

Colored GIRLS IN The BUREAU OF ENGRAVING

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

NOV 14 A.M.

November 12, 1918

File report on my list work at colored women's Receipts Bureau from Pinkney

Miss Mary Anderson
Assistant Director,
Woman in Industry Service
Southern Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Anderson:

Miss Peterson's report is thorough and satisfactory and it covers the ground. No further information relative to the matter has been obtained by us. There is one item in the memorandum, however, to which I should like to call your attention; namely, "Source of Complaint." The Negro Economics Service was not the source of complaint. The matter was brought to us and through us transmitted to the Woman in Industry Service for investigation.

Yours very truly,

Elizabeth Ross Haynes

ERH/EL

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

OCT 23 A.M.

October 22, 1918.

Miss Anderson,
Woman in Industry Division,
Southern Building,
15th and H Streets,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Anderson:

Your letter relative to the little story about the Negro women at the Bureau should have been answered before this.

The story is a typical example of a lack of present day point of view on the part of the writer and an indication, it seems to me, of the need of, -shall I say, educational propoganda certainly among Negro women.

Thanking you for your frank expression,
I am

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth R. Haynes.

ERH.MLC

October 8, 1918.

Mrs. George Haynes,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Haynes:

Your report on September the 12th of the colored girls in the Bureau of Engraving received. I was indeed very glad to see your report and I realized when I saw the type of girls employed in the Bureau of Engraving that they undoubtedly were giving the Government as good a service as anyone else. I note with alarm that over time work is being done in the Bureau of Engraving. I hope it is not to a very great extent. At the time when we carried on the agitation to stop the over time work in this bureau we found that the pay was so low that the girls were depending upon the over time work for a higher wage. We were able to convince them that they would not be able to get any increase in wages for the eight hours if this would continue, together with the bad effect that the overtime would have upon the workers in general if the overtime would continue. In the last appropriation by Congress we were able to get a substantial increase in wages. They are not now receiving nearly as much money as they should be. The last increase was the first increase they had received in fifteen years.

Thinking that you would be interested to know, I speak
of the case.

Very sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

September 12, 1918.

Miss Mary Anderson
Assistant Director
Woman in Industry Service
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Anderson:

Enclosed you will find a short but rather interesting story, it seems to me, gotten at the Bureau. My visit down there was very delightful and encouraging. I met some fine people there.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.)

George C. Haynes

ERH/MLC

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

EFFICIENCY PLUS SPIRIT OF SERVICE

Bureau of Engraving

In visiting the Bureau of Engraving the other day, a visitor discovered some remarkable examples of patriotism of Negro women in industry. Among them was Mrs. Anna R. Grant, a Negro expert currency examiner. She did three peoples work for more than a week during the recent currency rush. More than once she went on at 8:00 a. m., worked all day and all night, until 12:00 the next day; staid off that afternoon for rest and went on again that night. From July to September, she has been of inestimable assistance to those in charge by relieving other girls. She is to all in the Bureau, regardless of race, an example of rare efficiency and fine spirit. Mrs. Grant's husband is in France.

The Negro girls as a whole in the Bureau are very satisfactory. They complain less than the other girls. There is less insubordination among them. They are just as neat and tidy and healthy as the other girls, but as a large group they are not as well educated.