

# Industrialization

**Main Idea:** The factory system changed the way people lived & worked, introducing a variety of problems.

**Why it matters now:** The difficult process of industrialization is being repeated in many less-developed countries today.

**By the 1800's more people could afford to heat their homes with coal from Wales. They wore better clothing woven on power looms in England's industrial cities. These cities soon swelled with workers.**

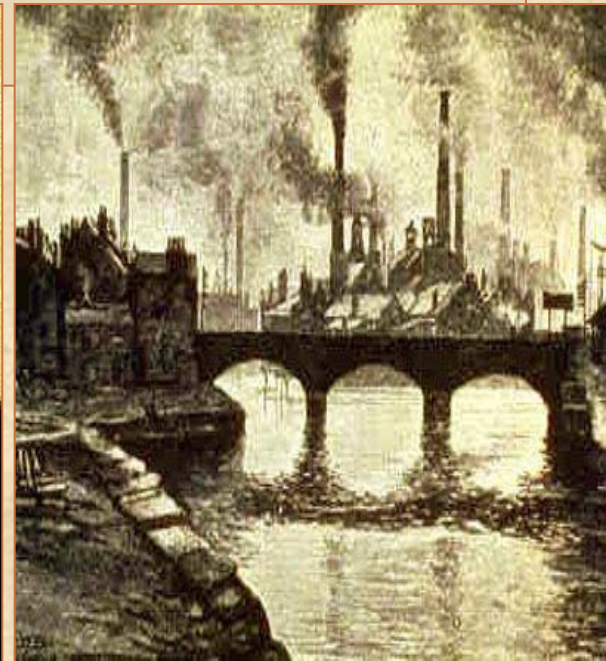
For centuries, most Europeans lived in rural areas. But after industrialization began in the 1800's people began primarily living in the cities.

The growth of factories or the factory system, brought waves of jobseekers to cities & towns.

Most of Europe's urban areas doubled in population. This period was one of URBANIZATION (city building, and the movement of people to cities). Some cities such as Glasgow & Berlin tripled or quadrupled in size.

Factories developed in clusters because they were built by sources of energy, such as rivers & coal-rich areas.

The biggest of these centers developed in England







**Britain's capital, London, was the country's most important city.**

- Contained twice as many people as Paris**
- Became Europe's largest city.**
- It had a population of 1 million by 1800**
- During the 1800's London's population exploded further, which provided a vast labor pool & market for new industry.**
- Other cities in England such as Manchester, Birmingham & Sheffield also experienced rapid population growth.**

**Birmingham & Sheffield became dominated by iron-smelting centers**

**Manchester became dominated by textile & cotton industries**

## LIVING CONDITIONS

No plans, no sanitary codes & no building codes controlled the growth of England's Cities. They lacked:

- Adequate housing
- Education
- Police protection for the people who in from the country side
- Most of the unpaved streets had no drains & collected heaps of garbage
- Workers lived in dark, dirty shelters
- Whole families crowded into one bedroom.
- Sickness was widespread-average life span showed by the British government was 17 years for working-class people & 38 years in a nearby rural area.

The sickness was generally caused by CHOLERA – a deadly disease caused by bacteria that usually occur in contaminated drinking water.



In July 1832, there was a cholera epidemic in Sheffield. The standards of sanitation were so low - virtually streams of raw sewage in the streets - that many people, forced to live in these appallingly unhygienic conditions, were bound to catch the deadly disease.

Records show that 1,347 people caught the disease and 402 died.

Most of these victims were buried in mass graves in the Cholera Gardens on Norfolk Road.

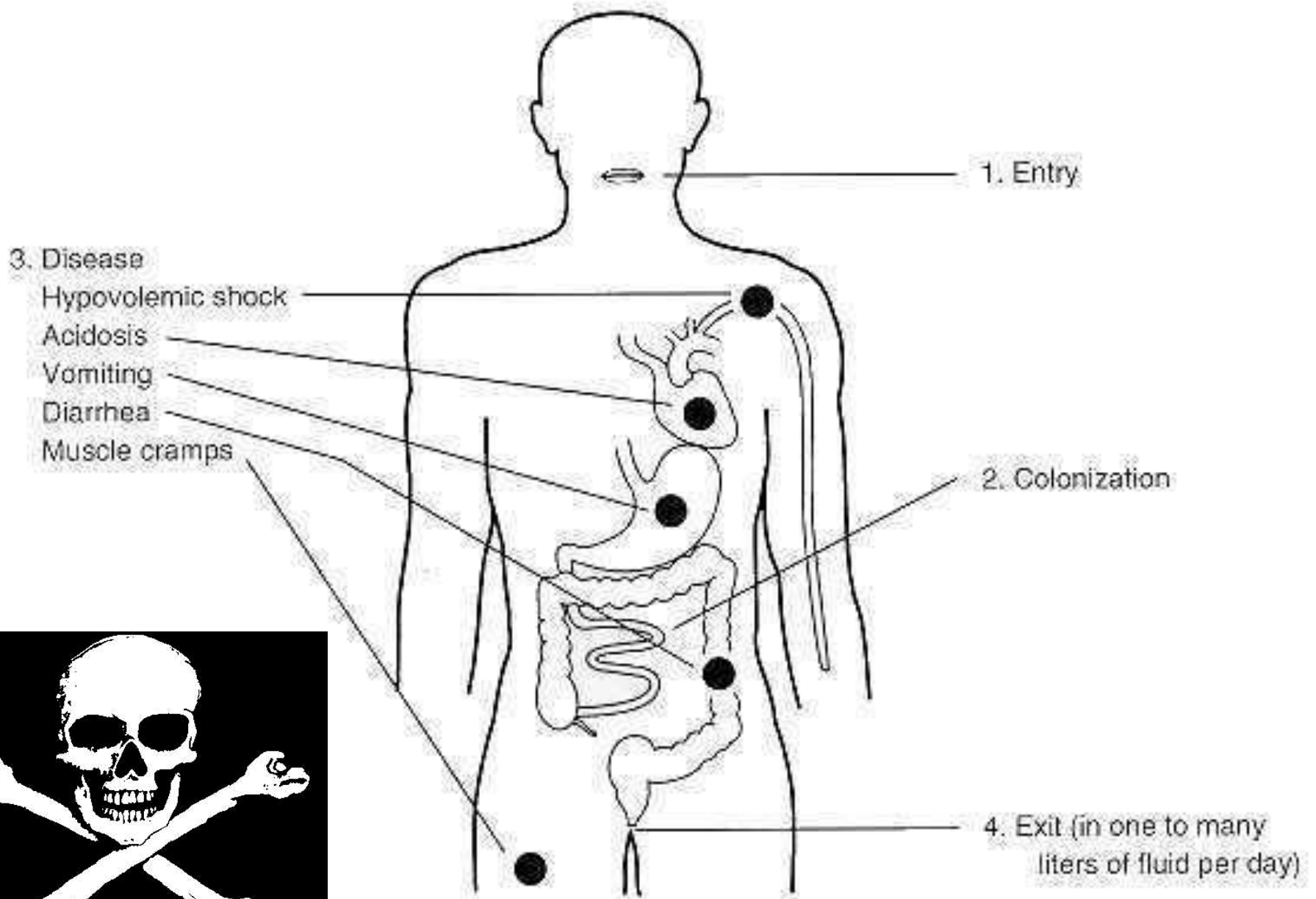
This epidemic lasted for six months from July until December 1832, but cases of cholera were common during the rest of the century.

The symptoms of cholera are like those of food poisoning: dreadful stomach pains, terrible vomiting, severe diarrhea. Without proper medical care it is frequently fatal. The victim can die of dehydration within just two days of the first symptoms appearing.



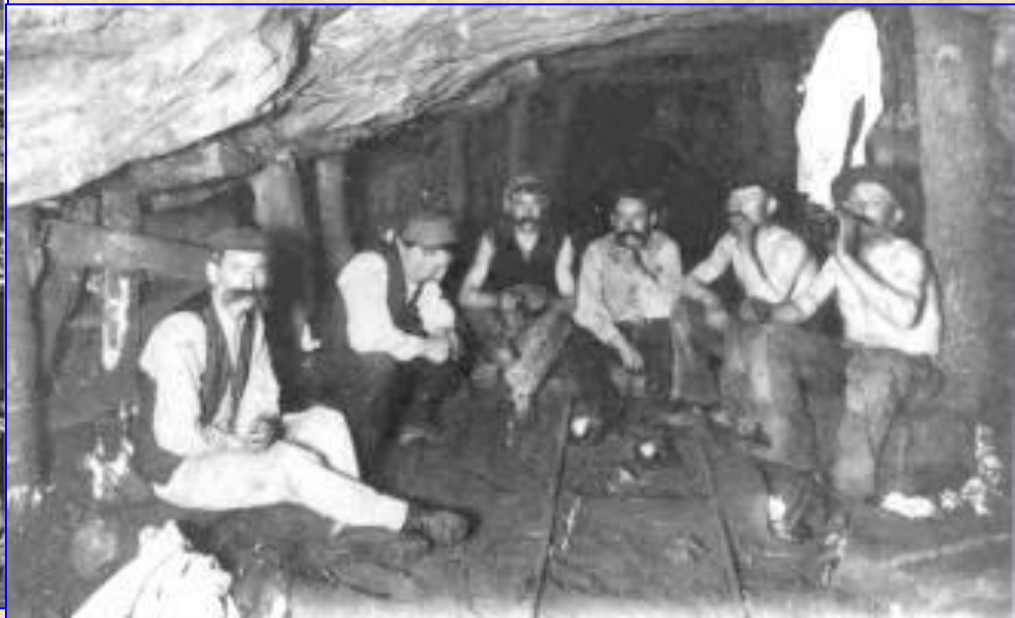






# Working Conditions

- Workers worked 14 hours a day, six days a week.
- Factories were poorly lit
- Machines would injure workers & there was no government program to provide aid in case of injury.
- Coal miners faced the worst conditions. They had frequent accidents, damp conditions & the constant breathing of coal dust.
- The average miners life span was ten years shorter than that of other workers.



**The Industrial Revolution created enormous amounts of money in the country. Most of the wealth lined the pockets of factory owners, shippers, wealthy farmers & merchants. these wealthy people made up a growing Middle Class.**



**The new middle class transformed the social structure of Britain:**

- **No longer were aristocrats & landowners occupying the top position in British society.**
- **Some factory owners, merchants & investment bankers grew wealthier than the landowners & aristocrats**
- **Two distinctions between the two wealthy classes**
  1. **Landowners looked down on those who had made their fortunes in the “vulgar” business world**
  2. **Not until the late 1800’s were the rich entrepreneurs considered the social equals of the aristocrats**

**Eventually, a larger middle-class emerged, who were neither rich nor poor. This group included:**

**Upper middle-class = Government employees, Doctors, Lawyers & Managers of factories, mines & shops.**

**Lower Middle-Class = Factory overseers, Toolmakers, Mechanical Drafters, & Printers.**

**All of which enjoyed a comfortable standard of living.**



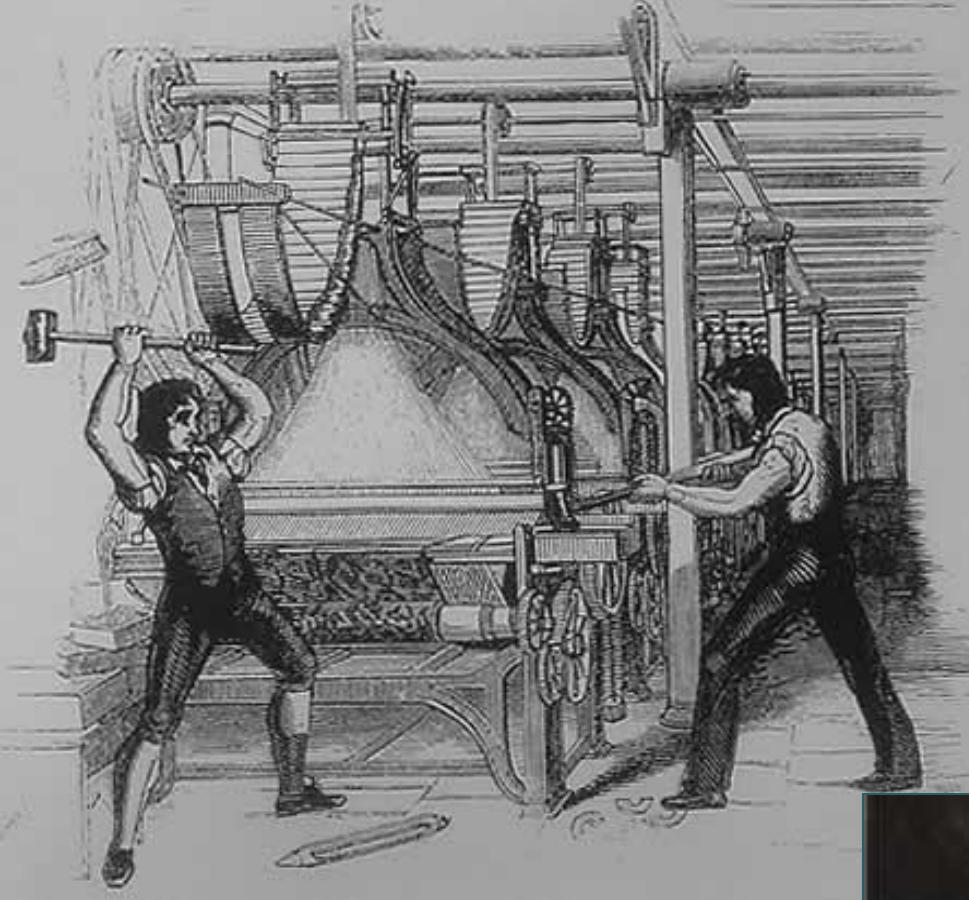
# The Luddites

During the years 1800 to 1850, frustrated workers watched their livelihoods disappear as machines replaced them.

In 1811 a group of workers formed a secret organization led by a mysterious 'King' Ned Ludd of Sherwood Forest. Whether a man named Ludd existed or not is unknown. Their targets were the wide-frame stocking machines which were causing falling wages and unemployment in the Midlands. Letters were sent to machine owners, demanding the removal of the machines.

In the first year of the riots, 1811, over a thousand machines were smashed. The movement spread from Nottinghamshire to Lancashire and Cheshire and later Yorkshire. Force was used to protect machines - soldiers fought with Luddites at William Cartwright's mill near Huddersfield, killing two rioters.

The Leeds Mercury reported that only the machines of owners who had lowered wages were broken. Discipline was strict - the groups had to be secret and free from informers. However the government liked to portray the Luddites as mindless vandals.



# THE LUDDITES



# **Positive Effects of the Industrial Revolution**

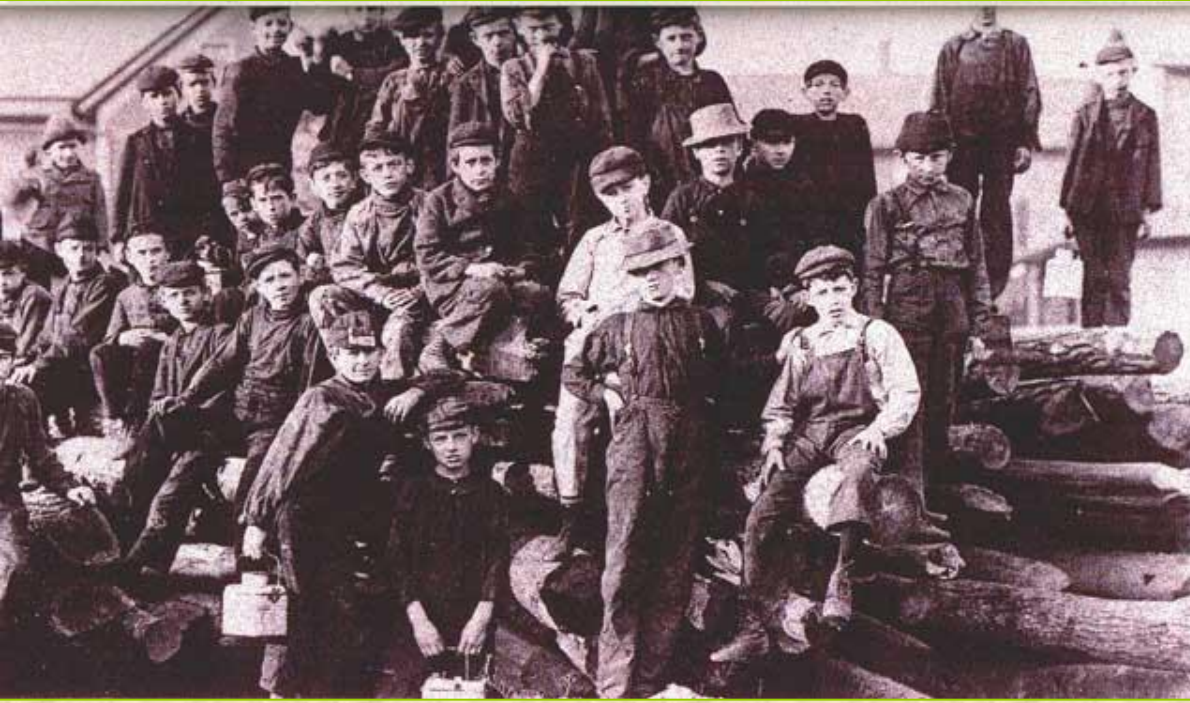
- **It created jobs for workers**
- **It contributed to the wealth of the nation**
- **It fostered technological progress & invention**
- **It greatly increased the production of goods & raised the standard of living**
- **It provided the hope of improvement in people's lives**

## **Other Benefits**

- **Healthier diets**
- **Better housing**
- **Cheaper, mass-produced clothing**
- **Created a demand for engineers, clerical & professional workers**
- **Expanded educational opportunities**
- **Middle & Upper classes prospered immediately**



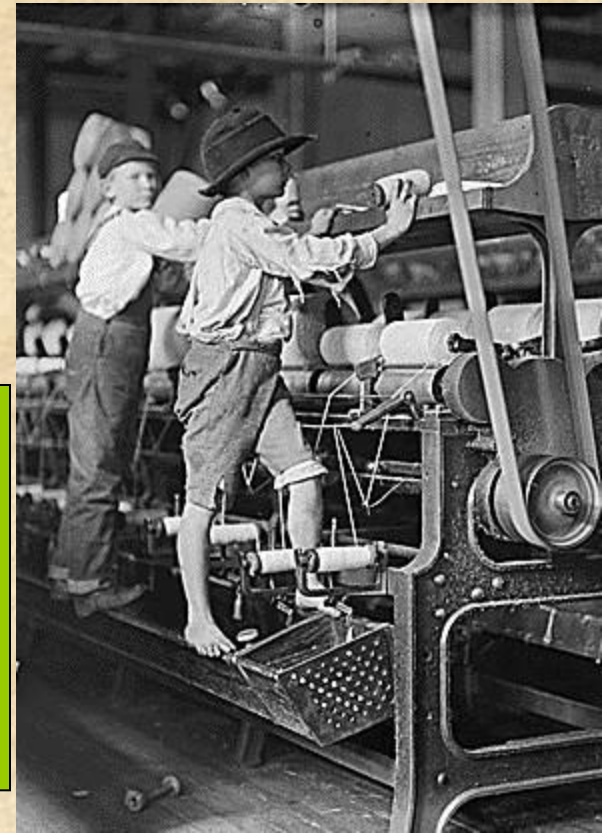
## Child labor



They had to work around dangerous machinery in which a small hand could easily be caught & injured

Adult overseers sometimes whipped exhausted children in order to keep them awake during their long, 14 hour days.

Children were expected to carry heavy loads as part of their job in the factory





# The day of a child laborer:

12 noon - The children were given a 40-minute lunch break. This was the only break they received during the whole course of the day.

6 p.m. - There was no break allowed for an evening meal. Children ate on the run. From 12:40 until 9:00 at night, the children worked without a break

9 p.m. - The day ended after an exhausting 16 hour shift at work.

5 a.m. - The workday begins. Children wake as early as 4:00 or 4:30 to get to the factory to start working by 5:00. They usually grabbed breakfast on the run.

3 p.m. - The children often became drowsy during the afternoon or evening hours. In order to keep them awake, adult overseers sometimes whipped the children.



# Child Labor Currently



In India nearly 300,000 youngsters under 13 work in bondage, or under other circumstances that approximate slavery, as they weave luxurious carpets for living rooms in the U. S. & Europe. As a chief justice of the Supreme Court of India has testified, the carpet children are often disciplined by being beaten up, branded with red hot iron rods, and even hung from trees upside down. It is the fear of such punishment that keeps children as young as six working long hours every day six or seven days a week.

“The images of children working in a gravel quarry were so shocking and so prehistoric and so unthinkable in the year 2005. It just took our breath away. The big question was how can this happen? Why does this happen? How many children are affected in this way by this kind of work and hard labor?” - *Len Morris, director and producer of Stolen Childhoods*

*(A documentary about current child labor on all 7 continents!)*