

**WHERE SHALL SHE LIVE? THE  
HOMELESSNESS OF THE WOMAN  
WORKER; WRITTEN FOR THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR  
WOMEN'S LODGING-HOMES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649128747

Where shall she live? The homelessness of the woman worker; written for the National Association for Women's Lodging-homes by Mary Higgs & Edward E. Hayward

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**MARY HIGGS & EDWARD E. HAYWARD**

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# WHERE SHALL SHE LIVE ?

## THE HOMELESSNESS OF THE WOMAN WORKER

WRITTEN FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S  
LODGING-HOMES

BY

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LONDON

P. S. KING & SON

ORCHARD HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

1910



## PREFACE

THE need for this book has arisen from many inquiries addressed to the Secretaries, Northern and Southern, of the National Association for Women's Lodging-Homes,<sup>1</sup> and from the entire lack of literature on the subject. There are advantages and disadvantages in collaboration, a certain danger of repetition being a disadvantage, compensated by the advantage of two points of view. In the present case it is eminently desirable that the National need should be viewed not only from the emotional standpoint of a woman, but in the cold light of statistics, collected by one who has had

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix II.

access to that invaluable storehouse of facts, the British Institute of Social Service. Therefore the present volume is no mere outcome of sentiment, but we feel sure that its solid facts, no less than its startling revelations of national need, will ensure it a hearing from the British public.

After some consideration it was decided that the Southern Secretary, with his mass of available facts, should first solidly present his case. This has been done in Chapters I. to V., which are from his pen. The task of setting forth dangers and difficulties arising from this state of things, the case for reform, the present attempts, public or private, and the summing up, was left to the woman's pen (Chapters VI. to X.). The Appendices furnish a number of useful facts, and it is hoped that the tentative list of safe lodging-homes will shortly become greatly enlarged, both by further information, collected by women in their own towns, and also by local provision of further safe lodging-homes.

PREFACE

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We feel that the need can hardly be exaggerated, and that we are privileged to call public attention to it. If any reader feels stirred to further interest, inquiries will gladly be received by

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*May, 1910.*



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# Where Shall She Live?

## CHAPTER I

### THE WOMAN WORKER OF TO-DAY

"A nation cannot permanently remain on a level above the level of its women."—SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY.

IT has now become a mere commonplace to state that the truest test of the advance in civilisation of any people is its treatment of women. Professor Westermarck, the great authority on this question, has stated that "among the *uncivilised* races the position of women varies. Among some it is undoubtedly very bad ; among others it is extremely good, and, generally speaking, it is much better than it is commonly supposed to be."\* Whether this last statement could be substantiated as regards women in general of the *civilised* nations to-day is an open question. But it is certain that much more needs to be known of, and done for, one section at

\* Sociological Papers, 1904 : "Woman in Early Civilisation."