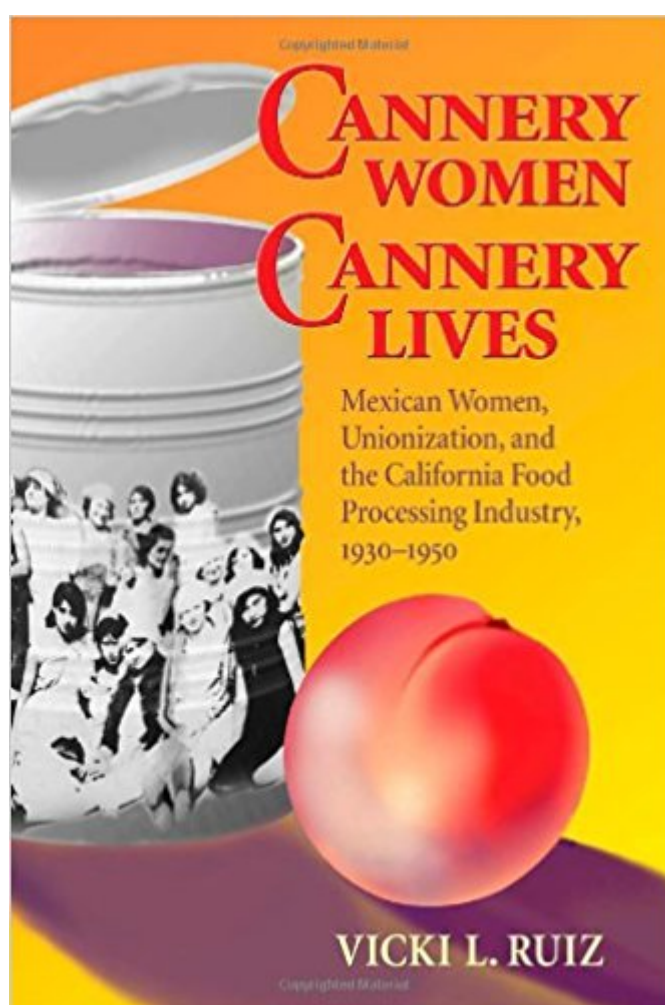


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Cannery Women, Cannery Lives: Mexican Women, Unionization, And The California Food Processing Industry, 1930-1950



Synopsis

Women have been the mainstay of the grueling, seasonal canning industry for over a century. This book is their collective biography—a history of their family and work lives, and of their union. Out of the labor militancy of the 1930s emerged the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing, and Allied Workers of America (UCAPAWA). Quickly it became the seventh largest CIO affiliate and a rare success story of women in unions. Thousands of Mexican and Mexican-American women working in canneries in southern California established effective, democratic trade union locals run by local members. These rank-and-file activists skillfully managed union affairs, including negotiating such benefits as maternity leave, company-provided day care, and paid vacations—in some cases better benefits than they enjoy today. But by 1951, UCAPAWA lay in ruins—a victim of red baiting in the McCarthy era and of brutal takeover tactics by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Cannery Women, Cannery Lives, is a welcome addition to U.S. labor history. . . . particularly useful to readers interested in women's history, labor history, or Mexican-American culture." "Cannery Women, Cannery Lives," is a welcome addition to U.S. labor history. . . . particularly useful to readers interested in women's history, labor history, or Mexican-American culture." "Cannery Women, Cannery Lives," enhances our understanding of labor politics, Mexican women's lives, and immigrant family history. It is particularly valuable because it adds complexity to our perspectives on

Mexican-origin women in the American experience. I know of no more vivid or more convincing portrait of women's work culture than in "Cannery Women, Cannery Lives". . . . first rate . . ."Cannery Women, Cannery Lives," enhances our understanding of labor politics, Mexican women's lives, and immigrant family history. It is particularly valuable because it adds complexity to our perspectives on Mexican-origin women in the American experience.

This dramatic and turbulent history of UCAPOWA is a major contribution to the new labor history in its carefully documented account of minority women controlling their union and regulating their working lives.

Great book. Thanks

I bought this book for my son who is in college. It was very valuable and useful in his studies and education.

Satisfied with the quality of the book and the package came in very quickly. Haven't read the book but I definitely needed it for class

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