

The Harbinger.

Official Organ Central Labor Union.

A Paper for the Toiling Masses.

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DEATH OF A GOOD MAN.

The sudden death of Rev. Dr. W. C. Norman, which took place last Sunday morning in Wilmington, while in attendance on the Methodist Conference, was a great shock to this entire community, where the deceased had served as pastor, in all, twelve years, and where he practised and preached the love of God and the brotherhood of man. No person in need of food or money who applied to him were turned away empty-handed if it were in his power to supply their wants. He had the love of citizens of all denominations and political beliefs.

The death of Dr. Norman was announced from the various Raleigh pulpits last Sunday at the morning service and cast a pall over the entire city.

The remains, while en route to Durham were visited by a large number of our citizens, who paid loving tribute to them by decoration with lovely flowers. The funeral was held from Trinity church, Durham, of which he was the beloved pastor, amid an immense congregation, after which the body was taken to Lexington, N. C., for interment. The deceased left no children, but a sorrowing wife, who has the sympathy of all our people.

ARBITRATION STILL ON.

The sessions of the Arbitration Commission are being held daily, and there is no indication of an early adjournment. It seems that the operators have not had enough of the damaging evidence given before the Commission by the miners to satisfy their voracious appetites. Before the evidence is completed the public will know enough of the rascality of the coal operators to damn their pernicious methods in the eyes of the whole civilized world.

A 12-year-old boy witness stated that he picked slate at four cents an hour to pay a debt against his father, contracted eighteen months ago, the father having been killed in the mine—the debt, instead of being decreased, was increased each year, thereby entailing perpetual slavery if persisted in! No human slavery ever attained the depth of such infamy since the creation of man!

Congress, at its present session, should enact a law compelling coal operators to pension the families of miners killed while on active duty in the coal mines, when it was no fault of the miners that caused the accident which killed them. Until such a law is passed, we will continue to read in the press of miners being killed through the want of better con-

ditions prevailing in the mines. If the operators don't agree to an equitable settlement of the coal strike in the near future, the United States government will take a hand in the matter and settle it for them.

THE WORD DO MOVE.

In our editorial mention of the 10-hour system by the Aurora Cotton Mills, of Burlington, we stated that it was the first mill to adopt a 10-hour day. We were in error, and hasten to credit the Spencer Mountain Mills, of Lowell, Gaston county, with working on the 10-hour basis before it was inaugurated by the Aurora Mills. Let the good work go on.

TEN HOURS WILL DO.

MR. EDITOR: Why is it that Labor Commissioner Varner will, in his report to the Legislature, recommend an 11-hour day for operatives, when two of the mills of our State have volunteered to grant a 10-hour day? Ten hours a day is enough for anybody to work. Let the commissioner revise his hours and make it ten.

AWFUL CONDITIONS.

The Charlotte Observer makes the following observations on the coal strike inquiry:

"It would seem that the operators would serve their own interests by settling the coal strike with the operatives, independently of the commission, rather than have such testimony to go to the world as was given yesterday in the hearing at Scranton, when some of Markle's workmen were on the stand. One man testified that he had worked for the company eighteen years without getting any cash in payment—save once—wages being so low that he could not keep out of debt, and being compelled to trade at the company store, where prices were 10 to 20 per cent. higher than in other places. A 12-year-old breaker boy, who is paid four cents an hour, told that he was working to pay off a debt incurred by his father who was killed eighteen months ago. He was paid in due bills, showing what his mother owed the company, and her debt alone was growing faster than he could reduce it. This looks like a case for the child slavery emancipators to attend to."

COMPLETE TO HATTIESBURG.

The line of the Mobile, Jackson and Kansas City road is complete to Hattiesburg, Miss. It is learned that plans have been made for a survey of the road across the Northern State line of Mississippi, and it is inferred that Memphis is the probable destination, though no authoritative announcement to this effect has been made as yet. It is officially declared that the road is to be entirely independent and will not be in any way controlled by the Frisco, Illinois Central or any other system.

The new wage contract of the broom-makers in Milwaukee, Wis., has been signed by all of the seven shops in which it was presented.

The Southern Pacific Railway will probably give its engineers an increase in pay.

No man who has the good of his union at heart will refuse to take the paper which speaks in his behalf.

Editorial Notes.

Carpenters at Tuolumne, Cal., recently organized a union.

Railway clerks have organized a union at New Haven, Conn.

Ten hours a day is enough for any mill operative to work.

Read H. A. Kimball's new ad. He runs a white barber shop.

See Mr. Turner's New Toy Store announcement.

Read M. M. Smith's new ad. Second-hand books a specialty.

Read the local ad. of T. F. Brockwell about umbrella repairs.

Read the Notice of Administration, J. Marcom, administrator, d. b. n.

The evidence before the arbitration commission is damaging to the coal operators.

The weather for the past few days throughout the country has been extremely cold.

Moulders at Cleveland, O., are on strike. They demand an increase from 10 to 15 per cent.

The people of the West are suffering for coal, the prairie lands not furnishing any wood.

Don't fail the toy announcement of Mr. Turner, manager of the 3 and 10 Cent Store. His new place is next to Brestch's.

The J. D. Riggan Co.'s store is a blaze of glory with variegated colored electric lights and the store looks like fairyland.

A movement is on foot to bring the Brotherhoods of Engineers, Conductors, Firemen and Trainmen into closer working relationship.

The labor men elected two representatives to Congress from California and one from Rhode Island, besides helping to elect a Democratic Governor and Lieutenant Governor, who were favorable to labor, from the latter State.

Why don't organized labor in Alabama run a full State ticket and sweep out of office men who hire out convicts to mine operators to compete against honest labor?

The country members-elect to the Legislature which meets here next month needs teaching in regard to the needs of organized labor, so they can vote intelligently on labor questions, and THE HARBINGER will undertake the job.

Now is the time for our merchants who are not represented in THE HARBINGER to place an ad. in its columns as the people are looking for holiday goods. We reach the masses and the classes.

Owing to the demand for advertising and in order to give our subscribers more reading matter, THE HARBINGER this week appears in a six-column folio, instead of five, as heretofore.

Mr. Sherwood Higgs has a beautiful Christmas arch in front of his store, with streamers entwined with evergreen and interspersed vari-colored electric lights, which presents a beautiful appearance.

MANY THOUSANDS BENEFITED.

Following close upon the great victory of the coal miners comes the announcement of the advance of 10 per cent. in the wages of the employes of the Pennsylvania railroad. This was immediately followed by a like action on the part of the New York Central road, and will be duplicated by practically every one of the main roads in the country. In round figures the incomes of 630,000 men will be increased annually by from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

Union Pacific has announced an increase of the pay of its switchmen to the level of the schedule recently fixed in Chicago. This increase amounts practically to a 10 per cent. rise in wages that will affect about 90 per cent. of the employes.

The Southern Pacific road, which is controlled by the Union Pacific, has signed a new agreement by which all of the telegraphers, train dispatchers and agents on its entire system get a 10 per cent. increase.

A majority of the employes on all of the Gould roads will get a wage increase approximating 10 per cent. More than 150,000 men will be affected by this increase. The Gould roads which will be affected by the increase are the Missouri Pacific, Texas Pacific, Denver and Rio Grande, St. Louis and Southwestern, Rio Grande and Western, and Wabash.

The Philadelphia & Reading road, which employs 18,000 men, has announced that the wages of their employes will be adjusted so that their earnings will be equal to those made on other roads.

Samuel Spencer, president of the Southern railway, said certain classes of employes have already been given an increase, and that the wages of the others would be advanced within a short time.

Ten per cent. increases are now being considered by the officials of the "Nickel Plate," Wheeling & Lake Erie, Pittsburg & Lake Erie and Lake Shore. The latter announced a 10 per cent. increase to all switchmen employed on its line.

MITCHELL ON VIOLENCE.

Mr. Mitchell rendered a distinct service to the cause of labor when he declared in answer to an inquiry relative to the influence of violence upon the success of a strike: "I should say that its success would not be dependent upon it at all. The very conditions alleged would reduce the chances of winning the strike. In my judgment, violence never contributed to the success of a strike, because it loses for those on strike the sentiment of the public.

Mr. Mitchell is entirely right. Violence hurts the strikers infinitely more than it does the employers. In fact, the employer so well understands the influence which a display of violence exerts upon the public that they have been accused of instigating the violence themselves in order to profit by the indignation aroused. Mr. Mitchell has done much to strengthen the cause of labor, but nothing that he has said has shown a clearer discernment or a more just appreciation of the forces that move society.—Bryan's Commenter.

Boylan, Pearce & Company.

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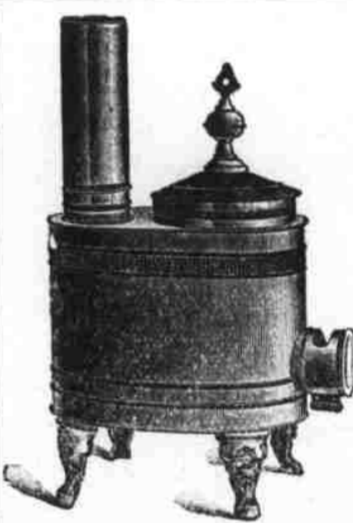
Mechanics' and Investors' Union

Has completed eight prosperous years, and will begin to mature and redeem certificates August 25, 1902, and every month thereafter by the payment per share of One Hundred Dollars Cash.

We Can Aid You to Save and Invest Money—We Can Aid You to Build and Own a Home.

Our monthly Payment Investment Certificates of \$400.00 requires the payment of only TEN CENTS per day for one hundred months, when the owner will receive \$400 cash. Our Full Paid Coupon Certificates \$100 are sold for \$90 cash and pay six per cent. per annum free of tax. All certificates are secured by real estate mortgage.

GEORGE ALLEN, Secretary,  
PULLEN BUILDING.



Coal Bulletin

Anthracite coal is scarce and high in price.

Hagey King Heating Stoves.—We call your attention to our Patent Hagey King Heating Stove, made of the best American Russia iron and best wrought sheet steel, and lined with charcoal iron. Ornamental and suitable for bed-room or parlor. We do not hesitate to say it the best, the cheapest and safest quick heater ever offered.

Hart-Ward Hardware Co.

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RALEIGH, N. C.

THE LABOR VOTE.

The important part played by the laboring vote in many sections of the country in the election just over has not failed to impress itself upon the minds of students of politics here. The labor vote in many places indicated strongly that organized labor is beginning to use its vote as a power.

In at least three sections of the country did the labor vote, cast almost as a body, cut a most important figure. In many places it yielded an indirect influence that amounted to a great deal. In California the union labor vote overturned the Republican Congressmen and sent union labor men in their places. Representatives Kahn and Loud are both to be succeeded by union labor men who received Democratic nominations also. E. J. Livernash, a union labor candidate, succeeds Representative Kahn, while W. J. Wynn comes to Congress in place of Representative Loud. Mr. Livernash was formerly a newspaper reporter, and at the last session of Congress was here looking after Chinese exclusion legislation for the Pacific coast. The union labor vote came very near electing a Governor in California also.

A street car strike in Providence, R. I., last summer and the

results growing out of it caused the election of a Democratic member of Congress and a Democratic Governor and Lieutenant Governor in Rhode Island. The Republicans were greatly surprised that there should be a change in their representation in Congress from Rhode Island. The Democratic congressional committee had made no pretense to claiming a district in Rhode Island, and not even the most rosy Democratic prophets attempted to claim the election of a Democratic Governor in a rock-ribbed Republican State like Rhode Island. The change was brought about by the labor vote.

In the eleventh Pennsylvania district the United Mine Workers took a hand that surprised the leaders of both parties. The miners elected George Howell to Congress from that district in place of Representative Connell, the millionaire coal operator who has represented the district for years. Mr. Connell is said to have spent much money to secure re-election and had not thought that he would be defeated. The miners not only elected Mr. Howell, but elected three members of the lower house of the State Legislature, defeating Republican nominees by unexpected majorities.—Washington Star.