## THE CITY WORKER'S WORLD IN AMERICA

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The city worker's world in America by Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch

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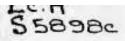
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### THE CITY WORKER'S WORLD IN AMERICA

Melinda BY

MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH Director of Greenwich House

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I DEDICATE THIS VOLUME WITH THE GREATEST ADMIRATION AND AFFEC-TION TO HER WHO, MORE FOIGNANTLY THAN ANY OTHER IN THIS GENERA-TION, HAS SOUNDED THE DEPTHS OF LIFE IN THE INDUSTRIAL CENTRES OF AMERICA

JANE ADDAMS

### PREFACE

It is by art that the life of the industrial family is best portrayed. The high lights of verse or canvas or drama give the poignant and direct testimony of experience.

This little book, alas, fails of being either art or science. But while it cannot claim these high avenues of expression, it may serve the more modest but no less useful purpose of furnishing a plain description of the facts of the city dweller's life, together with some indications of the evolutionary process going on at the city's heart.

Books have taught mc much. No doubt their messages have coloured my reflections. But experience has led me to discard much book knowledge as untrue, more as irrelevant, and most as ansemic in the face of life itself.

More than to all other experiences the rich years have bestowed, do I owe to the illumination of my fifteen years at Greenwich House. No day goes by without its quota of testimony given by our whole resident group from association with our neighbours. This body of experience, growing day by day, is larger than the individual observer could hope to grasp. And I want, therefore, gratefully to acknowledge to my associates their helpful share in the formation of such convictions as I have been able here to present. More frequent illustration would greatly have enlivened this attempt to present an introduction to the understanding of the industrial family, but this had to be sacrificed in the interest of a desirable brevity. Adequate illustration indeed would involve the story of Greenwich House itself. This I hope at some later day to tell in different guise. But without the strenuous life that I have lived under its happy ægis, I could not have ventured to offer to student and general reader this attempt at bringing together in one volume the varied aspects of the city worker's world.

### M. K. S.