



A Fair Day s Wage for a Fair Day s Work?: Sweated Labour and the Origins of Minimum Wage Legislation in Britain (Hardback)

By Blackburn Sheila

Taylor Francis Ltd, United Kingdom, 2007. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 160 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The nature of sweating and the origins of low pay legislation are of fundamental social, economic and moral importance. Although difficult to define, sweating, according to a select committee established to investigate the issue, was characterised by long hours, poor working conditions and above all by low pay. By the beginning of the twentieth century the government estimated that up to a third of the British workforce could be classed as sweated labour, and for the first time in a century began to think about introducing legislation to address the problem. Whilst historians have written much on unemployment, poverty relief and other such related social and industrial issues, relatively little work has been done on the causes, extent and character of sweated labour. That work which has been done has tended to focus on the tailoring trades in London and Leeds, and fails to give a broad overview of the phenomenon and how it developed and changed over time. In contrast, this volume adopts a broad national and long-run approach, providing a more holistic understanding of the subject. Rejecting the...

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