Industrial Revolution Causes and Consequences

Whereas, the labourers who were the source of wealth were deprived of the benefit of I. R. To sum up, the I. R. divided the entire population into two broad classes or groups—propertied class and non-propertied class. Or, to put it in other words, capitalist class and working class.

With the progress of industrialization the gap between these two classes began to widen. The propertied class was not prepared to allow benefits to the working class and the main reason behind this was that any attempt to alleviate poverty will undermine the discipline. If poor people get more financial benefits and concessions they would become idle, lazy and worthless.

The actual reason is any extra benefits will cut the volume of profits and the capitalists were not prepared to accept it. The net result was the division of society into two classes. Now this division of society into two classes led to class conflict because the interests of the opposing classes were opposite.

The purpose of the capitalists was to maximize the volume of profit and the objective of the workers was to earn enough wage so that they can lead a comfortable life. We conclude the-conflict between the two major classes, the product of I. R., is the chief characteristic of an industrialized society. Class struggle later on came from this class conflict.

The class conflict or the bitter relation between the two major classes created another situation. In the thirties and forties of the nineteenth century the labour trouble in the industrialized countries assumed new dimensions and this forced the capitalists to think of reorganization of public administration.

They wanted to control state administration so that they could win over the working class. They believed that a definite control over the administration would enable them to check the labour trouble.

Police, army and bureaucracy were the chief weapons by which the labour trouble could be checked and since all these were under the direct control of state administration the capitalists were determined to control administration in their favour.