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Film response: The industrial revolution

Radical would be the most appropriate word to explain the change between 1820 and 1920, a hundred years were necessary for everything to change. In 1820 people were more humble in every aspect, no technology at all, they were guided by what they had around them, they lived from agriculture, there was no drinking water or electricity; all this was totally opposite to 1920, a time where most people no longer needed to work in agriculture, now it was all about machines and industries, there was already the clock, cars, radios, even refrigerators and airplanes, the industrial revolution changed everything in the blink of an eye.

The industrial revolution was the result of thousands of people working to make a series of incremental improvements. Craftsmen invented small improvements to mechanical devices that already existed like the Spinning Jenny or the carding machines or the water frame, porcelain was discovered and became very famous and so many other things; it was all about incremental improvement over time.

Green talks about how the weakest and most vulnerable people were part of the industrial oppression, the reason being that it was the easiest thing to do. Since the workers did not want to risk losing people they considered good, they started experimenting with orphans without telling them what they were facing, the possible death as accidents happened very often and it was the children who suffered the consequences.

Two classes became prominent along with aristocracy and peasants in the social structure: the bourgeoisie and the proletariat. The bourgeoisie were those who lived in towns and cities or burghs, and they owned factories, banks, transportation networks, and large tracts of land for raising livestock and crops, while the proletariat were those workers that lacked tools or land to support themselves so that they would work for the factories. In between these, there was a rising professional group: doctors, lawyers, teachers, and others with special skills that served society as a whole.

In the industrial revolution, women experienced a change in their daily lives because they were given the opportunity to work in factories just like men, but these women had certain jobs especially for them because men could not do it, such as polishing knives or painting porcelain, and although they were also somehow exploited, they were no longer considered as an ornament of the house, but as workers.