

pay cut—a 20 percent reduction to \$5.40 per day. The six-hour workday had been on the United Mine Workers' agenda through the 1920s and early 1930s, yet no progress on the issue was being made. Much dissent also existed about the use of electric coal cutting machines, both as a safety and a jobs-reducing issue. By 1932 the UMWA seemed incapable of achieving the demands of its miners.

Frustrated miners in the Roslyn coal fields talked openly of taking their union back. Andrew Hunter, a socialist with a sharp mind and serious approach to issues, drew the notice of his mining peers. He was the man most responsible for leading the new union movement at the Roslyn mines. Many of the miners joined the Western Miners' Union and then decided to strike.

Workers joined the new union for reasons as varied as their diverse backgrounds. Immigrant miners who could not read or write English were undoubtedly swayed by the convincing speakers calling for better pay, better working conditions, and a six-hour day. Many felt the pull of family and friends, while some joined because they felt their safety could be better protected by a local union. Still others preferred a local union because they felt it was wrong for capitalists in the East to profit from their sacrifices in the mines.

Some miners, to ensure being on the winning side, signed with both the UMWA and the WMU. With the exception of a murder, the two unions fought mostly a verbal battle of threats and insults between members and their families. The fight intensified on April 3, 1934, when some miners tried to cross the Western Miners' Union's picket lines to return to work. The state police were called in to squelch the riots and UMWA miners went back to work without a better deal. Hard feeling would exist between families of the competing unions for years to come.

The six-month saga of the new union's struggle for recognition began with hope and determination, but ended in bitter disappointment and frustration. The Western Miners' Union was

abolished and some of its leaders were barred from working in the mines—not a good position to be in during the Great Depression, with unemployment at 25 percent.

The ability of the author to weave his family's stories into the account makes this mining history highly personal. As Carlos Schwantes put it—“This is labor history as it should be done.”

Bob Weldin

Spokane, Washington

Paul A. Handverger and the Clarkdale Historical Society. *Clarkdale*. (Images of America series.) Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2014; 128 pp., numerous b&w images, paper, \$22. ISBN: 9781467131391

In recent years Arcadia Publishing has produced an “Images of America” series of paperback books containing the history and pictures of various towns or regions throughout the country. I have bought several of areas that interested me—mines, of course—and found them to be entertaining and sometimes useful for their photographic content. Some have contained historical inaccuracies, but I figure that is the price you pay for a book filled with historical pictures.

I recently purchased one of the series that is a pleasant exception to the quality of most of these books. *Clarkdale*, by Paul A Handverger and the Clarkdale Historical Society, is well organized, crammed with many historical photos of the Jerome-Clarkdale area, and full of good, accurate historical facts. Having very recently given talks on this area, I found this book to be an excellent supplemental source of information. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in the history of the Jerome and Clarkdale Arizona area.

Bill Hawes

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