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World Civilization

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Film & Response

A lot changed from the 1820s to the 1920s, from lifestyles to ways of thinking. For instance, the majority of people worked in agriculture, with no running water or electricity. Most people had to pull a cart to town or have a horse pull it for them in order to carry their stuff with them, as there were no cars. On top of that, to wash clothing they had to do so by hand, as there were no washing or drying machines and they also had to cook over an open fire. They thought of time in relation to solar cycles, rather than hours, days, or weeks. The Industrial Revolution changed the way people lived. In the 1920s, most people worked in shops or factories, cars existed, radios and fridges were invented, along with airplanes. One of the biggest changes was that products and such were produced out of factories rather than individual families.

Productivity increased drastically along with many revolutions in trade over this time period. The division of labor became regular, which allowed specialization to occur producing better products more efficiently. Lives were getting better and longer, which also gave people more time to invent and experiment. Many inventions were created, which revolutionized lifestyles and the economy, such as cotton textiles etc.. Lifestyles, inventions, and productivity, were transformed incredibly from the 1820s to the 1920s.

Green uses the term "industrial oppression" to describe the effect industrialization had on some people. The groups of people he talks about who experience oppression were children workers. Children and other workers lost arms, eyes, and fingers during their labor because

industry production always came first. With respect to the article we read earlier this week, industrial oppression is an accurate term to describe it because of how truly gruesome the industry work was at this time. For, children at the age of six years old would work 16 hours a day slaving away just to get beat if they fell out of line, or further disembodied from the dangerous machines they worked with. Nonetheless, many new social groups began to arise in this era. For example, the Bourgeoisie were those that owned factories, networks, or large areas of land. The Proletariats were the people that labored for factory owners, the poorer amongst the groups. In between both of these groups was the middle class, which were the doctors and lawyers that had special skills to service society as a whole. Regarding the groups of gender and their roles, at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, women who had been weaving or spinning had been switched to factories doing all sorts of work. Gender restrictions had lifted greatly and women began to work in many more industries. However, later on laws were passed that stripped women from their properties and such, which greatly discouraged women to work. Yet, many continued to work regardless of the fact that their wages were owed to their husbands. Nonetheless, the cultural norm began to form that led people to see women as the “angels of the household”. This further discouraged women to work outside the home, rather to stay at home with children doing “wifely duties”. To conclude, advancements in technologies and productivity revolutionized people’s lives and encouraged ideas from the 1820s to the 1920s.