

HOMEWORKER  
AND HER OUTLOOK  
BY DE VESSELITSKY

THE RATAN TATA FOUNDATION  
(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

STUDIES IN THE MINIMUM WAGE—IV

THE HOMEWORKER AND HER OUTLOOK :

A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY  
OF TAILORESSES AND BOXMAKERS

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A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF  
TAILORESSES AND BOXMAKERS

BY

V. DE VESSELITSKY

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY R. H. TAWNEY

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## PREFACE

The inquiry on which this Report is based began in May, 1913, and lasted until the autumn of 1914. During this time 877 tailoresses and 330 box-makers were visited, many of them more than once. Soon after the outbreak of the war a large number of tailoresses were revisited, and we have been constantly in touch with a small proportion of them. The tailoresses were living principally in the borough of Stepney, the boxmakers in Bethnal Green, Hackney, and parts of the adjoining districts.

The time which has elapsed since the Report was written has naturally brought many changes into the lives of our homeworkers ; some claim to have had an exceptionally good year, while others have suffered from loss of employment, and others again have ceased to work at home in order to seek better work inside the factory. The prohibition of homework in the manufacture of army clothing—relaxed at the beginning of the war, but reimposed some months later—has been a severe blow to those who, either because of their own slowness or because of their numerous impediments, have been prevented