning tourists.

With the complimentary invitations to the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ien den, tourists from the west stopping over here feel at liberty to go to the den and enroll themselves as knights.

CURTAIN MAIL SERVICE IN OMAHA ON LABOR DAY

The postoffice will be open on Labor day from 7:30 a. m. to 10:30 a. m. only, and mail will be delivered twice in the business district of the city. All other offices in the federal building will be closed all day Monday.

Presbyterian Medical Hospital AND FIRMS WHO HELPED TO BUILD IT

NEW HOSPITAL IS OPENED

Presbyterian Medical Institution Has Home in Turner Residence Improved.

FURNISHED IN HOMELIKE WAY

The new Presbyterian Medical hospital at Thirty-fourth and Farnam was formally opened Wednesday, September 1, when a reception was held by Mr. and Mrs. Robert McClelland, the proprietors. More than 1,000 invitations were sent out, and from 3 to 6 in the afternoon and again from 8 until 11 in the evening the visitors were welcomed and piloted through the newly remodeled structure by the corps of nurses. The house was beautifully decorated with palms and flowers and an orchestra was almost hidden by a bank of palms at the end of the reception hall.

The hospital is beautifully furnished in mahogany, and oriental rugs set off the attractive rooms to the best advantage. The whole place has the atmosphere of a home rather than that of a hospital.

Former Home Remodeled. The house, which was formerly the Turner home, has been remodeled and big additions have been made without changing the appearance of the structure as it is seen from the Farnam street side, except where the walk has been taken up and the entrance changed. Instead of entering on the Farnam street side as the visitor once did, he enters from Thirty-fourth street. The rooms are large and attractively furnished, many of them retaining the appearance they had when the house was built, having big mantels and private baths.

The barn has been remodeled and is now a dormitory for the nurses, and has the heating plant and incinerator in the basement. Eleven rooms are reserved for the nurses, of whom there are twenty-five. Thirty-six rooms are reserved for the use of patients, and there is no operating room, all surgical cases being done at the other Presbyterian hospital.

Large Sum Expended. Mr. McClelland acquired the Turner property last spring and has spent about \$75,000 on it. It is now one of the most attractive hospitals in the city, and Mr. McClelland's idea of making it appear homelike rather than hospital-like has succeeded remarkably. The residence was built about twenty-five years ago by Mr. Turner and was at that time one of the finest homes in the west. It has always been a show spot in the city and its prominent location on the Farnam car line has made it a very well-known place.

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