

BUREAU OF SOCIAL RESEARCH
55 EDDY STREET

CAROL ARONOVICI, DIRECTOR

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Nov. 11, 1910.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
Clifton Springs
New York

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I understand that the number of hours for textile workers in Rhode Island is fifty eight subject of course, to variations such as the trade might demand. In the case of women workers, we have a fiftysix hour limit but that does not prevent manufacturers from starting work at 6:30 in the morning and continuing until six o'clock at night. This is particularly true in the Olneyville section where the Atlantic Mills at the present time, employ women from a quarter to seven until six o'clock at night.

You can see therefore that our fifty-six hour limit is practically useless from the standpoint of preventing fatigue and gives the employer an opportunity to employ women for a limited number of days a week with a higher number of hours, during a longer period each day and paying practically the same wages.

It has been impossible for me to secure information regarding the Woonsocket tenements which I promised to secure for Mr. Boyden, but I am quite certain that workers in Mr. Lippitt's mills are living there at the present time since the tenements are so near the mills and the Superintendent of Health of Woonsocket has told me that it is occupied by French Canadian families.

If you have not already looked into the matter of strikes and lock-outs in the textile industries, I think it would be worth your while to do so and you will find that the textile industries have been kept in check against organizations through employment of foreigners and women.

Mr. Webb has sent you all his reports and you will find information on strikes in the report for 1907.

Yours very sincerely,

Carl A. Brown

Director.