

provide complimentary visual evidence. In several delightful photographs, Finn's caption points out a child or children lurking in the margins of mining landscapes who would have been easy to overlook.

The book has a few limitations that might not be immediately apparent. First, this book is only about Butte, and Finn does not connect the story of childhood there to the experiences of children in other mining camps. Readers may be left wondering whether children's lives in Butte were unique or typical of mining communities elsewhere. Second, though Finn talks about "Butte" throughout the book, she really only means a subset of the city. Her analysis concentrates almost exclusively on Butte children from neighborhoods such as East Butte, Meaderville, McQueen, and Walker-ville, which were immediately adjacent to mining activity. In a single paragraph in the final chapter she justifies her decision to exclude from her analysis children from neighborhoods elsewhere in Butte (many middle and upper class) because of their lessened proximity to mining activity. But inclusion of at least a few stories from beyond the mining neighborhoods would have likely contributed additional nuance to her discussions of class and neighborhood identity. Finally, a map of Butte would have been a very welcome contribution, given the importance Finn placed on neighborhood boundaries, school locations, and mining sites.

By focusing on the lives of children, Finn's *Mining Childhood* is able to tell a story that is ultimately about much more than "just" kids growing up in an important mining town. The history Finn shares says a great deal about the lives of everyone, not just children, in Butte.

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David R. Berman. *Politics, Labor, and the War on Big Business; The Path of Reform in Arizona, 1890-1920*. Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2012; 376 pp., 17 b&w photos, 2 maps, notes, bib., cloth, \$55. ISBN: 9781607321811

This study is a political history of Arizona during the Populist and Progressive eras, 1890 to 1920, during which time Arizona achieved statehood. It is of interest to the mining historian because of the dominant role of mining in the Arizona economy and because mining labor, with its radical tendencies, was a significant share of Arizona voters.

With a population of 123,000 in 1900, Arizona was a lightly populated yet diverse place. Mines, railroads, ranches, farms, and small-businesses made up a complex web of political and economic interests, making coalition building challenging, particularly for those interests lacking the economic wherewithal of the railroads and large copper mines. Statistically, mine and railroad workers were one of the largest voting groups but were far from unified, running the gamut from conservative trade unions to the United Mine Workers and socialists.

The possibilities of statehood and drafting a state constitution focused political energies and opened the way for a political coalition among interests seeking to counterbalance the overreaching power of mines and railroads over the territorial government. Farmers, ranchers, and other small businesses sought to shift the tax burden to larger corporations. Mine and rail workers sought various work-related reforms that they could not achieve through bargaining, and a state government that did not side with management in labor disputes.

Berman takes the story back to the territorial days of limited self-government, when governors were appointed by the president and the small underpaid legislature seemed eager to trade votes for cash. Populism took root quickly in Arizona, and appeared at times to have broad support due to

the universal appeal of free silver to miners and mine owners alike. Attempts to organize unions for mine workers shattered that veneer and established the main battle lines for the transition to statehood. Populism, however, laid the groundwork for the coalition, led by the Progressive Democrat and first state governor George P. Hunt, that ultimately seized political control of the territory and drafted the state constitution, with its animosity toward outside corporate interests.

The book concludes with mine and rail owners, apparently blindsided by the outcome of the constitutional convention, regrouping and rolling back some of the anti-corporate measures produced by the first state legislature. Arizona's many peculiar constitutional arrangements remain, however, as legacies of this political struggle. As an Arizona voter, the author of this review gets to vote periodically on whether to retain state

judges. This provision was in response to the actions of territorial judges who issued injunctions against striking unions. I also have the privilege of voting every four years for the State Mine Inspector—who has a staff of three and a tiny budget to match—a practice reflecting a lack of trust in state governors making appointments favorable to mine labor.

This is an academic book, not a quick breezy read. The complexity of politics and personalities in a thinly-populated territory and state are sometimes reduced to stereotypical class struggles, leaving me wanting to know more about who the participants were as personalities. Fortunately, Berman's extensive notes and bibliography give one plenty of places to start.

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