

IMPACT OF INDUSTRIES ON THE LIFE AND CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE

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ABSTRACT

Industrialization promoted movement from the country to the city. Family life was disrupted in the process. Workers found themselves packed into slums and subjected to harsh labor conditions. Workers responded to new conditions, in some cases with outright resistance, but failed to slow the pace of technological change. For the middle class, women retreated from the labor force to take up duties in the domestic household. Attitudes toward children involved greater concern for education and a sense of childhood. A source of social instability was the dramatic population increase that set in after 1730, a result of improved nutrition and a lower rate of infant mortality. This paper focus on the life of the people which is affected by industrialization.

Key Word: - Industrialization, education, mortality.

INTRODUCTION

Population growth stimulated a surge in production of textiles and other goods of manufacturing industry was also growing up around the logic of mercantilism. The arguments of the political economists of the period were similar to contemporary arguments. In order to have a favorable balance of trade it is more profitable to produce and sell goods with higher capital input and technology while importing cheap raw materials and agricultural goods. The logic behind the new policy proposals was the growing conscience of domestic interests of a rising manufacturing bourgeoisie. In a manufacturing economy, productive forces like capital and labor have to be employed in a way to constantly increase the productivity in order to increase the profits. This maximizing trend needs protection against external competition and needs a labor freely

obtainable in the market. Accordingly, this transition to an industrial economy needed more people freed from traditional bonds and obligations in the feudal domains in order to decrease the cost of labor. We observe the preliminary signs of this trend in the 18th Century England [1]. The English Parliament, unlike the monarchies of Europe, became more under the control of the merchant and capitalist classes. Here we may remember the famous economist Adam Smith's 'The Wealth of Nations' proposition that, "the only legitimate goal of national government and human activity is the steady increase in the overall wealth of the nation". The key to wealth is surplus, and surplus is increased by producing more with less cost, then we arrive to the increasing drive for technological improvements and innovations. This nature of capitalism also explains the opposition of the bourgeoisie to feudal relations. During the 17th and 18th Centuries, developments and inventions

in science and technology applied increasingly to agriculture and manufactures. Advances in farming and animal breeding methods increased productivity in the supply of raw materials, like wool, for the needs of the industry.

The term “Enclosure” is used to explain the process of appropriation of former common lands (lands which provided free access and use to the peasants) by the landlords to breed sheep for their wool. Enclosures increased the number of larger and more productive and efficient capitalist farms but, reduced the peasants either to the status of farm laborers or more often displaced them from their lands. During the whole 18th century growing number of peasants were obliged to migrate to towns and contributed the increase of cheap labor reserve for the manufacturers. Urbanization accompanied the industrialization of societies, and the proportion of populations living in cities grew as societies were transformed. At

the end of the 18th century, throughout the world the overwhelming majority of all populations lived outside of cities. In Great Britain, the proportion of the population living in urban areas was 25 percent in 1831, became more than 50 percent in 1851, and had reached 77 percent by 1901[2]

INDUSTRY SHOULDERED BY CHILDREN

The term “Industrial Revolution” signifies accelerated developments of the technology and their applications to the Industry of England. Supporting an unprecedented increase in industrial production, this revolution reached its peaks, at the end of the 18th century and mid-19th century. Although by some authors the term “revolution” is considered to be exaggerated, it is true that between 1750’s and 1850’s the quality of goods produced increased enormously and machine power began to replace the human power for the first time in the history. Workshops turned

into factories, artisans to entrepreneurs and laborers to an alienated working class: the industrial proletariat. Output and distribution, passed the limits of local markets and the yields of a mass production began to be directed towards export markets.[3]

Briefly, industrial “revolution” was not a sudden incident but a transformation through time resulting with technical, economic, social, political and ideological alterations. If looked from another aspect, Industrial Revolution also would mean misery of the working people, including women and small children, laboring from early morning until night. In 1833 the English Government passed a Factory Act to improve conditions for children working in factories. Young children were working very long hours in workplaces where conditions were often terrible. The basic act was as follows:

- No child workers under 9 years of age

- Employers must have a medical or age
- Certificate for child workers
- Children between the ages of 9-13 to work no more than 9 hours a day
- Children between 13-18 to work no more than 12 hours a day
- Children are not to work at night
- Two hours schooling each day for children

Four factory inspectors appointed to enforce the law throughout the whole of the country. However, the passing of this Act did not mean that overnight the mistreatment of children stopped (Reader 1 and 2) The “Revolution” besides creating unsupportable working conditions was also the alteration of all urban and rural areas, the human and physical environment for the creation of industrial areas and workers’ ghettos. Industrial revolution also goes together with the resistance of worker in the form of machine breaking, which will be known as “Luddite Movements”, rise of working class organizations, trade unions and finally “Socialism” as an ideology and movement. New industrial

techniques mostly originating in England during the early 19th Century spread rapidly in Northwestern Europe, France and the U.S.A. and during the second half of the 19th century to Germany, Italy and Austria. Interestingly, these newly industrialized countries, particularly the U.S.A. as compared to England gained a better momentum towards the end of the century.[6]

This was due to the application of the most recent and efficient technologies without the transformation cost of outdated units. That is, countries industrializing later reached higher rates of development, while previously advanced countries due to the cost of replacing the old plants became relatively slower in the race of modernization. The key development of the Industrial Revolution was the application of machine power to replace men and animals. Favorable supplies of natural resources and the spur of population growth helped to produce the

first Industrial Revolution in Britain. Industrialization built on the commercial advantages Europe enjoyed in the world trade network and the developments of the scientific revolution. The initial inventions, such as James Watt's steam engine, that prompted the Industrial Revolution occurred in Britain. Each invention spawned new technological developments in related fields. Transportation and communication innovations allowed products, people, and information to be moved more rapidly. Improved agricultural production fed the masses of workers who moved to the cities. Industrialization involved a shift in the organization of labor and the emergence of the factory system with its specialization of tasks and greater discipline. Industrialization also led to the creation of larger firms with greater access to capital and more advanced marketing techniques. Britain's industrialization attracted imitators in

the United States, Belgium, France, and Germany. The French Revolution promoted industrialization by sweeping away laws that restricted trade.

WHY ENGLAND PIONEERED THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION?

England of the 18th century by having the following particularities had more chance in fulfilling the above conditions. Geographical situation of England was an advantage with regards to sea transport and this helped the growth of British overseas empire to expand its market. England's "feudal class" and the "gentry"(landowners without feudal titles) had favorable and competitive attitude towards economic change and capital accumulation. Some authors (for example, Max Weber, in his *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*) explain this aspect by the success of Protestant belief and ethics in England. England of the 18th century by having the following particularities had more chance in fulfilling the above

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WHY INDUSTRIES REVOLUTION

1. Sufficient and accelerated capital accumulation.
2. Availability and sufficient size of domestic and foreign market.
3. Access and control of raw materials
4. Free and cheap labor.
5. A political and institutional framework facilitating innovation.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE 19TH CENTURY

An overview of the 19th Century The idea of "progress" of the Enlightenment that continuing growth and improvement being the destiny of

human and natural life further consolidated during the 19th Century. Charles Darwin's theory of evolution (Origin of Species, 1859) was taken as the confirmation that progress was the natural direction of life, and also valid in the analysis of social evolution. Herbert Spencer (1820 –1903) an English philosopher and liberal political theorist is considered as the father of Social Darwinism, a school of thought that applied the evolutionist theory of survival of the fittest (a phrase coined by Spencer) to human societies, In economic theory liberals like David Ricardo (1772-1823) John Stuart Mill (1806-73) defended that free, unregulated competition would bring continuous economic expansion and establish the universal justice. On the other hand Socialist theories arising from the injustices and inequalities caused by the industrialization, also based their ideas on human perfectibility and progress found its

adherents among the working classes. The new class of industrial workers responded by organizing trade unions, first legalized in England in 1824. As a result of their efforts acts to reduce child labor and regulate conditions were passed 1833. From the cultural point of view, “Realism” in painting as well as literature appealed to a new mass audience with social or historical aspect of narrative. With serious religious, moral, or social messages often drawn from ordinary life, the drawings of Impressionists rejected the formalism, sentimentality in favor of a spontaneous, un-detailed rendering of the world.

CONCLUSION:-

Globally, environmental concerns often take a back seat to economics. Engines of the economy -- industrial processes, fuel for transportation, and overall growth -- drive our society. Adverse impacts to human and ecological health are evident from the declining quality of air, water and land at locations around

the world. The current situation is unsustainable, and the deadline for altering a collision course with environmental disaster is fast approaching. Reduce long-term environmental effects and accelerate cost-effective cleanup of contaminated nuclear sites. Predict the response of the Earth's climate and ecosystem to environmental stress and prevent impacts on human and ecosystem health, Promote sustainable systems that reduce our environmental footprint.

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