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SAMUEL GOMPERS' POLITICAL AMBITION
 There are signs that Mr. Samuel Gompers and Mr. Frank Morrison, the former president of the American Federation of Labor, and the latter secretary of the same aggregation of labor organizations, are planning a grand coup in the presidential campaign of 1908.

Many moves on the chess board of labor politics, many statements uttered by labor leaders, and many dark hints and threats made in and out of the secret sessions of lodges and communities, indicate that Mr. Gompers and Mr. Morrison will next year endeavor to make a cherished dream a reality by striving to swing the entire trades union vote of the United States against the Republican party and the principle of protection.

This would be only one step in advance of that taken by Mr. Gompers and Mr. Morrison in 1906. Then they endeavored to defeat almost the entire Republican membership of the house of representatives. They tried to alienate organized labor on the side of William R. Hearst at the meeting of the New York Federation of Labor, held at Binghamton in September, when efforts were made to have that body endorse Mr. Hearst for the Democratic nomination. Later they threw their influence for Mr. Hearst and against Governor Hughes. How both these schemes failed to work is a matter of political history, but if Mr. Gompers and Mr. Morrison had succeeded in their efforts, Mr. Hearst would have been elected governor of New York, and would now, perhaps, be having a clear field for the Democratic nomination for president.

But it is with the efforts of these great labor masters in national politics that the general interest of the country is more concerned. That they are planning an effort to muster labor as an adjunct of the Democratic machine here, Mr. Gompers has threatened it many times. He is infatuated with the success his fellow countrymen of England have had in running trades union candidates for the house of commons, until they have at times swung the balance of power between the two great parties of England, by the sheer number of labor votes. It was the burden of all the remarks of labor representatives at the hearings arranged in behalf of the bills introduced in the last congress providing for the publicity of all campaign contributions. At that time labor leaders said that they must take sides as an organization, and throw their solid vote to the party that would do as they wanted.

Among matters on which they want legislation are the boycott, the eight-hour day and the injunction. They desire legislation that will legalize the boycott, and an endorsement of that will be one of the things which they will insist upon as a pre-requisite of

giving support to either party. The Democratic party will no doubt promise to support a bill legalizing the boycott. The Republican party, which regards the rights of property as something also to be considered, is not likely to do the same. The Democratic party will promise to support a measure to provide that no injunction shall be issued against a labor organization until there has been a hearing before a jury. It has gone even farther than that in times past. The Republican party will not make any such pledge in its platform, in all probability, and on that the issue will be joined, as it in fact is joined now. The labor unions will want legislation in establishing the eight-hour day to go farther than the present laws, and indeed the Democratic party is pledged to going just as far as the unions want. There is sure to be some restrictions in the utterances of the Republican platform, although Senator Beveridge has recently, against his convictions, or at least in spite of his misgivings, declared in favor of the day of eight hours.

It will be interesting to examine the net results of the last excursion made by the American Federation of Labor into national politics. Having failed to force congress to enact the legislation which is recounted above, and having failed to carry the wild scheme of forcing the eight-hour day in digging the Panama canal, the Federation officials proceeded to interrogate members of congress on their attitude at the next session of congress on the various measures which it was demanding. All of the Democrats, or practically all, answered that they would gladly support any bill that a labor union advocated. Some of the Republican members replied that they would do the same thing. Some of them said they would not. Some did not answer at all.

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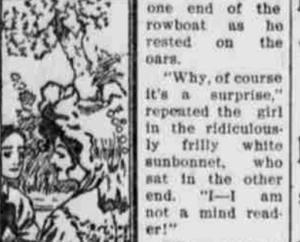
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DRIFTING

"I don't see why you should say you are surprised," insisted the young man in one end of the rowboat as he rested on the oars.



"Why, of course it's a surprise," repeated the girl in the ridiculous frilly white sunbonnet, who sat in the other end. "I am not a mind reader!"
 The young man lifted exasperated eyes to the sky. "Didn't you have any idea at all that I—that is—say honestly, Sallie, haven't you been expecting right along that I'd say what I just said? Didn't you know I was head over heels—"
 "I never thought any such thing," said the pretty girl, dabbling her fingers in the lake. "—I ideal! I'm not in the habit of supposing that every man who looks at me is in love with me! There isn't any reason anyhow why you should be—or should think you are!"
 "Say," declared the young man earnestly, "this is no summer-resort romance; it's the real thing. I don't think—I know I am in love with you. And now you are pained and amazed and all the rest of it, and can't make up your mind. Why—"
 "If you have such a poor idea of me as that," interrupted the girl in the white sunbonnet, "I don't see why you should care about me. To think that all this time you thought I was patiently waiting for you to give me a chance to say yes! I suppose you thought I was so hopelessly in love with you that I'd never get over it, and you'd break my heart if you didn't ask me! It seems to me that it was accepted as well as unkind of you!"
 "I never thought any such thing!" cried the young man. "I—"
 "Then if you didn't think I was in love with you there is no reason for you to be surprised that I am surprised," said the pretty girl, triumphantly. "It's one or the other, don't you see?"
 The young man looked gloomy. "I know one thing, though," he said, darkly. "I know you can't care two straws about me or you would say yes right away. If you are in love with anybody, you know it!"
 "Did the others say yes promptly?" inquired the pretty girl, maliciously, but with a hint of interest in her voice.
 "You're the first," said the young man. "The first and only."
 "They all say that," murmured the pretty girl pessimistically.
 The young man looked gloomier. "I suppose a proposal doesn't mean much to you," he said. "They're as common as breakfast food. Yet, if you were used to them you would surely have seen this one coming from me."
 "Oh, I don't know," said the girl in the sunbonnet, with a reminiscent smile that instantly presented before the young man's vision a long line of rejected suitors. "I just thought we were good friends. I didn't know—"
 "You thought nothing of the sort," said the young man. "You knew I was merely existing on the sight of you 15 hours out of the 24. Didn't you, now?"
 "Oh, I supposed you liked me a little bit," admitted the pretty girl, "or else you would have gone around with some of the other girls. But—"
 "How did you suppose," went on the young man, "I could help falling in love with you? You are too modest. You don't realize what a fascinating—"
 "We're drifting on a sandbar," said the pretty girl.
 "That'll be a nice comfortable place to stay while you make up your mind," pursued the young man.
 "I don't see why I am obliged to make up my mind," she said. "You can't make up your mind quickly over something that is entirely new and unexpected to you, you know, I had never thought of such a thing!"
 "I should think you would," persisted the young man. "Haven't I made deadly enemies of every other man up here by keeping you away from them?"
 "You couldn't have kept me away from them if I hadn't let you," unguardedly boasted the pretty girl. The young man's face lost its gloom as if by magic. "You can't keep up the bluff!" he cried. "Come now—you know you had your mind made up weeks ago and you might as well tell me. Look at me, Sallie!"
 "Well, anyhow," fenced the pretty girl as the boat drifted beneath some sheltering willow branches, "you needn't have been so sure to start with!"—Chicago Daily News.

Still, Mr. Jacob Rila is not stopped from pointing out that even to beat Mr. Roosevelt playing tennis, it was necessary to go out of the country for the man.

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