

Pennsylvania Woman Seeks Citrus Work

July 6th, 1906

"A middle aged energetic woman would like to make a home in Southern California if she can find something in light work which may add to her income (which is small) sufficiently to enable her to care for herself comfortably..."

July 6th 06.
 A middle aged energetic woman would like to make a home in Southern Calif. if she can find something in light work which may add to her income (which is small) sufficiently to enable her to care for herself comfortably.
 She is favorably impressed with the descriptive Riverside and Redlands orange grove locality, and wishes to know if there is opportunity, respectively, to engage in employ. ment during the fruit gathering season, at what wage price? - Will you kindly give her information, or place this letter with someone who can, and oblige - yours truly
 Montrose, Pa. Mrs. Jefferson Griffis
 Pennsylvania.



Finding Work in California



Women found opportunities in citrus packinghouses but their wages were uncertain since women only earned 2 1/2 cents for each box they packed.



Women's Daily Wages Varied

7/11/06.

July 11, 1909

"The work is light and pleasant, requiring only a clear head and nimble hand. Some of our best lady packers make from \$2.50 [today's dollars \$63.53] to as high as \$3.50 [today's dollars \$88.94] a day, the average being about \$1.75 [today's dollars \$44.47]. Beginners frequently earn no more than \$1 [today's dollars \$25.41] per day..."

Mrs. Jefferson Griffis,
 Montrose, Penna.,
 Dear Mrs. Griffis:-
 Yours of the 6th instant has just been handed me by our postmaster.
 The picking, packing and shipping of oranges commences, as you will learn by inclosed slip, the latter part of November and continues until the first of July, the active months being Dec., Jan., Feb., March and April. During these months you would have no difficulty in securing work (respectable) in most any of the packing houses. The work is light and pleasant, requiring only a clear head and a nimble hand. Some of the best lady packers make from \$2.50 to as high as \$3.50 per day, the average being about \$1.75. Beginners frequently earn no more than \$1. per day. Your letter is evidence to me that you will have no difficulty in securing respectable, light work which will add to your income sufficient to enable you to care for yourself comfortably - which is your desire.
 And you will be pleased with Redlands, its surroundings, its climate, its people and conditions generally.
 Literature under separate wrapper. I shall be pleased to give you further information.
 Very respectfully,
 Secretary.

Women in Packinghouses 1895-1909