

Yesterday's Labor Celebration.

Labor Day was appropriately celebrated yesterday in many states of the union, and in the main the occasion was thoroughly enjoyed by the happy toilers and by the spectators who watched the processions with their banners and other devices.

Here in Atlanta, despite the showers in the afternoon, the day was a big success, and the splendid showing made by the various trades in the labor procession was generally complimented.

Gazing downward at the long line of wage workers from our editorial sky parlor, our mind's eye ranged far beyond the busy streets below, and took in the entire continent. From the region of almost perpetual snow to the land of almost perpetual summer, and from Cape Cod to Golden Gate we saw other processions marching through countless cities and towns. It was a mighty host—this army of labor—but it was a peaceful army with millions of strong arms and loyal hearts consecrated to the cause of honest industry, liberty and law.

Here and there in those marching legions there were men who were not in touch with their fellows—unfortunates who were made restless by discontent—leaders who talked rashly—but, taken all in all, the workingmen of America never made a better showing than they made yesterday.

It was impossible to look into those honest and intelligent faces without seeing the unmistakable signs that marked the home owners, the fathers, sons, husbands and brothers of the land. Back of them in a million modest cottages was the inspiration of their lives—the sweet and peaceful tyranny of home and family.

In such an army the republic sees its rising hope. Out of the ranks of the labor parade of yesterday will leap the capitalists and rulers of the future—self-made men who will win their way by wisdom and thrift, as hundreds of our rich men and statesmen have done in every generation.

It is an insult to the bone and sinew of our country to even hint that anarchy and lawlessness have a foothold in labor's broad domain. Not one workingman in a thousand is in sympathy with the evil forces arrayed against society, law and order—not more than one in a thousand would fail to rush with his comrades in a crisis to the support of the government of his fathers.

Labor Day should be among the most popular and glorious of our holidays. It suggests the victories of peace and the achievements of honest toil. We hope to see it celebrated from year to year through all the rounds of the centuries.