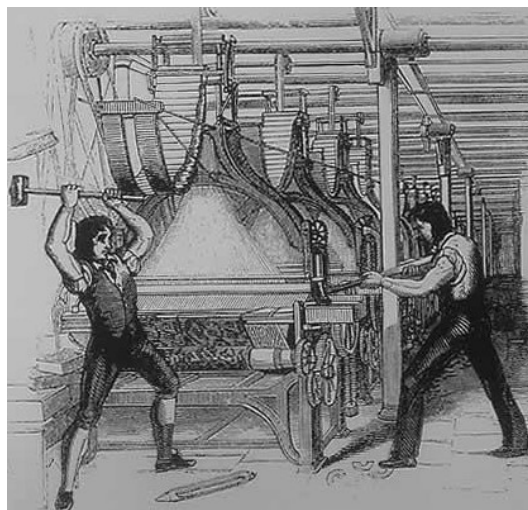


Political Responses to the Industrial Revolution

During the first half of the 19th Century the growth in population, impacts of urbanization and industrial change and the growing disparity between the rich and poor, working classes contributed to growing radical beliefs that genuine liberation required a new kind of society, beyond democracy.



Luddites- A social movement begun 1811 by textile workers in Britain who felt industrialization was denying them work and changing their way of life. They destroyed mechanized looms that only required cheap, unskilled labour.



Look on page 258. What changes did these new laws make?

Factory Acts 1833

1844

Mining Act 1842



Chartists- working class labour movement in Britain that aimed to reform Parliament - Aims: vote for every man 21 and older, no property requirements for politicians, etc

Utopian Socialists - Wanted to create a more rational and fair society.
Robert Owen- feared degradation of working classes would result in class warfare- advocated education and the union movement

Count Henri de Saint-Simon- technical innovation and social planning would make life more equitable

Anarchism- considered the state unnecessary and even harmful Pierre Joseph Proudhon



Scientific Socialism

Communist Manifesto - Karl Marx and Frederick Engels

Published in 1848, at only 23 pages it is one of the most influential writings in modern history. Published during a time of widespread economic depression and unemployment in Europe, it discusses the struggles between the proletariat (workers) and the bourgeoisie who control the means of production. This struggle, they theorized, will inevitably lead to revolution and create a new, classless society.

Its ideas set in motion the communist political system that, at its height ruled half the world's population, from China to the USSR.

