

The Harbinger.

Official Organ Central Labor Union

A Paper for the Telling Masses.

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INDIVIDUAL EFFORT.

The apostles of individual effort are forever pounding away upon the poor wage-earner, in the attempt to convince him that all that is necessary is for him to "show what there is in him" and "merit will be rewarded." Isolated instances of marvelous strides from the bottommost rung of the ladder to the topmost made by certain individuals are pointed out as examples of what may be accomplished by individual effort. And this all tends to dissatisfy and make more miserable the lot of the toiler.

Take any instance of miraculous achievement by individual effort, and we will wager that the height was attained by anything else than individual effort. Then, too, all cannot get at the top. The vast majority must remain unto the end workers—and workers only. So we see the utter futility of the continual cry made by the enemy that it is only necessary to toil and save to reach the goal.

And when we reflect that the purpose of all this is to keep down wages, we can appreciate the extent to which the opponents of organized labor are willing to go in order to defeat the best interests of the workers.

Don't believe this sophistry. While men will continue to come up from the very bottom, and many reach into the very pinnacle of success in life, and while it is to be desired that every one should exert his very best effort to attain the highest and best, yet it is nevertheless true that the large majority of mankind must continue through life "hewers of wood and drawers of water." And it is for the material betterment of the conditions of this class we are working, and shall continue to work.

"FOLLOW COPY."

The printing of the Bible is the most strictly guarded work in existence—a fact which appears strange until we reflect on the mischief an inaccurate Bible might bring about. An English writer says: The King's printers and the two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge give to the world all the Bibles printed in the United Kingdom, except some printed by special license. A few years ago the question arose whether the word "spirit" in Matthew iv, 1, and Mark i, 12, should have a capital "S," it having been previously printed with a small one, and, although the word was obviously wrongly printed, it was not

until after the ruling powers at the universities and the King's printers had met in solemn council that leave was given to use the capital letter. Nothing sanctioned by authority in 1911 may be changed without creating something akin to revolution in the places where Bibles are printed."

Editorial Notes.

And Judge Clarke was nominated by the people.

There don't seem to be much of a scramble for Legislative honors.

THE HARBINGER is the working-man's paper.

The country is beginning to appreciate the fact that John Mitchell knows his business.

The workingmen of this Congressional District have a friend in Hon. E. W. Pou, who has just been nominated by acclamation.

We note with pleasure the editorial protest of the News and Observer against the horse-play indulged in at the State Democratic Convention.

We are pleased to learn that Bro. N. B. Strickland has so far recovered from his recent fall that he has been removed to the residence of his sister, Mrs. Barney Pike, 315 South McDowell street. Mr. Strickland wishes his friends to call and see him.

We print on first page a beautiful fairy story, written by Miss Sadie Booker, of Wilmington, aged 12 years. It's a splendid juvenile production, and its little author is an accomplished and beautiful little fairy herself, and a dear little friend to the Business Manager of THE HARBINGER.

The State Firemen's Tournament was the most largely attended ever held in the State. Some ten thousand visitors were on the streets viewing the parade Wednesday morning. The grand stand on Hillsboro street was packed with people, who witnessed the races in the afternoon.

There is talk in certain quarters of removing the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor from Washington. The advocates of the movement include the officers of some of the largest international bodies in the country. The matter will, in all probability, be brought up at the New Orleans Convention.

The 11th Annual Convention of the International Longshoremen's Association was held in Chicago last week. Over 200 delegates were present. One of the most important matters brought before the convention was the inauguration of a movement looking to the bringing about of an affiliation between the American and British organizations.

A BIT OF MINERS' HISTORY.

During the latter part of the year 1898 the United Mine Workers entered into a strike for the purpose of reinstating some miners who had been discharged at Hartshorn, Indian Ter., because they had joined our organization. The strike spread to the State of Arkansas, and from Arkansas to Kansas and Missouri, where the same companies were operating. It was one of the most noted strikes in the history of the Miners' organization. More money was spent by the national organization to support it than on any other strike up to that time. While the national organization has not been furnishing financial aid to that strike

for some time, it is not yet over in some localities. That is to say that some localities have not yet recognized the union and they are still on the "Unfair List."

This strike was not notable for the number of men involved, for at no time were there more than about six or seven thousand, but for its staying qualities. Never in my experience have I seen men, women and children suffer as they did during that strike. Never have I seen coal companies go to greater lengths to avoid recognizing a just demand.

The union men and their families never knew when to give up. They were compelled to move out of their homes at the starting of hostilities.

Hundreds of them moved to the base of the mountains and lived in tents and dug-outs. I have dined with them in those places and they were always hopeful for the best. A cheering speech from a national officer seemed to make them forget their discomforts. The women as well as the men were always ready and willing to do anything the officer suggested to help make the strike a success. It has never been my experience to meet people willing to sacrifice more cheerfully for the cause of union labor than the miners and their families of the Indian Territory, Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri during the notable strike of 1898. The second year was the one I was amongst them, as I was a national board member at that time and worked amongst them, and saw what they suffered.

I have seen them without sufficient food, clothing and shelter. I have seen many of them in Federal jails serving from two to twelve months for the alleged crime of "contempt of court." In fact, the coal and railroad companies saw that the miners could not be induced to yield when they were made homeless, hungry and ragged, and appealed to the Federal courts to win the strike for them; for, notwithstanding the fact that they had imported thousands of men from all over the country to take the strikers' places, the strikers still remained firm, and the organization shipped out of the districts thousands of the imported men.

Hence the coal companies knew that the only possible way they could win the strike was to have the Federal courts win it through the injunction process. Even in this the companies were disappointed, for the strikers obeyed the injunction orders as well as was possible for them to do and live, for it is a notorious fact that the only way the miner can avoid violating the injunctions as issued during strikes is to lie down and die.

And even then their friends must violate the injunction in order to bury their remains in a "company grave yard." Many miners who never violated the laws were compelled to serve terms in the Federal jails, the writer among the rest, but as is always the case with good union men, the punishment only made the strikers more firm in the conviction that their cause was just and the acts of Judges Rodgers and Williams only made the union men more determined.

Today you can find the strikers of the Southwest located in nearly every well organized coal State in the Union and you find them as strong in the faith today as they were during the trying times of 1899. Whenever I meet a man or woman who participated in the Southwest strike against what is known as the "Big Four" coal companies, I feel like taking off my hat to the heroes of Districts 21 and 14, United Mine Workers of America.—John P. Reese, in the American Federationist.

The Summer Clearance Sale!

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PRACTICES IN ALL COURTS. SPECIAL ATTENTION TO FEDERAL COURTS.

Notice of Administration.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Mrs. Fostine Kreth, deceased, late of Wake county, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the said estate to present the same to the undersigned, at his office in Raleigh, N. C., on or before the 6th day of July, 1903, for this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. J. C. MARCOM, Administrator. July 5, 1902. (6t)