Record Nr. UNINA9910299812703321 Autore Olsson Lars **Titolo** Women's Work and Politics in WWI America [[electronic resource]]: The Munsingwear Family of Minneapolis / / by Lars Olsson Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Palgrave Pubbl/distr/stampa Macmillan, , 2018 **ISBN** 3-319-90215-6 Edizione [1st ed. 2018.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (308 pages) 940.530820973 Disciplina Soggetti United States—History Labor—History Women World politics Historical sociology **US History** Labor History Women's Studies Political History Historical Sociology Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia 1. Introduction -- 2. The Political Economy of Minneapolis -- 3. The Nota di contenuto Northwestern Knitting Company—Makers of Munsing Wear -- 4. Divided Work—Women and Men at Work for the Company -- 5. A Non-Union Shop -- 6. "The Munsingwear Family": Industrial Welfare and Paternalism -- 7. Progressivism and Social Work for Women in Minneapolis -- 8. One People, One Language, One Nation: "The Munsingwear Family" -- 9. "The Munsingwear Family" of Minneapolis at War: Conclusions. By World War I, the Northwestern Knitting Company was the largest Sommario/riassunto workplace for gainfully employed women in Minnesota and the largest garment factory in the United States. Lars Olsson investigates the

interplay of class, gender, marital status, ethnicity, and race in the labor relations at the factory, illuminating the lives of the women who

worked there. Representing thirty nationalities, particularly Scandinavian, the women worked long hours for low pay in roles that were strictly divided along ethnic and gendered lines, while the company directors and stockholders made enormous profits off of their labor. Management developed paternal strategies to bind the workers to the company and preempt unionization, including bonus programs, minstrel shows, and a pioneering industrial welfare program. With the US entry into the war, the company was contracted to produce underwear for soldiers, and management expanded the metaphor of "the Munsingwear Family" to construct not just company loyalty, but national loyalty. This book sheds new light on women's labor in WWI and the lives of textile workers in the United States.