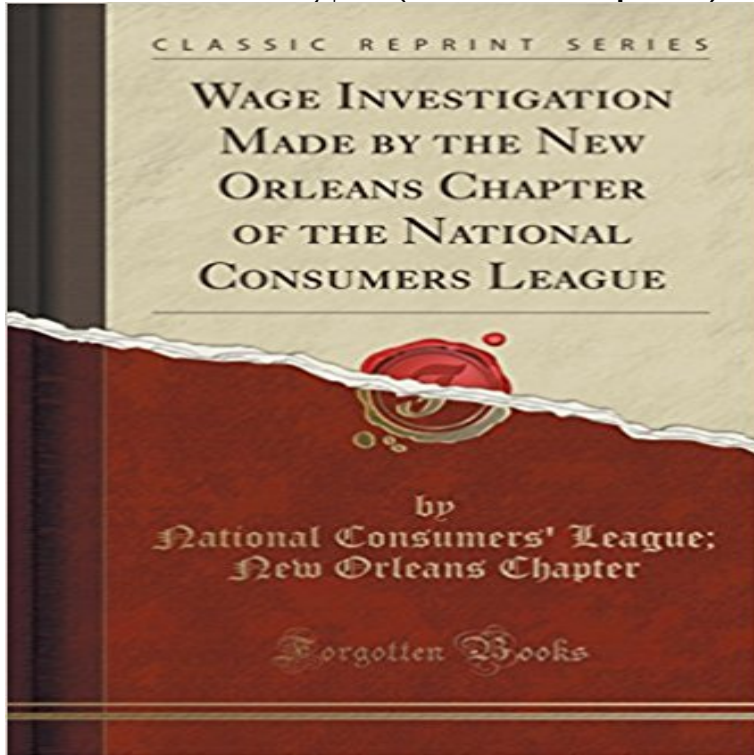


Wage Investigation Made by the New Orleans Chapter of the National Consumers League (Classic Reprint)



Excerpt from Wage Investigation Made by the New Orleans Chapter of the National Consumers League. The following report comprises the data obtained in 34 establishments employing women and children in the city of New Orleans. The total number of women and children employees found on the payrolls of these employers for the period studied was 5,365. This is a little more than one-half of all the working women and children in New Orleans, according to the report of the Factory Inspector for the year ending September 1, 1913. Had not the Lane Cotton Mills, the Alden Stocking Mills, and the American Can Company refused their cooperation, and had they furnished the information asked for, the data of this report would have approached nearer the two-thirds mark than the one-half of all employees. But the firms mentioned seem to have had reasons of their own for not disclosing to the public the wages paid to their employees, and therefore, one may surmise that the conditions of wages in these establishments is not any better, if not any worse, than in all other places of employment, and content himself with the data obtained. Not such was the attitude of the Bureau of Retail Merchants, who upon hearing of the efforts and aims of the Commission, have readily agreed and unanimously voted upon the fullest cooperation on their part. This friendly attitude is hereby acknowledged and appreciated. Nor were the merchants the only ones willing to cooperate with the Commission. Many a manufacturer has lent every possible assistance in furnishing the information desired, and above all, many ladies of the city have contributed their services to the Commission gratis, and have helped in gathering the facts as well as in tabulating the results. Chief among the volunteer workers were: Mrs. M. K. Gould, Miss Jean M. Gordon, and Miss Sue K. Gillean, all members of the Commission,

and all willing, enthusiastic and efficient workers, without whose service the data of this report could not have been gathered and tabulated in so short a time as it was. Other volunteer workers who rendered valuable service were: Miss Julie Koch, Miss Amy Hinrichs, Miss Alice Ivy, Miss Eleanore Behre, Miss Bertha Lisso, Miss Essie Lisso, Miss Georgia Gillean, Miss Innes Morris, Miss Lucille Fortier, Miss Elizabeth Woods, Miss Florence Cohn, Mrs. Emile J. O'Brien, Mrs. M. P. Powell, Mrs. Sarah Whitney, Mrs. Herman Gessner. Mention should also be made of the kind services of Mrs. Ida Porter Boyer of the Woman Suffrage Headquarters, who accommodated and facilitated the work of the volunteers for the Commission in her office at 332 Baronne Street. The sole aim of the Commission was to obtain accurate facts with regard to the wages paid to women and children in industry. There were no preconceived plans regarding the recommendation of a minimum wage for women, though some employers were rather inclined to think that this was the only purpose of the investigation. In fact, almost the reverse was true namely: the verification of the frequent statements of employers to the effect that the lower rates of wages are usually paid to minors, or inexperienced or unskilled employees. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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