

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

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War. Report.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY SERVICE

July 24, 1918.

My dear Mr. Jones:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 19th. As you point out, the Philadelphia District has exceedingly important problems in the introduction of women into the war industries. We shall be glad to be of any possible service to you in the plans which you are developing. Officially the Women's Branch of the Ordnance Department will be represented on the Policies Board of the Women in Industry Service through its acting Director, Mrs. Tead, and this will mean that in any District like that of Philadelphia it should be possible to work out a comprehensive plan to produce the best results for all of the war industries located there. Miss Cornell will of course keep Mrs. Tead informed of all the important developments and needs in connection with your work on this subject.

I shall be very glad to talk with Mr. Dickey when he comes to Washington and I hope that you and he will call upon me at any time if you think that I can be of service.

Sincerely yours,

Mary VanKlack

Director, Women in Industry Service.

Mr. John C. Jones,  
District Chief of Ordnance,  
1710 Market Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
ORDNANCE OFFICE  
PRODUCTION DIVISION  
PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT  
1710 MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA

July 19, 1918

BF/JCJ

REFER TO:

Miss Mary Van Kleeck  
Chief of Women's Branch,  
Department of Labor,  
National War Labor Policies Board,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:

I regret exceedingly that I have had to allow so many days to elapse before acknowledging and replying to your very interesting letter dated July 13, but this office has been under a rather extraordinary pressure for some time, and consequently, I am forced to take things up in the order in which they are presented to me rather than to take them in the order in which they are received.

Your grasp of the whole situation as regards the introduction of women into the Government's War Industries Service is so clear, complete and comprehensive, with such a full knowledge of how it ought to be done to make it proper and effective, and to set that example which will unquestionable inure to the advantage of every woman who enters the service, that I feel the Government is to be complimented upon its decision to place you in the high position which you now occupy. I am delighted that you are there, for I feel that I will have your fullest cooperation in connection with my humble efforts to supplement from the ranks of women workers the labor Uncle Sam must have to support the army he has placed in the field and those millions who will have to follow.

If I have the correct gauge of the situation, this District, because of the diversity of its industries and the effects of the production undertaken by the Emergency Fleet Corporation, to say

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REFER TO:

Miss Mary Van Kleeck

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7/19/18

nothing of the large number of establishments requiring labor, skilled and unskilled, located in this district, appreciates more deeply the need for enlisting the cooperation of our women to carry on the work than does any other of the districts, and possibly, Washington itself. In consequence, feeling that we must come through with the program somehow or other, I have undertaken to start the ball in this section, hoping that by the encouragement of public sentiment and the example set, we may make the work national in scope before we get through. But in the doing of this, I am absolutely with you in respect to the principles that the women must come into the work under the right and proper auspices--as regards the same pay as men for the same amount or quality of work--as regards right living and right sanitary conditions--as regards right housing, and particularly if these involve dormitories or barracks--as regards dress, environment, instruction and all those other factors which have to do with right living and working. In other words, we must bring them into the work under the right auspices. We must start them right so that all who follow will know what they must do if they are to have the advantage of this class of labor which should only be called upon under such emergency conditions as those that are confronting us at the present time.

I believe that Mr. H. E. Miles, whom you had the opportunity of meeting the other night is going about it in the right way to interest the employers in this section who must have further industrial helpers, and it will be my pleasure, as well as my duty, to keep personal

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7/19/18

REFER TO:

Miss Mary Van Kleeck #3

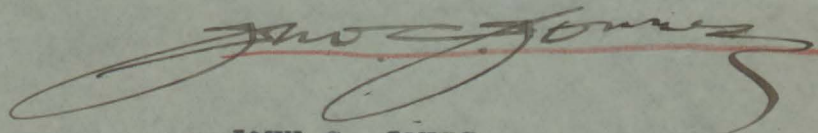
track of all that is done in order that the beginning shall be well and properly made.

Your address last Friday evening was thoroughly enjoyed by a great many people, including myself. I only wish I had your facility for organization and for expressing in such cogent and logical fashion your ideas, your program, etc. And so I again personally thank you for your very kind contribution to the success of our meeting.

Very shortly I am going to send down to Washington our Mr. Dickey to discuss with you the further developments of the general plan, so that we may get everything going right, for if we do this in this District Office, it will be comparatively easy to manifold or multiply our efforts for a correct procedure in the other district offices where eventually the same program will have to be carried out.

Thanking you for your encouraging words concerning our meeting, as you expressed them to Colonel Tripp, I am

Yours very sincerely,



JOHN C. JONES  
District Chief of Ordnance

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY SERVICE

July 24, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Tead:

I am enclosing for your information recent correspondence with Mr. Jones relating to the problems in the Philadelphia District.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Miss Van Kleeck,

Mrs. Clara M. Tead,  
Industrial Service Section,  
Women's Branch,  
Ordnance Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure -- Copy of paragraphs 3, 4, and 6 of Mr. Jones' letter of July 19th, and Miss Van Kleeck's reply to him of July 24, 1918.