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19 Film Response: Industrial Revolution

In 1820 daily life was characterized by agriculture, walking or being pulled by a horse, having no running water or electricity, and time being measured in seasons. Transitioning to the time period 1920 daily life is characterized by working in transportation, mining, and factories, time is measured in minutes, and technology like radios and refrigerators are used. Spinning machines that utilized power sources like water and steam helped efficiency and helped speed up the process of producing goods; these machines were incremental improvements that were a part of the early industrial revolution. Porcelain was also an incremental improvement, which was sought out by the wealthy as it was the first dishware of its time to be heat-resistant and contain goods like tea, chocolate, and other food items of this time.

Industrial oppression affected the lower class and orphans as the manufacturers looked to keep labor costs low as the cost of producing goods was high during this time period. This created a dangerous workplace environment with accidents occurring frequently; with children being the victims of most accidents. To continue, children worked very long hours with few breaks; this often resulted in the loss of limbs, disfigurement, and in common cases death. Another group that was affected by industrial oppression were slaves, as the demand for goods increased, so did the demand for labor. As the Industrial revolution grew over time Women were

welcomed into factories, but were paid significantly less than men. With all of the new innovations that were created during this time period, a new working class of people emerged as more jobs were created. One class that emerged was the Bourgeoisie which referred to the people living in towns or cities that owned factories, banks, transportation networks, or land. The proletariat was the working class that labored for factory owners. In between these two classes was the middle class; which was composed of doctors, lawyers, and teachers. Women were discouraged from working, but many did work in factories or mines; although the wages that they made at the end of the day still went to their husbands. Classes started to recognize their identity in society and started to form groups or clubs to protect their own interests; such as sports clubs, political clubs, and reform unions.

Works Cited

“The Industrial Revolution: Crash Course European History #24.” *YouTube*, YouTube, 5

Nov. 2019, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zjK7PWmRRyg&t=1000s>.