

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910467433603321
Autore	Prout Jerry
Titolo	Coxey's crusade for jobs : unemployment in the Gilded Age / / Jerry Prout
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Dekalb, [Illinois] : , : Northern Illinois University Press, , 2016 ©2016
ISBN	1-5017-5690-7 1-60909-197-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (152 pages :) : illustrations ;
Disciplina	331.13/797309034
Soggetti	Labor - United States - History - 19th century Unemployment - United States - History - 19th century Working class - United States - History - 19th century Unemployed - United States - History - 19th century Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- INTRODUCTION The Cause of the Unemployed -- CHAPTER ONE They Sleep on Marble Floors -- CHAPTER TWO The Good Roads Plan -- CHAPTER THREE A Millenarian Spectacle -- CHAPTER FOUR Through the Prism of the Argus-Eyed -- CHAPTER FIVE "Coxey is Coming" -- EPILOGUE The Crusade Continued -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"In the depths of a depression in 1894, a highly successful Gilded Age businessman named Jacob Coxey led a group of jobless men on a march from his hometown of Massillon, Ohio, to the steps of the nation's Capitol. Though a financial panic and the resulting widespread business failures caused millions of Americans to be without work at the time, the word unemployment was rarely used and generally misunderstood. In an era that worshipped the self-reliant individual who triumphed in a laissez-faire market, the out-of-work "tramp" was disparaged as weak or flawed, and undeserving of assistance. Private charities were unable to meet the needs of the jobless, and only a few communities experimented with public works programs. Despite these

limitations, Coxey conceived a plan to put millions back to work building a nationwide system of roads and drew attention to his idea with the march to Washington. In Coxey's Crusade for Jobs, Jerry Prout recounts Coxey's story and adds depth and context by focusing on the reporters who were embedded in the march. Their fascinating depictions of life on the road occupied the headlines and front pages of America's newspapers for more than a month, turning the spectacle into a serialized drama. These accounts humanized the idea of unemployment and helped Americans realize that in a new industrial economy, unemployment was not going away and the unemployed deserved attention. This unique study will appeal to scholars and students interested in the Gilded Age and US and labor history"--
