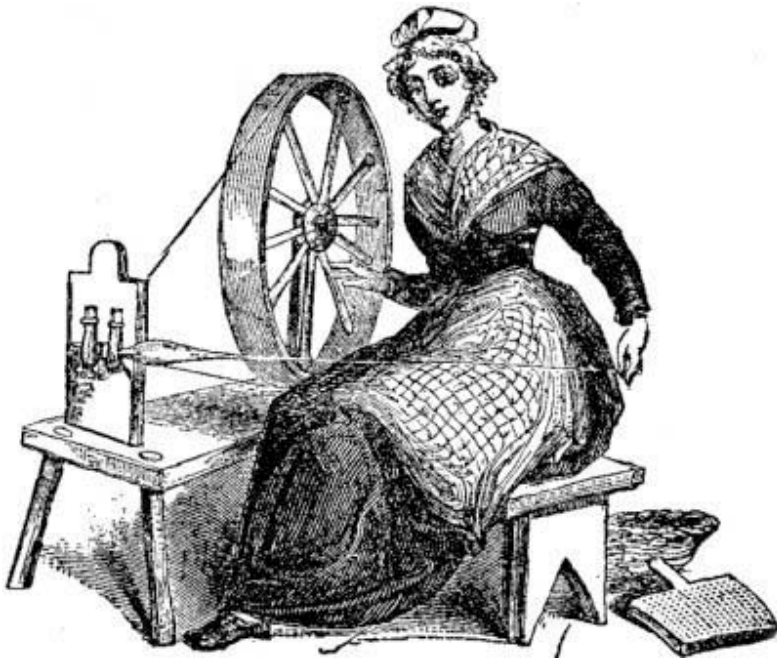


# The Industrial Revolution and the Transition to the Modern Energy System

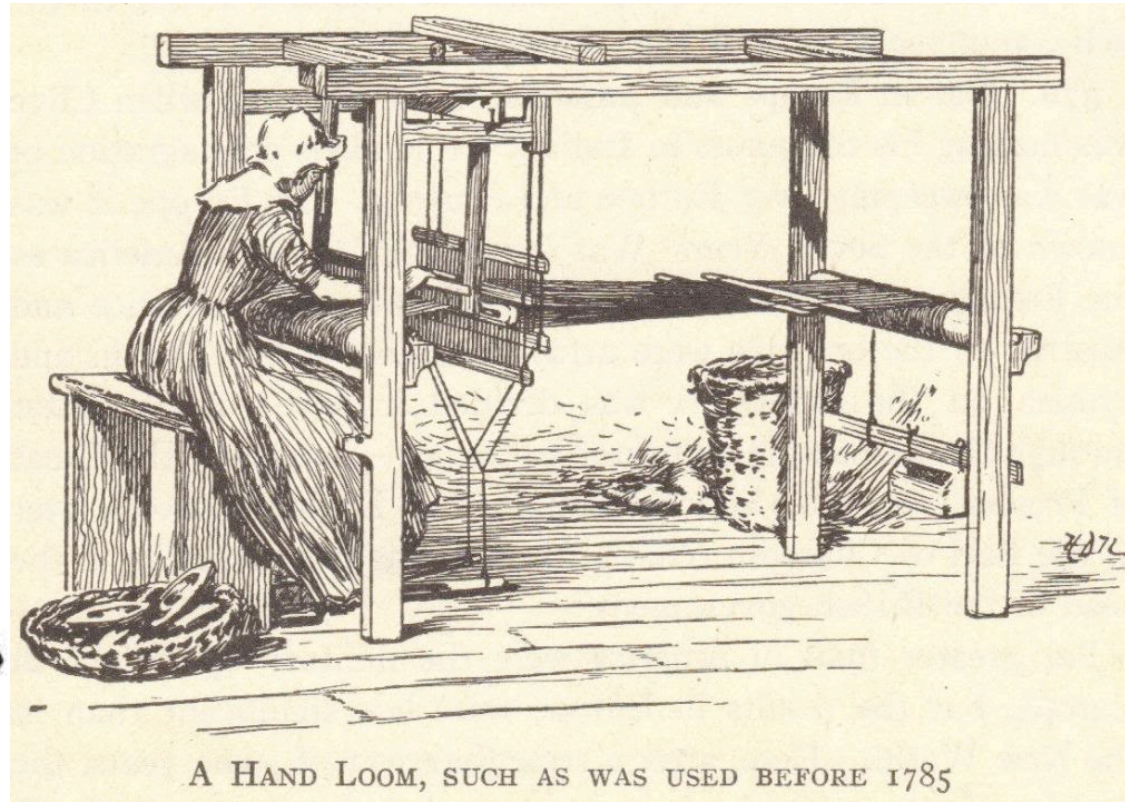
Lecture 6

GEOS 24705/ ENST 25500

Textile production in England was first sector to be mechanized  
*(after milling, that is, that had been mechanized for centuries)*



Jersey Spinning Wheel.  
From: *The Story of the Cotton Plant*, Frederick Wilkinson,  
1912, via Gutenberg.org

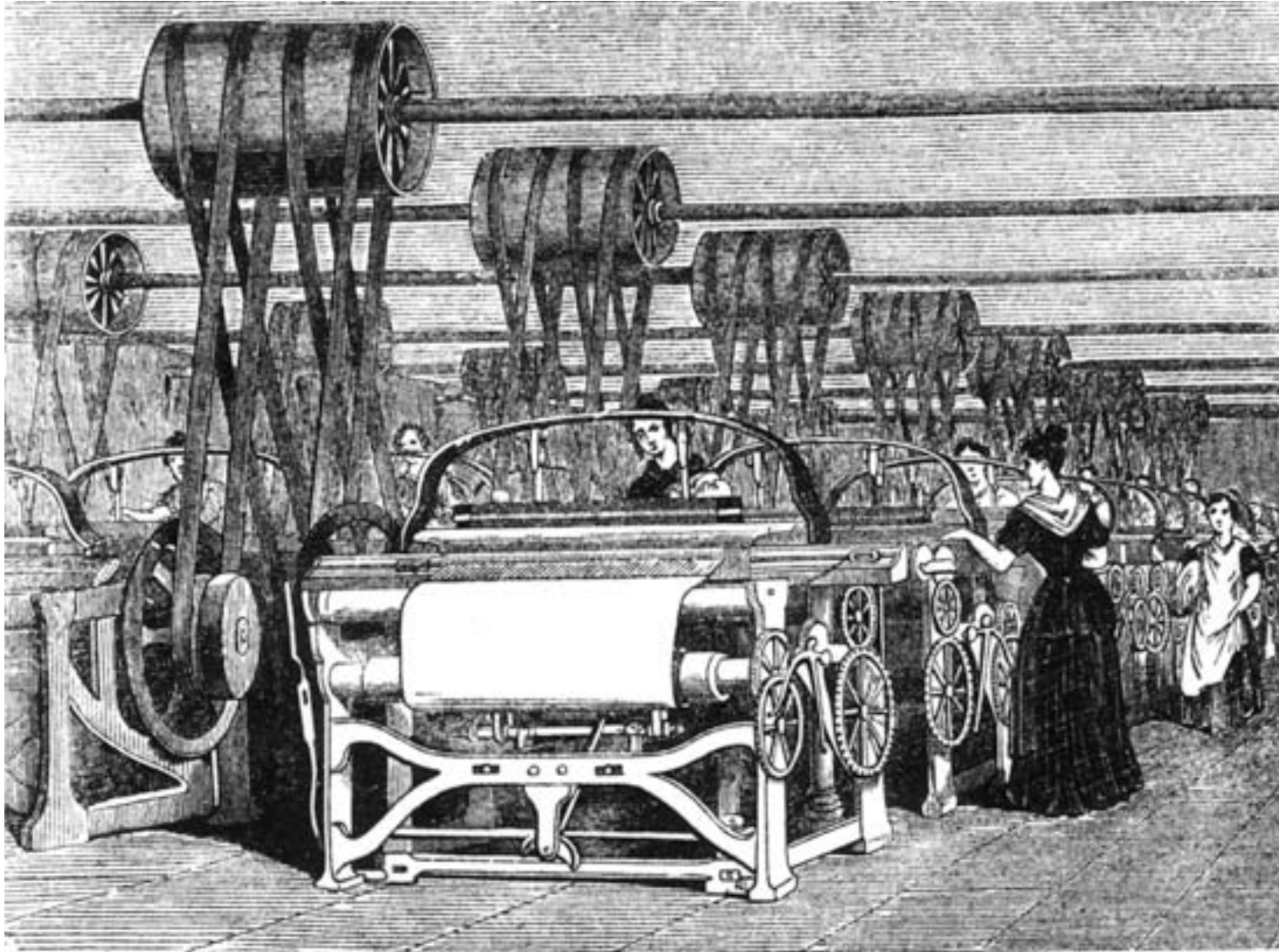


A HAND LOOM, SUCH AS WAS USED BEFORE 1785

Source: unknown

Extremely repetitive motions well suited to mechanization

# Textile production in England was first sector to be mechanized



*Spinning first:*

Spinning  
jenny, 1764

“Water  
frame” 1769

Spinning  
mule, 1779

(all before  
significant  
use of steam)

*Looms  
followed later*

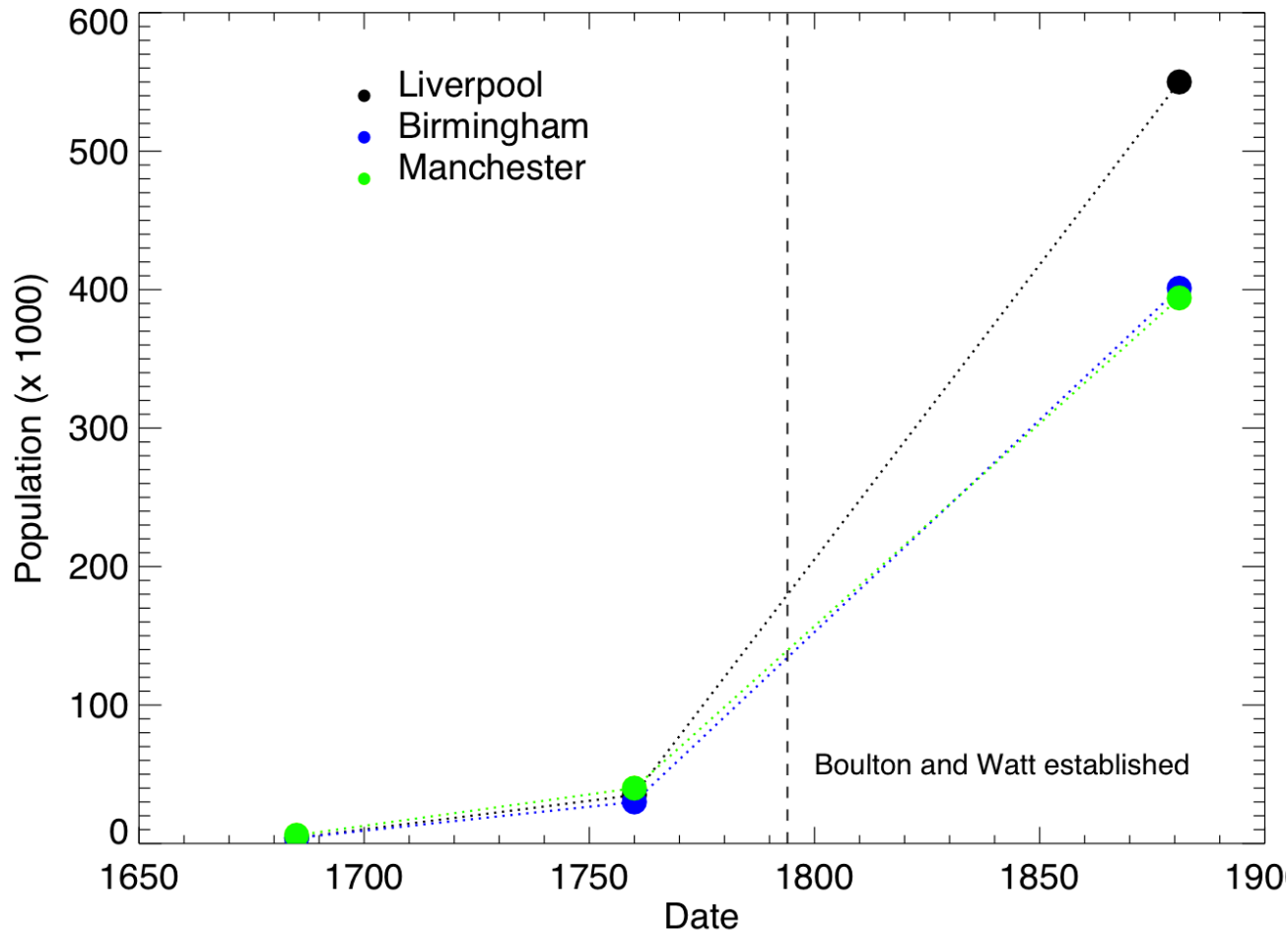
and led to major social disruption... home weaving could no longer compete, and rural livelihoods were cut off, forcing migration

*Power looms, 1844 Source: Getty Images*



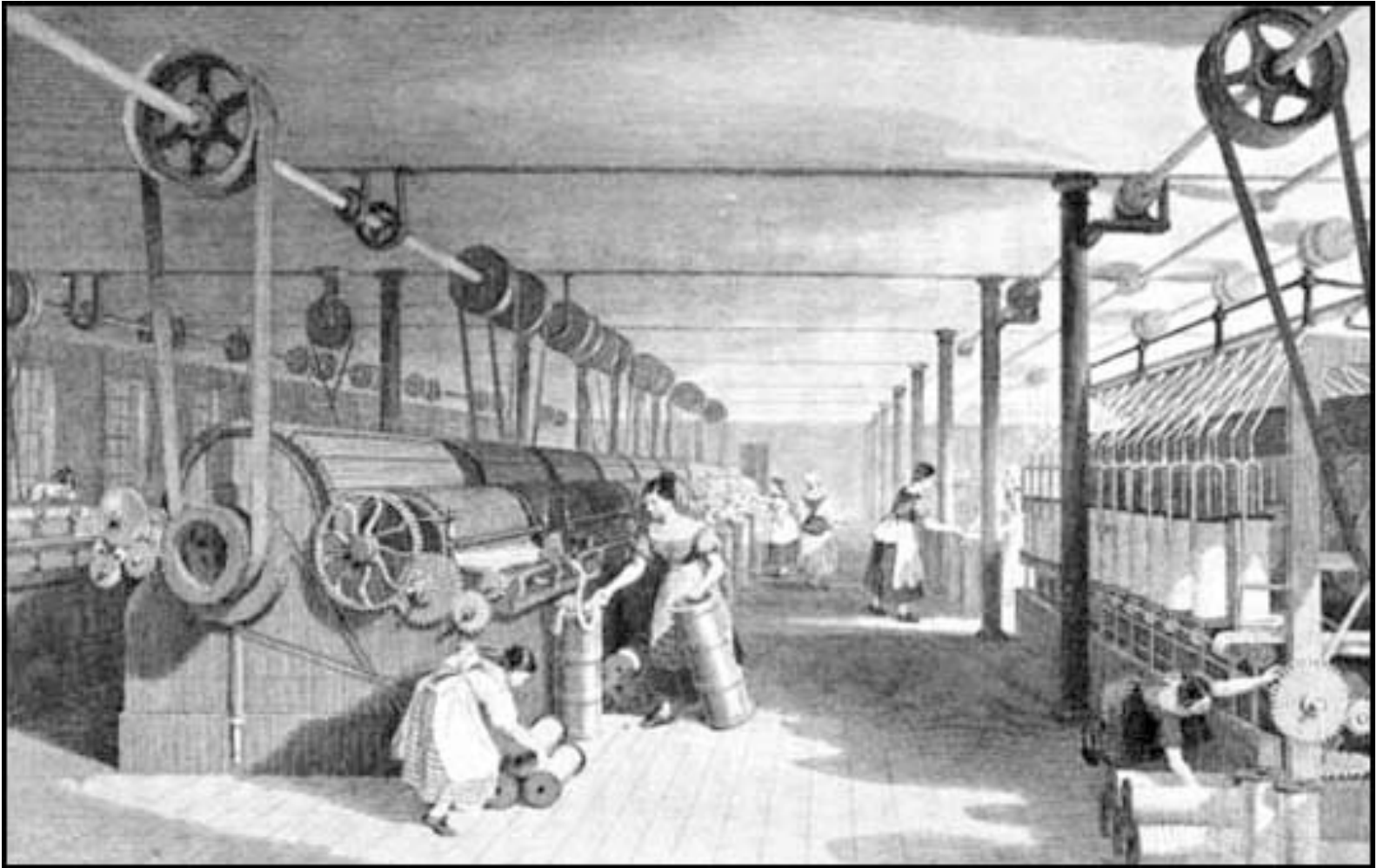
# Rapid depopulation of countryside, move to cities

*1696: 1/10<sup>th</sup> population urban / 1881: 70% urban*



Source: Data from Toynbee, "Lectures on the Industrial Revolution in England, 1884, in turn drawn from a. Macaulay's History of England c. 3. b. Defoe's Tour (1725) c. Arthur Young (1769) d. Macpherson's Annals of Commerce (1769) e. Levi's History of British Commerce

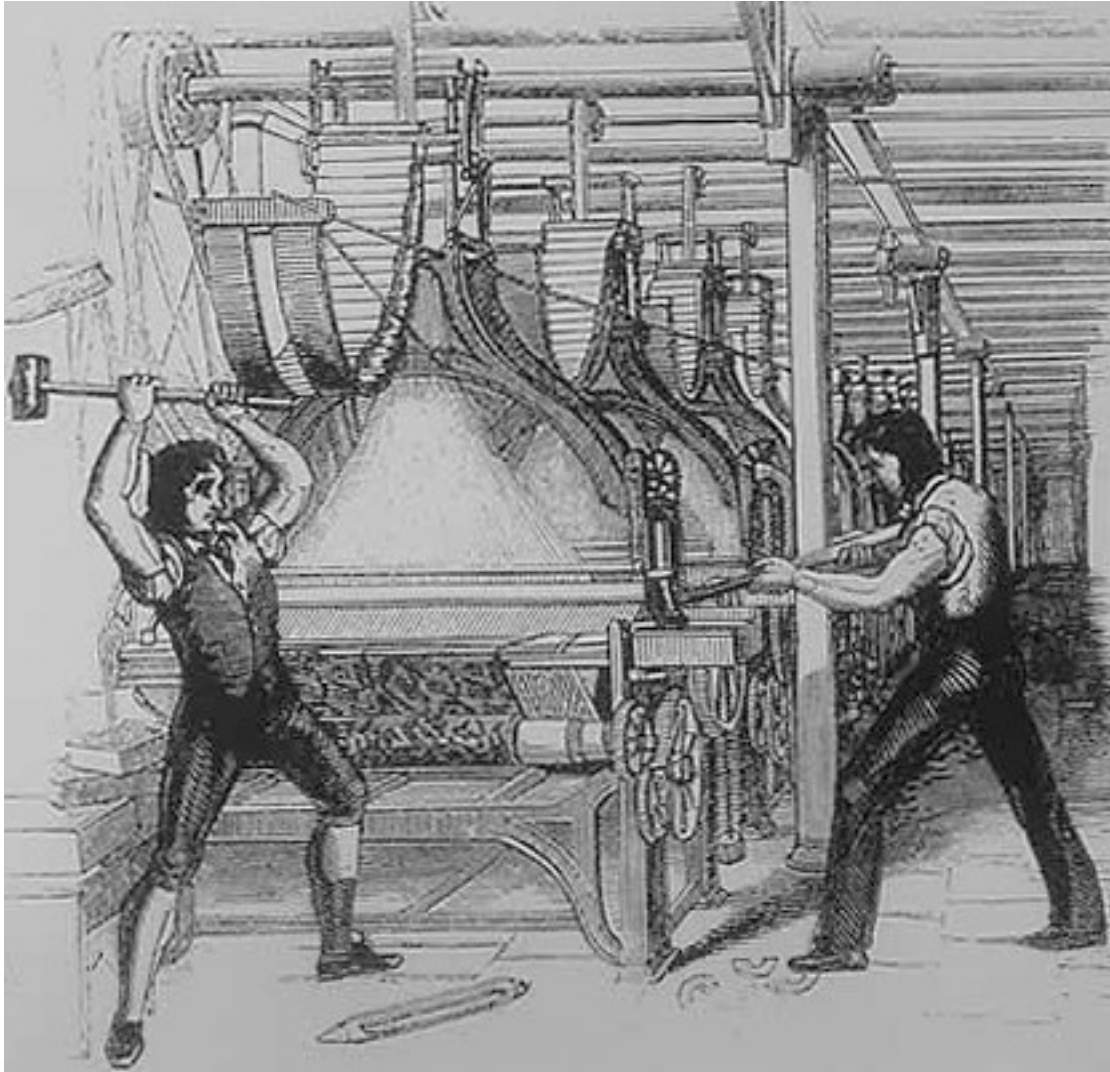
Textile production in England was first sector to be mechanized



Social disruption included pulling women out of the home (women were cheap labor, small hands were valuable in operating machinery, and strength not required)

*Looms, England, early 1800s, source unknown*

# The backlash against industrialization was strong



“Luddites” smashing a loom (“frame-breaking”), ca. 1812, *source unknown*

Machine-breaking criminalized in England as early as 1721 (penalty = transportation to colonies)

(Note from above that industrialization began under water power 50 years before steam....)

Ned Ludd breaks two knitting frames in 1779, becoming a folk hero

“Luddites” began organized acts of sabotage of industrial system, 1811-1812

Frame-Breaking Act of 1812 made frame-breaking punishable by death

Much of mill labor was performed by children

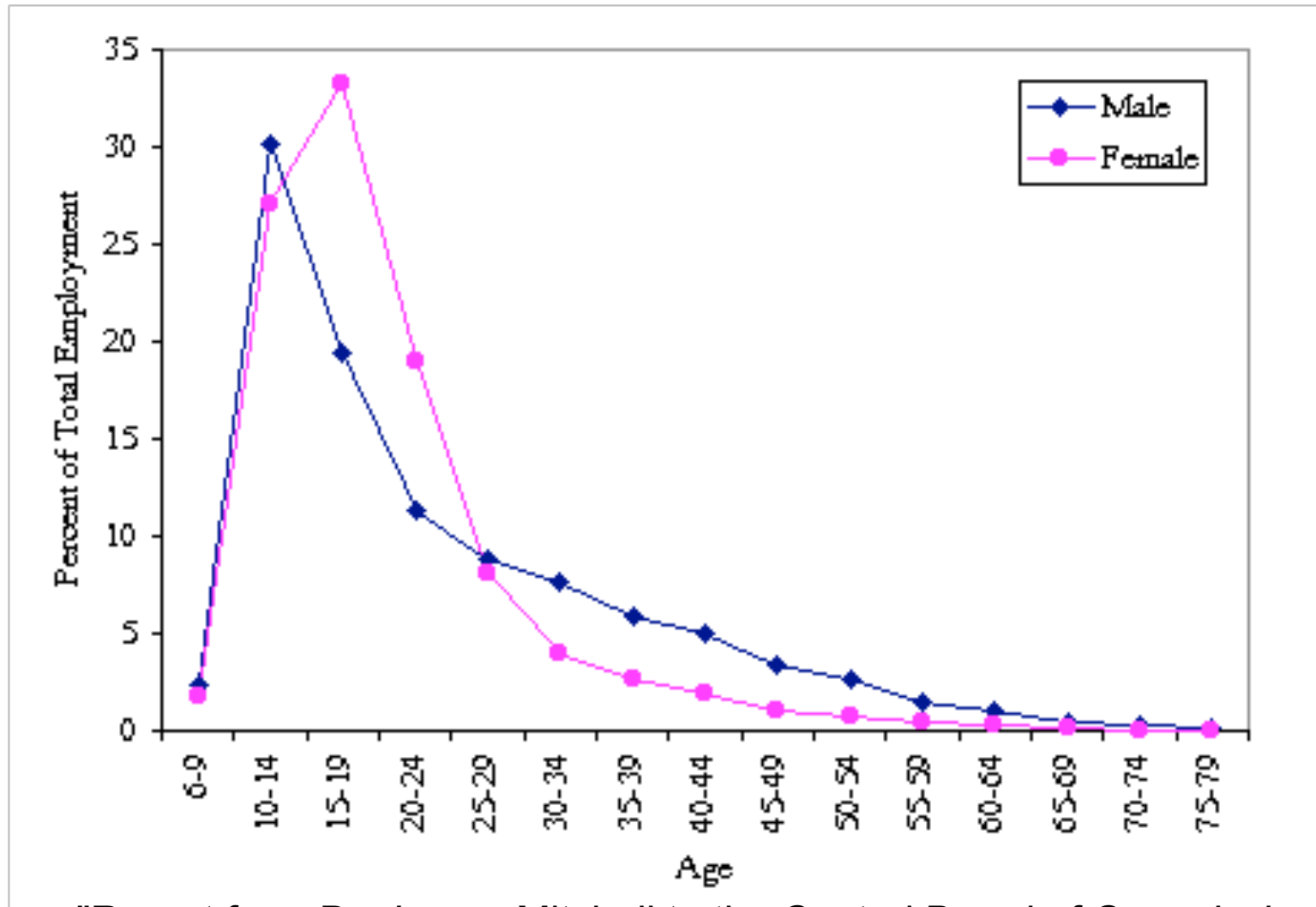


Children were sent to the mills by their parents, because of: lack of money, lack of child care, or (speculation): new urban life produced new costs and desires *(source unknown)*



Even after first child labor laws, **most** factory workers are children

*(First law: Labor in Cotton Mills Act, 1811, Britain, limits to 12 hours /day)*



Source: "Report from Dr. James Mitchell to the Central Board of Commissioners, respecting the Returns made from the Factories, and the Results obtained from them." *British Parliamentary Papers*, 1834 (167) XIX. (from Burnette, Joyce, EH.net)



In U.S., too, much of mill labor was performed by children



Lewis Hine, 1912, Addie Card, 12 years, Spinner in N. Pownal Spinning Mill



Lewis Hine, 1911, Breaker boys working in Ewen Breaker of Pennsylvania Coal Co.

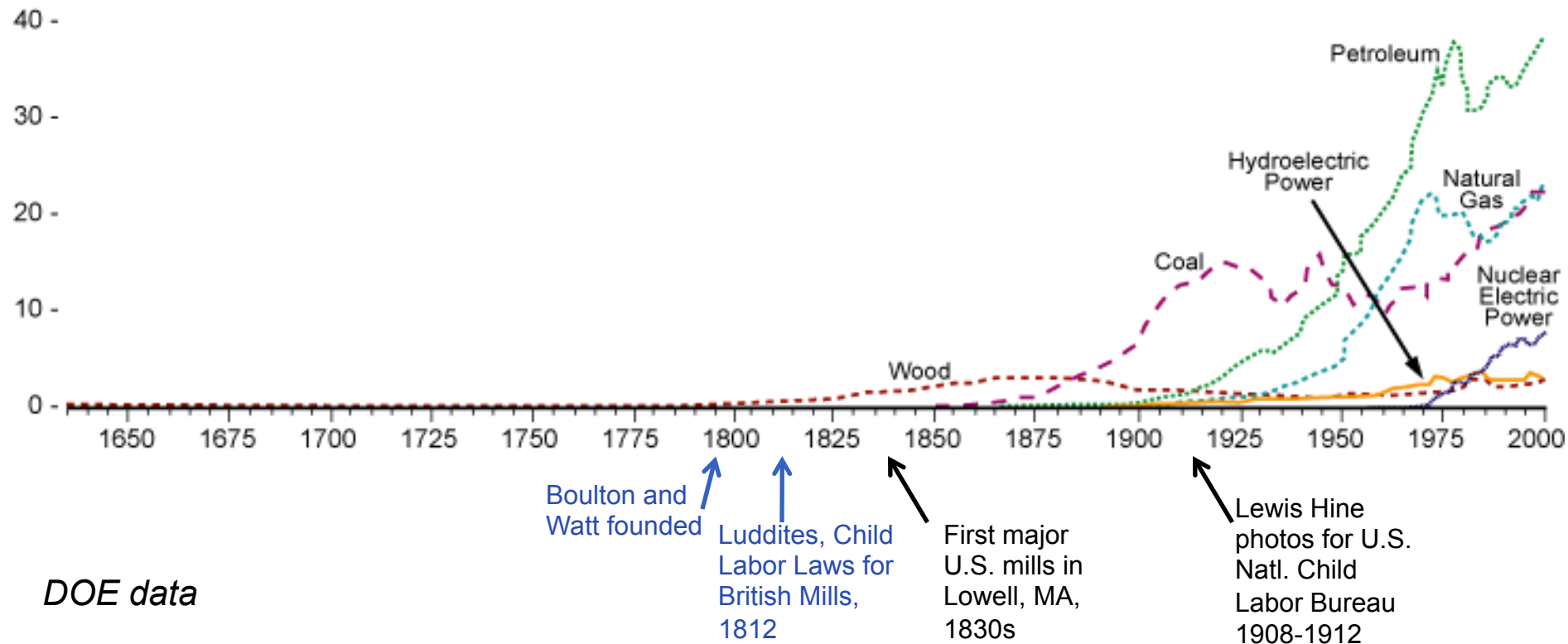
# U.S. industrialization came later than for Britain

*Why? First was colony of Britain, then independent but little internal capital, no readily available coal, technology IP owned by Britain*

*Route to industrialization = industrial espionage – Francis Cabot Lowell, 1812*

## History of Energy Consumption by Source – USA 1635-2000

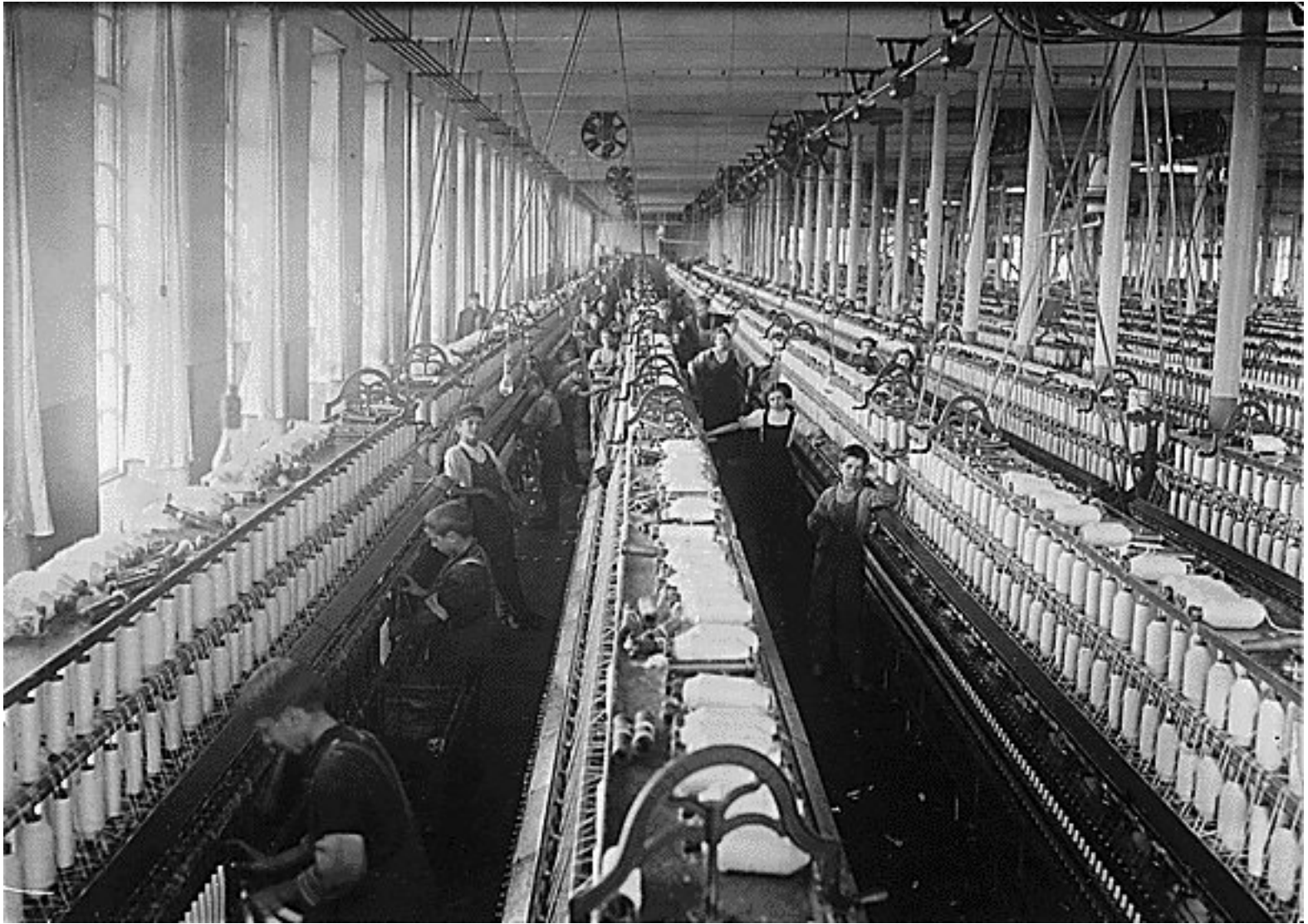
Quads BTUs



## **Several things to consider**

- 1) What does mill layout tell you about the economics of industrial production?
- 2) What trends in political and economic thought conditions occurred in mid-1800s Britain?
- 3) Why are these two things related?

## 1800s: Mills get larger

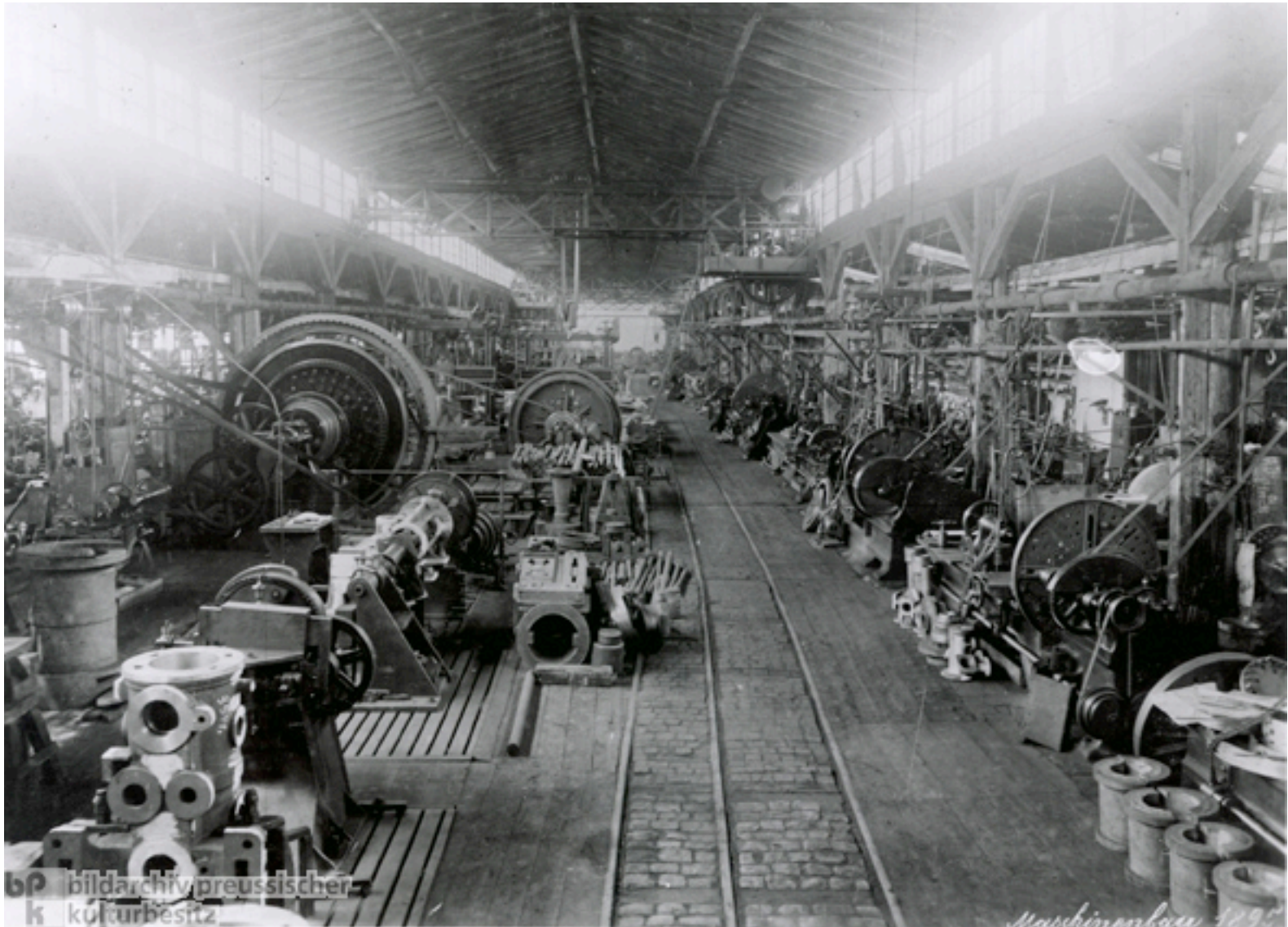


Spinning mill, likely mid-late 1800s

*(source unknown)*



## 1800s: Mechanization comes to other industries



German machine shop driven by single steam engine

(© Bildarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz)

## 1800s: Mechanization comes to other industries



Machine shop, likely late 1800s

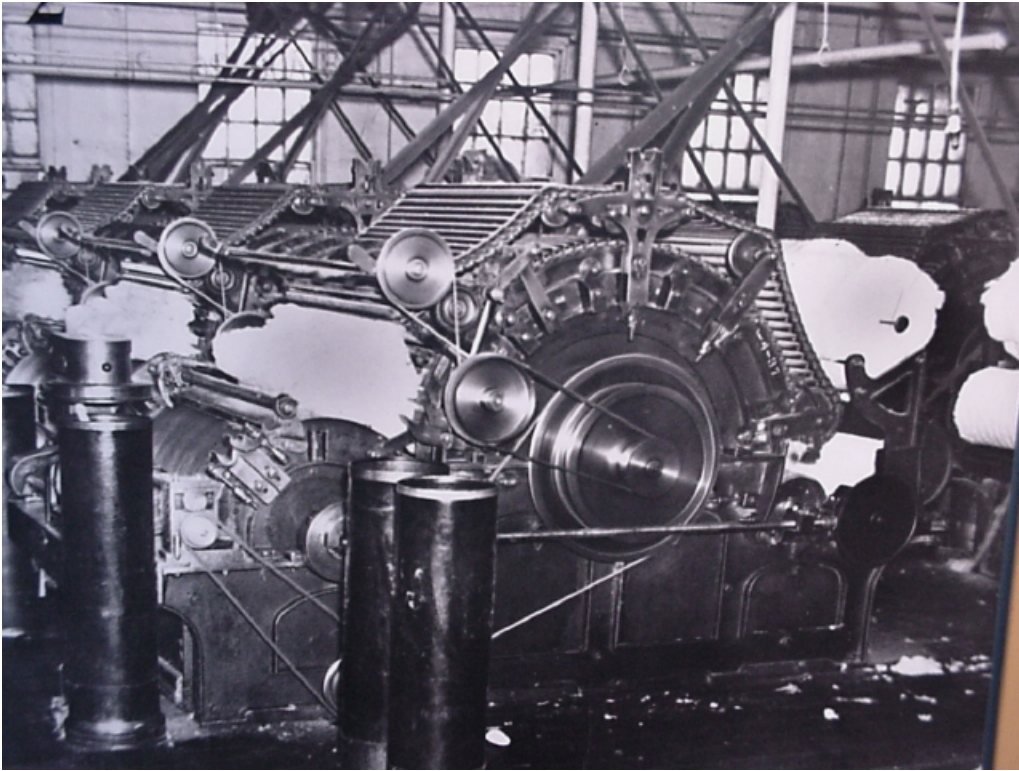
*(source unknown)*

## **Several things to consider**

1)What does mill layout tell you about the economics of industrial production?



# Belts transport rotational motion over long distances



Mills at Lowell, MA, 1850s



# Belt and chain drives in modern life

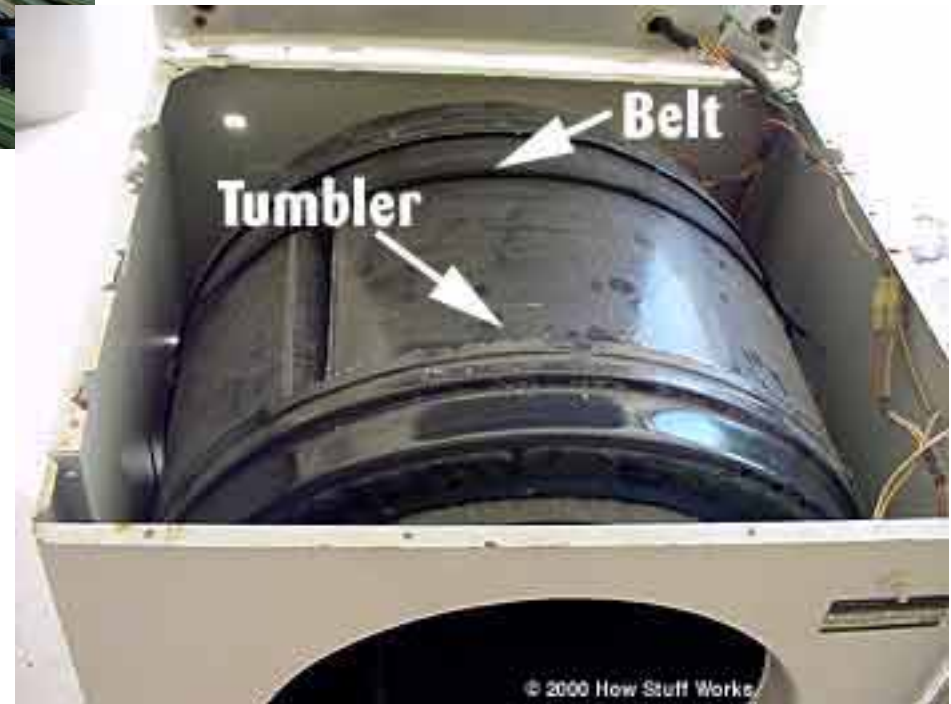


# Belt and chain drives in modern life





# Belt and chain drives in modern life





# Belt and chain drives in modern life





## **Why do we use fewer belt drives now?**

Because we don't carry kinetic energy directly anymore - we turn kinetic energy into electrical energy and transport that instead.

## **Several things to consider**

- 1) What does mill layout tell you about the economics of industrial production?
- 2) What trends in political and economic thought conditions occurred in mid-1800s Britain?

## **Several things to consider**

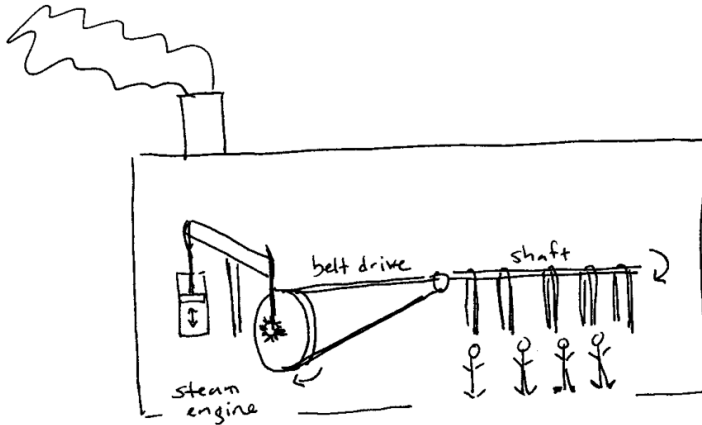
- 1) What does mill layout tell you about the economics of industrial production?
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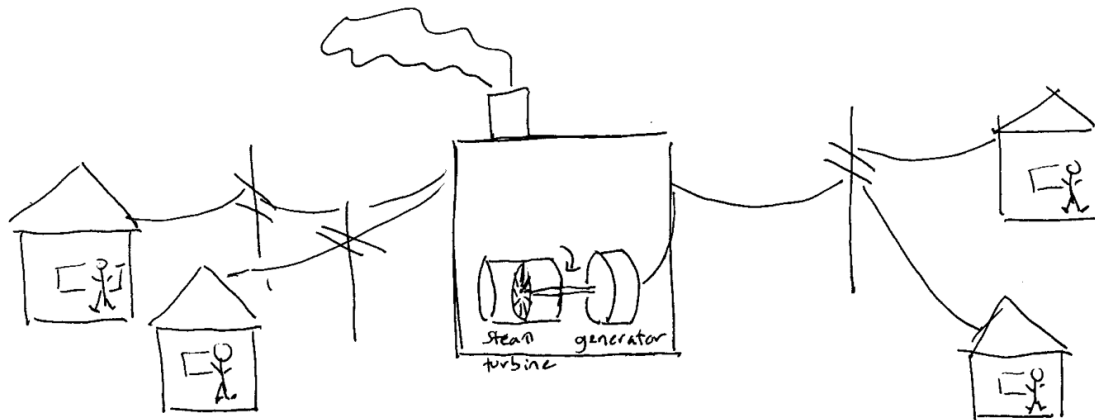
# What did the absence of electricity mean for economic organization in the 1800s?

- No hand-worker could compete with mechanization and use of industrial power. All production in factories.
- Because kinetic energy can't be carried over long distances, every factory had to have its own power source
- *Therefore:* to be a producer you had to own your own power plant
- *Therefore:* capital required to start a business was extremely high. High labor productivity only possible with big capital investment.

# Can electric motors reduce the terrible capital requirements of the 19<sup>th</sup> century?



Pre-electrification – must own power plant, all workers in one place, power = power



Post-electrification – dispersed work possible, and workers now own the means of production (if utilities are public).

*Main use of electricity is take rotational motion in one place and “move” it somewhere else*

Power to the people....

“Communism is Soviet power plus the electrification of the whole country”.

-- V. I. Lenin

*“Lenin to the 8<sup>th</sup> All-Russian Congress of Soviets”, Dec. 1920*



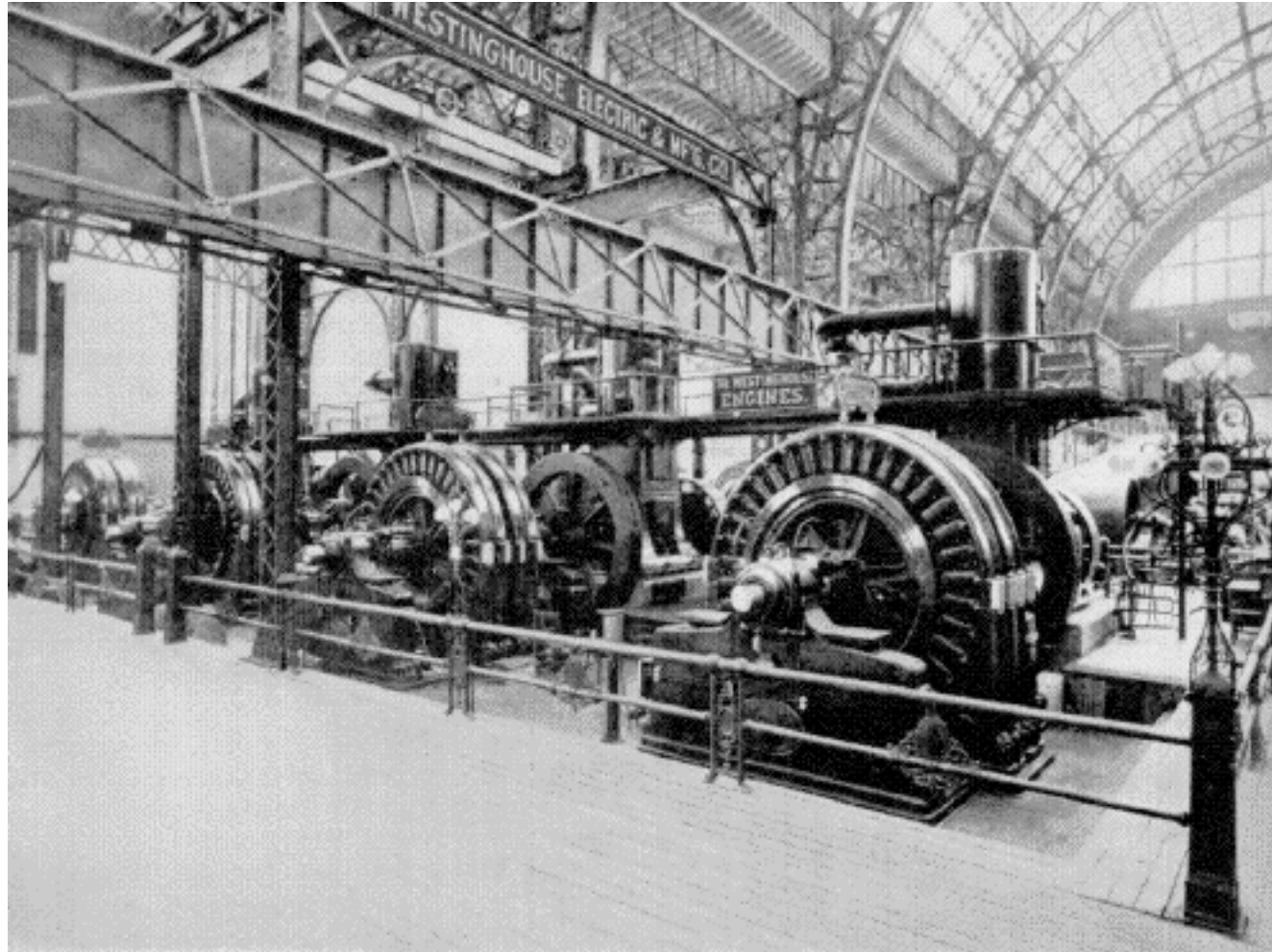
Soviet poster, 1925



# Early dynamos and generators

## Physics principles:

- 1) **Turning something**  
*(in the presence of a magnetic field) can make electricity*  
*(i.e., convert kinetic energy to electrical energy).*
- 2) **Electrical energy**  
*(given the presence of a magnetic field) can turn something*  
*(i.e. convert electric energy to kinetic energy)*

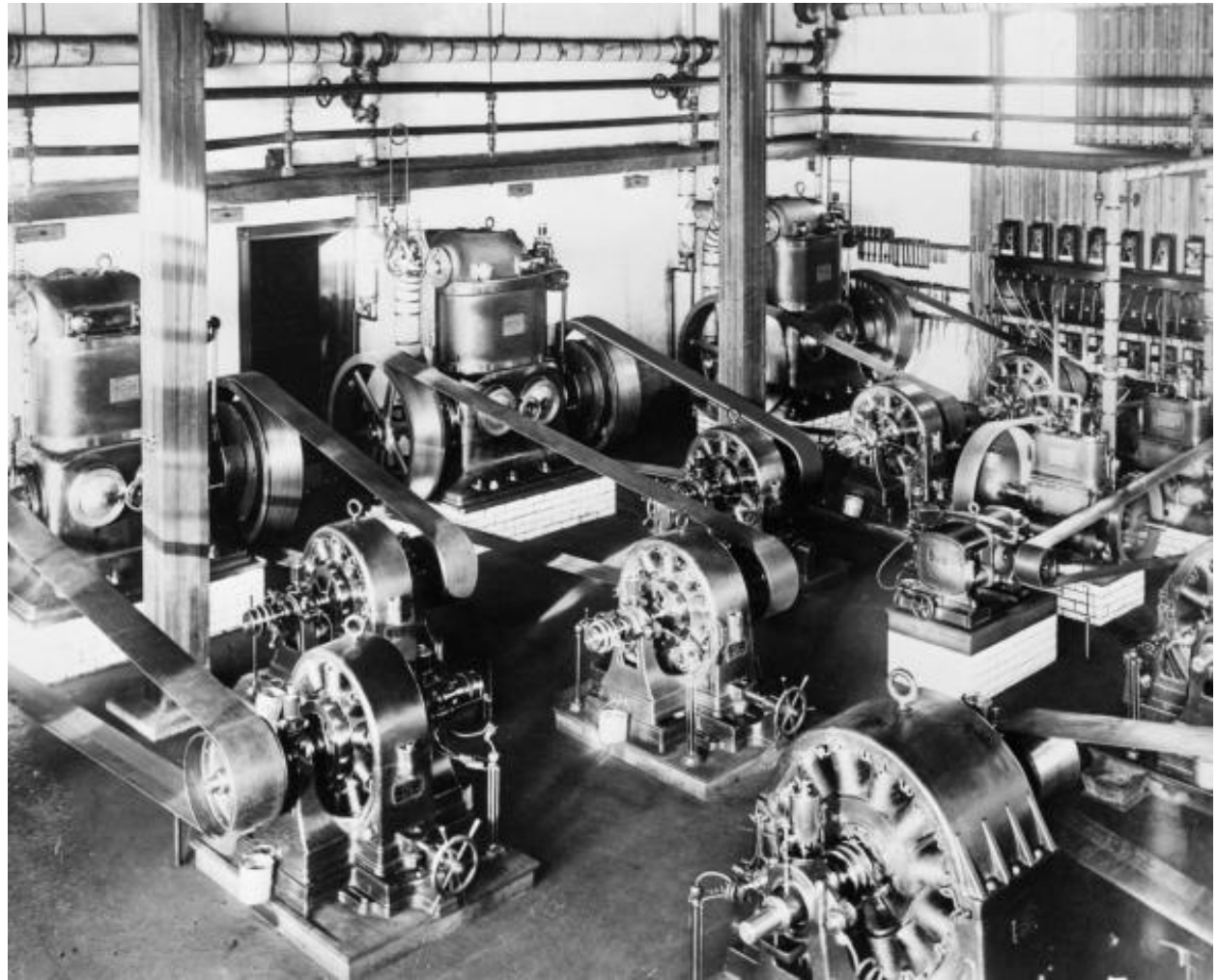


Westinghouse dynamos exhibited in the Hall of Machinery, Chicago World's Fair of 1893. Similar dynamos also lit the building. *Photographer unknown.*

# Early dynamos and generators

## History principles:

- 1)The inventor is largely forgotten
- 2)The commercializer gets in the textbooks (Tesla ,Watt)
- 3)The guy who provides the capital makes all the money (Westinghouse, Boulton)
- 4)Technology takes decades to go from first commercial use to market dominance



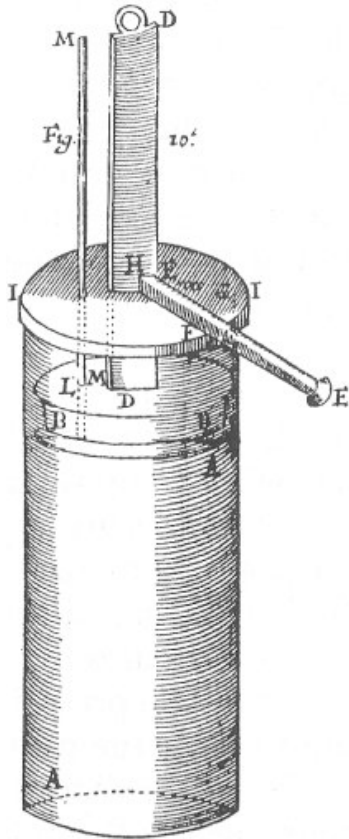
Westinghouse commercial AC generating station, 1888

# **How to make rotational motion to turn an electrical generator? With a heat engine...**

We' ve seen 2 kinds of engines already... really there are three common ones



# How to make rotational motion to turn an electrical generator? With a heat engine...

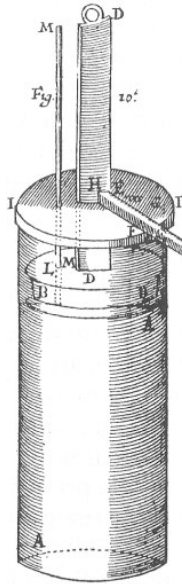


*Piston (reciprocating engine)*



*Impelling rotation by force of steam ejected through a nozzle*

# Three major types of engines



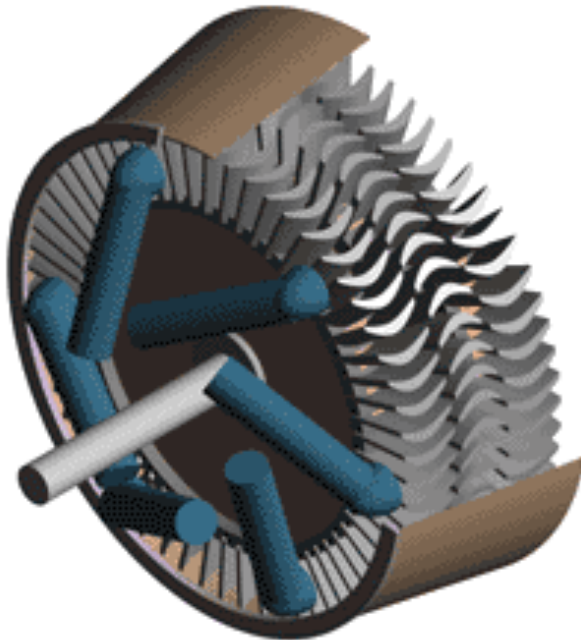
## **Reciprocating engine**

*Expanding gas drives piston up in cylinder, giving linear motion*



**Jet engine** *Most gas ejected at high pressure to produce linear motion*

*(+ some drives blades to produce rotation and drive compressor)*



**Turbine** *Expanding gas drives blades to produce rotation*