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Grey House Publishing announces *Working Americans, 1880-2012 Volume I: The Working Class, Second Edition*

Grey House Publishing is proud to announce the publication of the Second Edition of *Working Americans 1880-2012 Volume I: The Working Class*. This second edition of Volume I takes another look at America's working class, bringing the story into the 21st Century.

In the 12 years since the first edition, America has gone through a number of historic events, including the 9/11 terrorist attack, the 2008 economic crisis, America's first African American President, and \$4.00/gallon gasoline. *Working Americans 1880-2012 Volume I: The Working Class, Second Edition* follows the survival of America's working class through such major events, into 2012.

This second edition includes 40 personal profiles which comprise 28 different occupations, represent 16 ethnic groups, and travel over 22 states. These pages take you:

- ◆ Into the home of thrifty Portuguese 1882 potato farmers;
- ◆ To dinner with a worried Detroit auto worker in 1930, who lived through the 1929 stock market;
- ◆ On a climb to the top of telephone lineman's pay scale at \$3,880 in 1950;
- ◆ With a Mexican immigrant to his English lessons in 1981, necessary to keep his factory job;
- ◆ Into the restaurant of a waitress whose excellent tips dried up after 9/11/01;
- ◆ On the phone with a young telemarketer in 2005 as she sells diabetic supplies;
- ◆ Next to a 50-year-old Virginian who lost her job as a box maker in 2012.

With six brand **new profiles** that cover 2000-2012, **new currency conversion charts** for all chapters that show, for example, that a comic book that cost \$0.10 in 1939 would cost about \$1.57 in 2012, and a **new comprehensive index** (that was sorely missed in the first edition) this is truly a second edition whose time has come.

In addition to personal and economic data, such as the average wages of various professions during a specific year, each profile is further enriched by a **Historical Snapshot**, listing significant cultural, political and social events of the profiled year, and actual magazine and newspaper articles of the day.

All twelve volumes of the *Working Americans* series, regardless of economic status, time period, or specific focus, offer a unique, almost uncanny, look at those Americans whose talents, desires, motivations, struggles, and values shaped – and continue to shape – this nation. Without exception, the 401 individuals profiled in the twelve volumes of this *Working Americans* series are working toward their version of the American dream.

Like its companion volumes, the second edition of *Working Americans 1880-2012 Volume I: The Working Class* is a compilation of original research (personal diaries and family histories) plus printed material (government statistics, commercial advertisements, and news features). The text, in easy-to-read bulleted format, is supported with hundreds of graphics, such as photos, advertisements, pages from printed material, letters, and documents.

Over the years, the *Working Americans* series has become a favorite supplement to school curricula around the country, used in social studies, history, economic and mathematics classrooms. All the chapters in these reference books have been carefully designed to enhance understanding of growth and development of the working class over 132 years.

From the many government survey's social worker histories, economic data, family diaries and letters, newspaper and magazine features and many, many first hand interviews, this unique reference assembles a remarkably personal and realistic look at the lives of ordinary working Americans.

Praise for earlier volumes:

“ . . . by arranging the people chronologically rather than alphabetically, users can see how industry changed over time and how ideas and inventions built upon each other. . . .an outstanding overview of the unique inventions and entrepreneurial efforts . . . This work is highly recommended for school libraries from middle school through high school as well as college libraries from community college through graduate school . It should also be found in public libraries of every size.”

American Reference Books Annual

“this volume engages and informs, contributing significantly and meaningfully to the historiography of the working class in America...a compelling and well-organized contribution for those interested in social history and the complexities of working Americans.”

Library Journal

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