

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780420003321
Autore	Frager Ruth A. <1950->
Titolo	Sweatshop strife : class, ethnicity, and gender in the Jewish labour movement of Toronto 1900-1939 // Ruth A. Frager
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 1992 ©1992
ISBN	1-4426-1513-3 1-282-05658-1 9786612056581 1-4426-8031-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (331 p.)
Collana	Heritage
Disciplina	331.6/39240713541
Soggetti	Jewish labor unions - Ontario - Toronto - History Labor movement - Ontario - Toronto - History Women in the labor movement - Ontario - Toronto - History Jews - Ontario - Toronto - History History Electronic books. Juden Canada Relations interethniques Toronto Ontario Toronto
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	""CONTENTS""; ""ACKNOWLEDGMENTS""; ""ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT""; ""A NOTE ON THE USE OF YIDDISH""; ""Introduction""; ""1 A Mound of Ashes in the Golden Land: The Setting""; ""2 Pulling in One Direction: The Development of Jewish Working-Class Activism""; ""3 Uncle Moses and the Slaves: Relations between Jewish Manufacturers and Jewish Workers""; ""4 'Mixing with People on Spadina': The Tense Relations between Non-Jewish Workers and Jewish Workers""; ""5 'Better Material to Exploit': The Barriers to Women's Participation in the Labour

Movement""

""6 'Just as a Worker': The Dearth of Female-Oriented Strategies""7  
Doing Things That Men Do: Women Activists in the Needle Trades""; ""8  
Pulling Apart: Divisions over Political Ideology""; ""Conclusion"";  
""APPENDIX""; ""Part A: Statistical Information on the Jewish Population  
of Toronto""; ""Part B: Statistical Information on the Garment Workers of  
Toronto""; ""Part C: The Garment Unions in Toronto""; ""Part D: Key  
Strikes in Toronto's Needle Trades""; ""NOTES""; ""SELECT  
BIBLIOGRAPHY""; ""INDEX""; ""A""; ""B""; ""C""; ""D""; ""E""; ""F""; ""G"";  
""H""; ""I""; ""J""; ""K""; ""L""; ""M""  
""N"" ""o""; ""p""; ""r""; ""s""; ""t""; ""u""; ""v""; ""w""; ""y""; ""z""; ""picture  
credits""

---

## Sommario/riassunto

In the first half of the twentieth century, many of Toronto's immigrant Jews eked out a living in the needle-trade sweatshops of Spadina Avenue. In response to their exploitation on the shop floor, immigrant Jewish garment workers built one of the most advanced sections of the Canadian and American labour movements. Much more than a collective bargaining agency, Toronto's Jewish labour movement had a distinctly socialist orientation and grew out of a vibrant Jewish working-class culture. Ruth Frager examines the development of this unique movement, its sources of strength, and its limitations, focusing particularly on the complex interplay of class, ethnic, and gender interests and identities in the history of the movement. She examines the relationships between Jewish workers and Jewish manufacturers as well as relations between Jewish and non-Jewish workers and male and female workers in the city's clothing industry. In its prime, Toronto's Jewish labour movement struggled not only to improve hard sweatshop conditions but also to bring about a fundamental socialist transformation. It was an uphill battle. Drastic economic downturns, hard employer offensives, and state repressions all worked against unionists' workplace demands. Ethnic, gender, and ideological divisions weakened the movement and were manipulated by employers and their allies. Drawing on her knowledge of Yiddish, Frager has been able to gain access to original records that shed new light on an important chapter in Canadian ethnic, labour, and women's history.

---