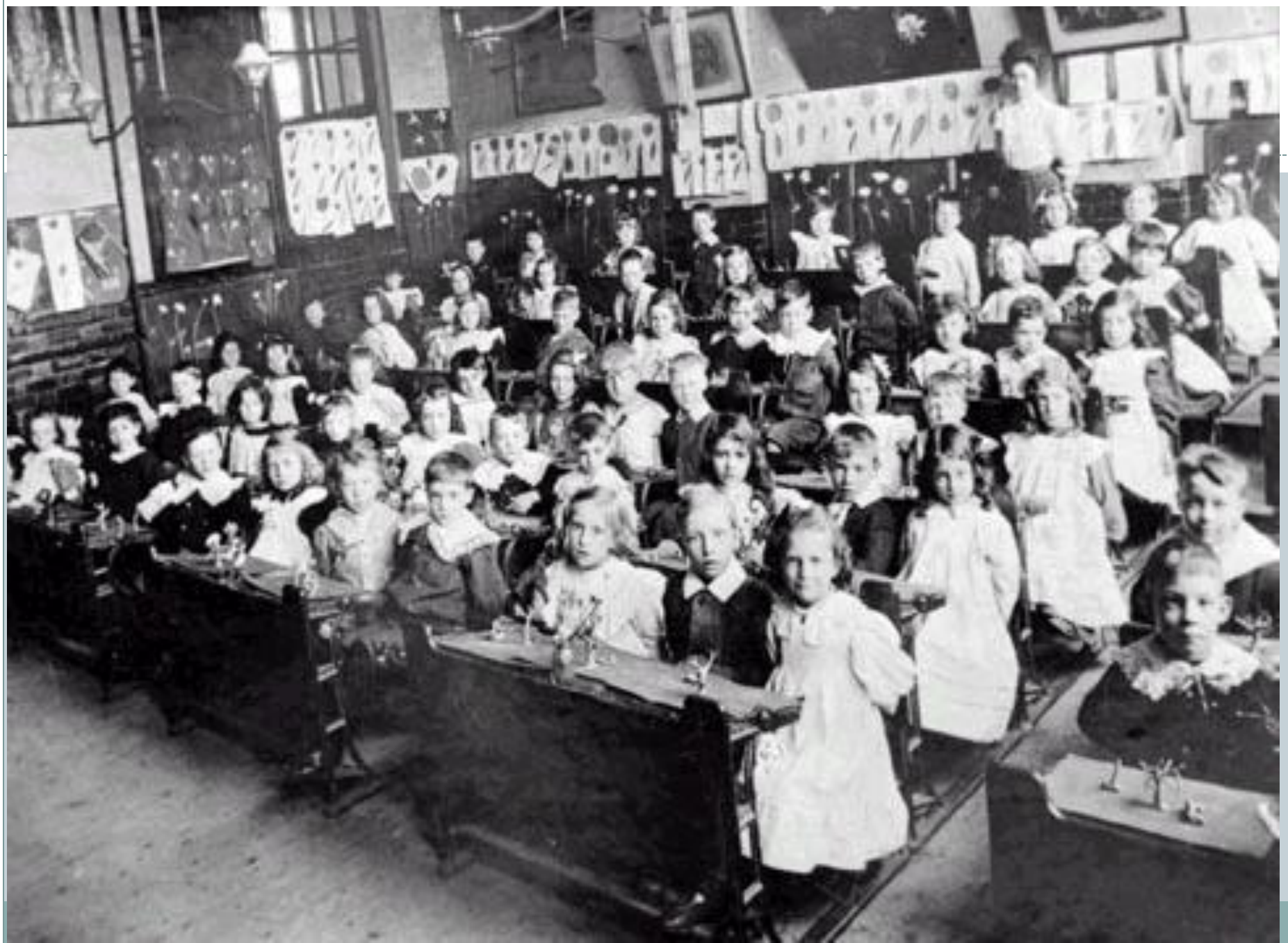


Social History of the 19th Century



LIFE IN THE EMERGING URBAN SOCIETY





Population Boom



- During the 19th century the population exploded.
- Population growth during the 19th century is related to:
 - early marriages
 - access to food (the Potato) and agricultural techniques
 - better understanding of disease



- Britain became the world's first urban society.
- By 1851 more than half the population lived in towns.
- The population of Britain boomed during the 1800s. In 1801 it was about 9 million. By 1901 it had risen to about 41 million.
- In Victorian Britain at least 80% of the population was working class

Moving to the city

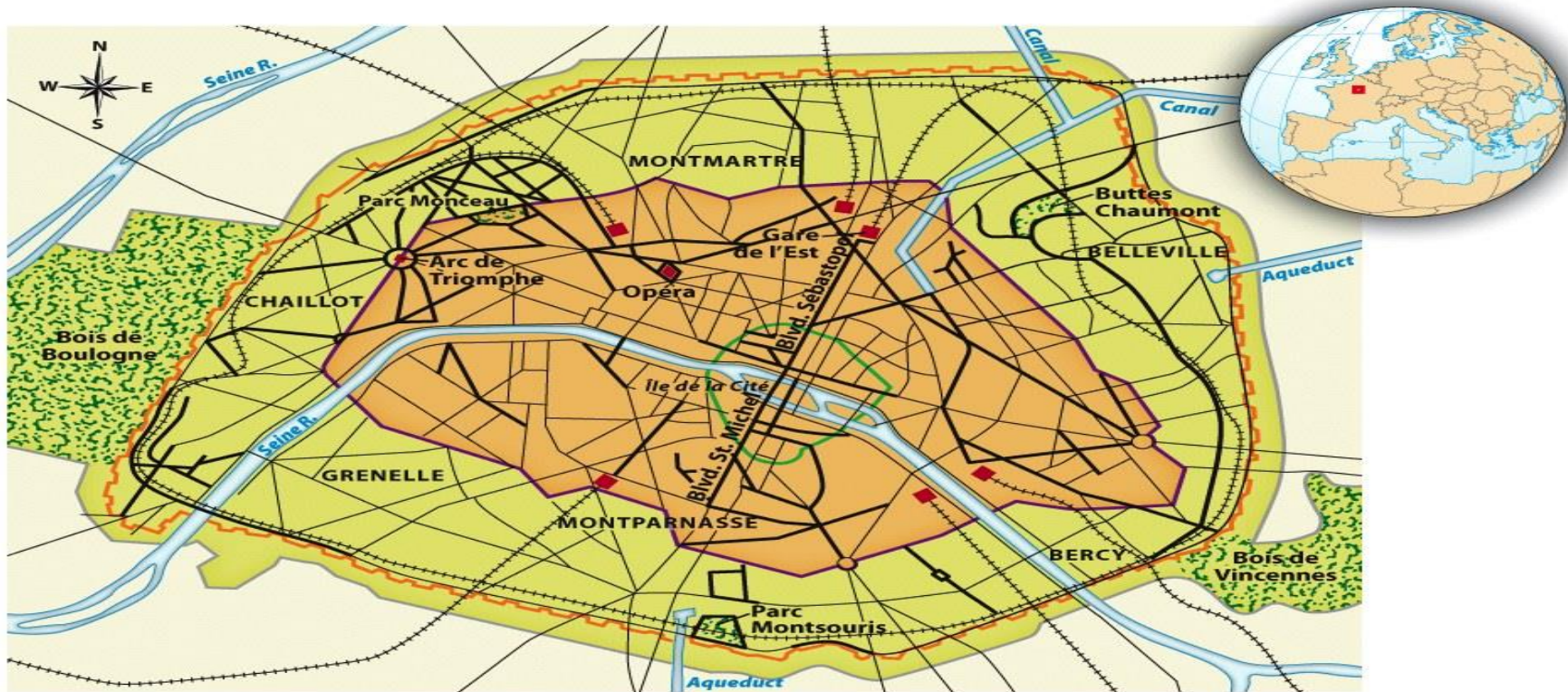


- Industrialism resulted in a rapid urban growth
- Poor quality of urban life due to poverty, lack of medical knowledge, overcrowding
- Deplorable urban conditions did not originate in the Industrial Revolution.
- The invention of steam engine freed industrialist from the use of streams and rivers.
- By 1800 there were incentives for industrialists to move new factories to urban areas (due to new shipping facilities, and access to coal and raw materials.)

Improvements in Urban Planning



- France took its lead during the rule of Napoleon III. He believed the rebuilding of Paris was provide employment, and improve living conditions.
- He employed baron Georges Haussmann
- Modernization of Paris (1850-1870) resulted in the creation of tree lined boulevards, the removal of defense barricades (revolution era), the demolition of the slums, and the creation of parkettes, and open spaces.
- It quickly became the new model for urban planning throughout Europe.

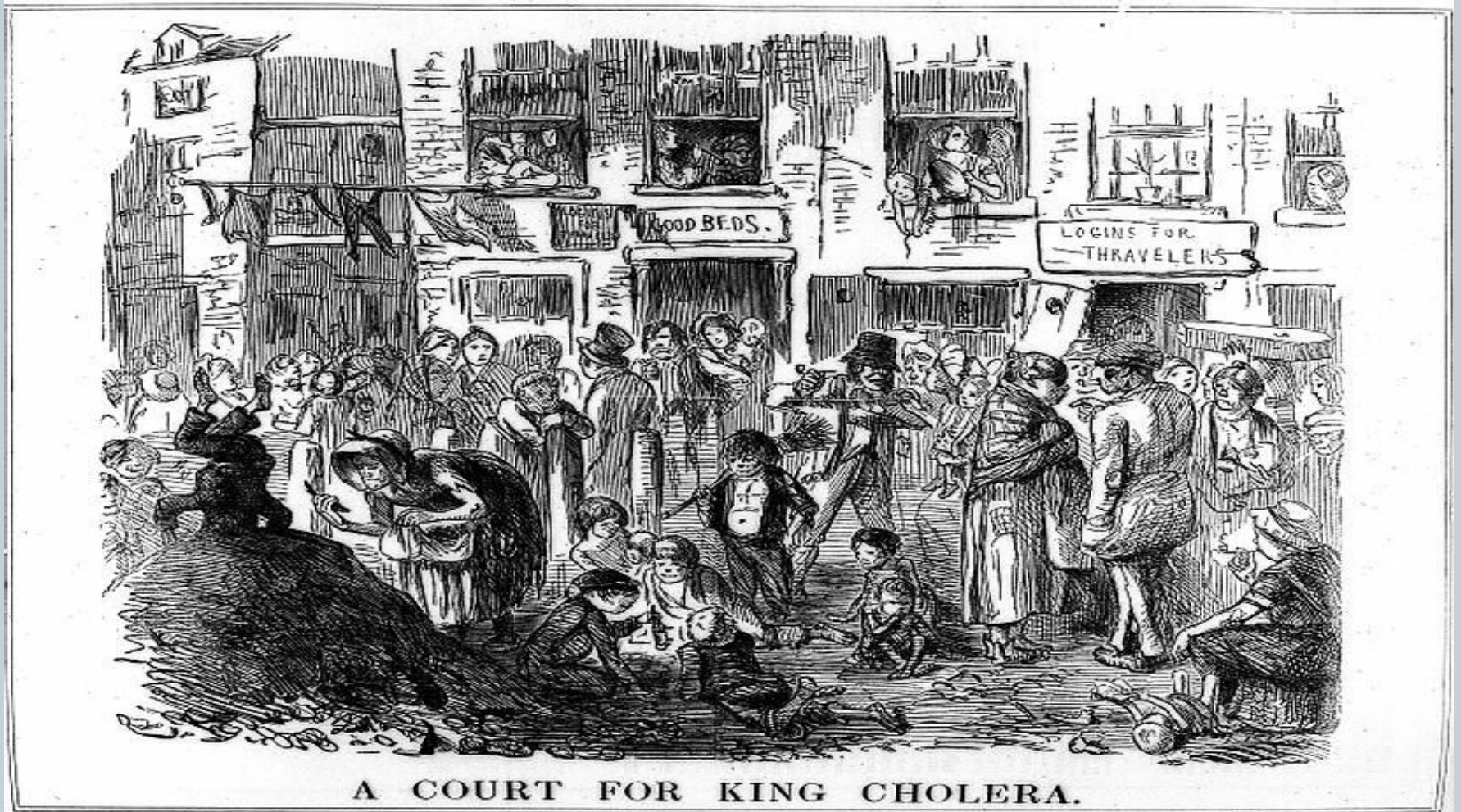


- Paris before 1860
- Expanded city limits established in 1860
- Public park opened during Second Empire
- Wall of Philippe Auguste (1180–1210)
- Tollhouse Wall (1784–1791), razed by Haussmann to rebuild as boulevards
- Fortress Wall (1841–1845)
- Street constructed by Haussmann
- Other street
- Railway system created by Haussmann

0 0.5 1.0 mile
0 0.5 1.0 kilometer

Map 23.2 The Modernization of Paris, ca. 1850–1870
 Chapter 23, *A History of Western Society*, Tenth Edition
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The Public Health Movement



The Public Health Movement



- By mid 19th century acceptance of overcrowding, unsanitary surroundings gave way to a growing interest in reform and improvement.
- Edwin Chadwick, early reformer – believed that disease and death caused poverty. Argued that disease could be prevented by cleaning up urban environment.
- Believed that excrement from communal outhouses could be better moved through sewers rather than moving it by hand.
- Chadwick's 1848 report became the basis of G.B's first public health law, the creation of the national health board and modern sanitary systems.

The Bacterial Revolution



- Improved sanitation during the 19th century improved better quality of life however, to control communicable diseases required a great leap forward in medical knowledge and biological theory.
- The breakthrough came via the development of [germ theory of disease](#) by Louis Pasteur.
- Discovered that specific diseases were caused by specific living organisms – germs – and that those organisms could be controlled in people as well as beer, milk and wine.
- By 1870 Pasteur and others demonstrated the link between germs and disease.
- Over the next 20 years German scientists would identify the organisms responsible for many diseases and develop a number of vaccines

Life in the city



- Living conditions in early 19th British century cities were often terrible.
- Gaslight was first used in 1807 in Pall Mall in London. Many cities introduced gas street light in the 1820s.
- In the early 19th century cities were dirty, unsanitary and overcrowded. (unpaved streets, lack of garbage collection, poor sanitary systems.)
- Toilets - a luxury in the 19th century. In the late 19th century working class homes almost always had outside lavatories.
- In 1830 in Manchester for every 1 indoor toilet there were 212 people – most people relied on privies (outdoor)
- The first modern public lavatory, with flushing toilets opened in London in 1852.
- Toilet paper went on sale in the USA in 1857.
- At first toilet paper was sold in sheets. It was first sold in rolls in the USA in 1890. It was first sold in rolls in Europe in 1928. In the early 20th century many families used newspaper.



All in a days work...



- During the 1800s the factory system gradually replaced the system of people working in their own homes or in small workshops.
- In England the textile industry was the first to be transformed.
- The Industrial Revolution also created a huge demand for female and child labor.
- Children had always done some work but at least before the 19th century they worked in their own homes with their parents or on land nearby.
- When children worked in textile factories they often worked for more than 12 hours a day.
- In the early 19th century parliament passed laws to restrict child labor. However they all proved to be unenforceable.
- The first effective law was passed in 1833.
- It was effective because for the first time factory inspectors were appointed to make sure the law was being obeyed. The new law banned children under 9 from working in textile factories. It said that children aged 9 to 13 must not work for more than 12 hours a day or 48 hours a week.

Distribution of Income



- By 1850 working conditions had vastly improved
- Real wages of British workers, had doubled between 1850 to 1906.
- By 1900, the richest 5% of all households held about $\frac{1}{2}$ of all national income.
- Income taxes during this period were almost nonexistent for the wealthy.
- Therefore, the gap between rich and poor during this period was enormous.

The Urban Social Hierarchy



Aristocracy

*

Middle Classes

Upper

Middle

Lower

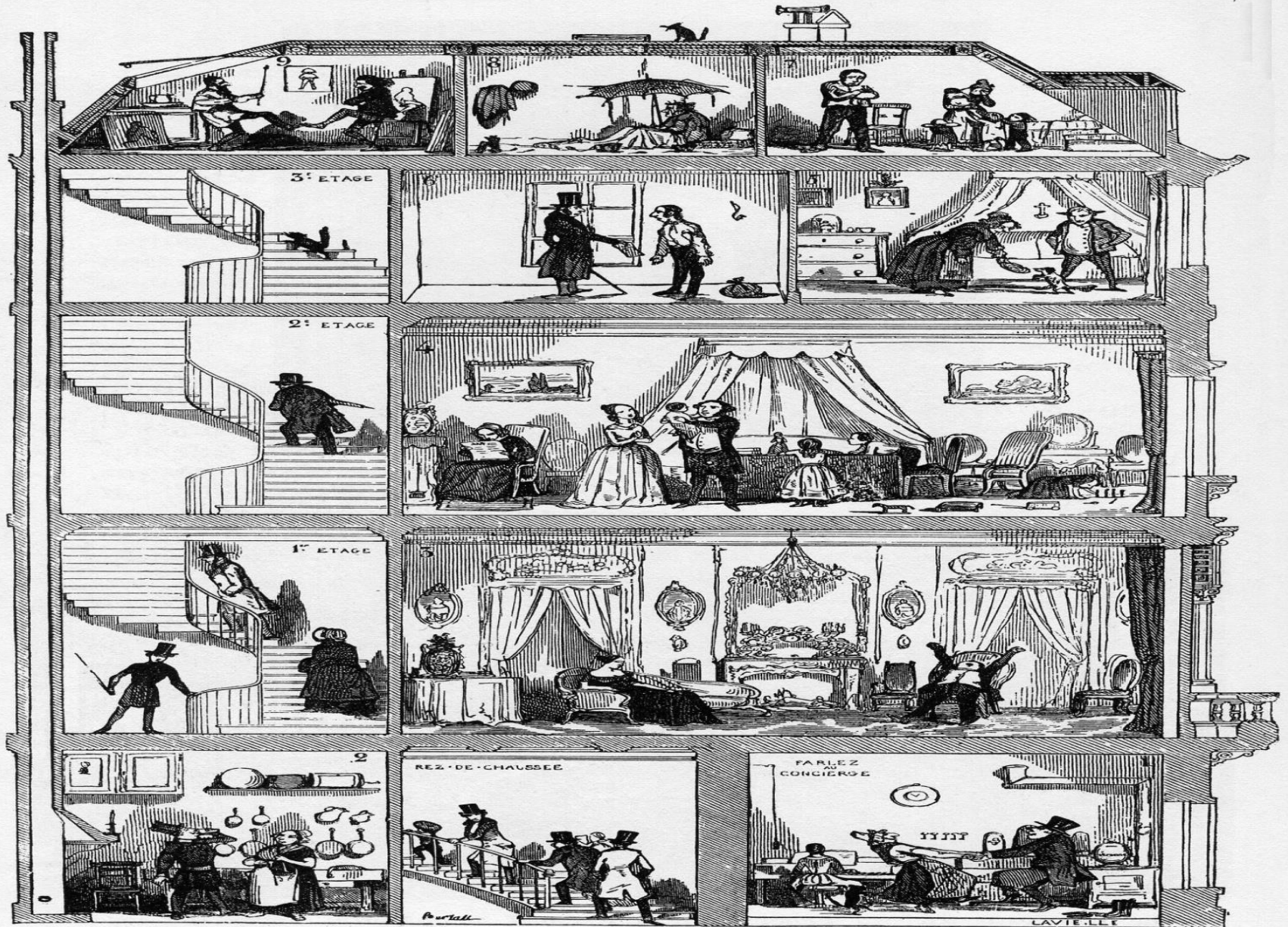
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Working classes

Highly skilled (labour aristocracy)

Semiskilled

Unskilled



3. Cross section of a Parisian house about 1850 showing the economic status of tenants varying by floors. (Edmund Texier, *Tableau de Paris*, Paris, 1852, 1, 65.)

The Home



- Upper class people lived in very comfortable houses in the 19th century. (Although their servants lived in cramped quarters, often in the attic).
- In the early 19th century housing for the poor was often dreadful.
- Often they lived in 'back-to-backs'. These were houses of three (or sometimes only two) rooms, one on top of the other. The houses were literally back-to-back
- In the early 19th century only rich people had bathrooms. People did take baths but only a few people had actual rooms for washing.
- In the 1870s and 1880s many middle class people had bathrooms built. Working class people had a tin bath and washed in front of the kitchen range.



Food in the 19th century



- In the early 19th century most of the working class lived on plain food bread, butter, potatoes and bacon. Meat was a luxury.
- However food greatly improved in the late 19th century.
- Railways and steamships made it possible to import cheap grain from North America so bread became cheaper. Consumption of sugar also increased.
- The first fish and chip shops in Britain opened in the 1860s. By the late 19th century they were common in towns and cities.
- The Digestive biscuit was invented in 1892 by Alexander Grant. Meanwhile the first chocolate bar was made in 1847.
- Milk chocolate was invented in 1875.

Leisure time



- During the 19th century people had very little leisure time
- Until the end of the 19th century most people had no paid holidays except bank holidays.
- In the early 19th century everyone had Sunday off.
- In the 1870s some skilled workers began to have Saturday afternoon off.
- In the 1890s most workers gained a half day holiday on Saturday and the weekend was born.
- Drinking was the unquestionably the favourite leisure-time activity of working class people.
- Sports and music halls (Vaudeville) increased in popularity as cruel sports (cockfighting and bullbaiting) decrease.

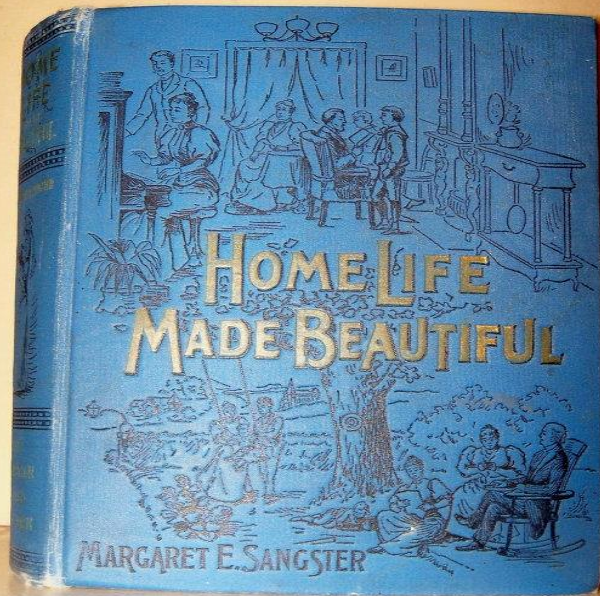
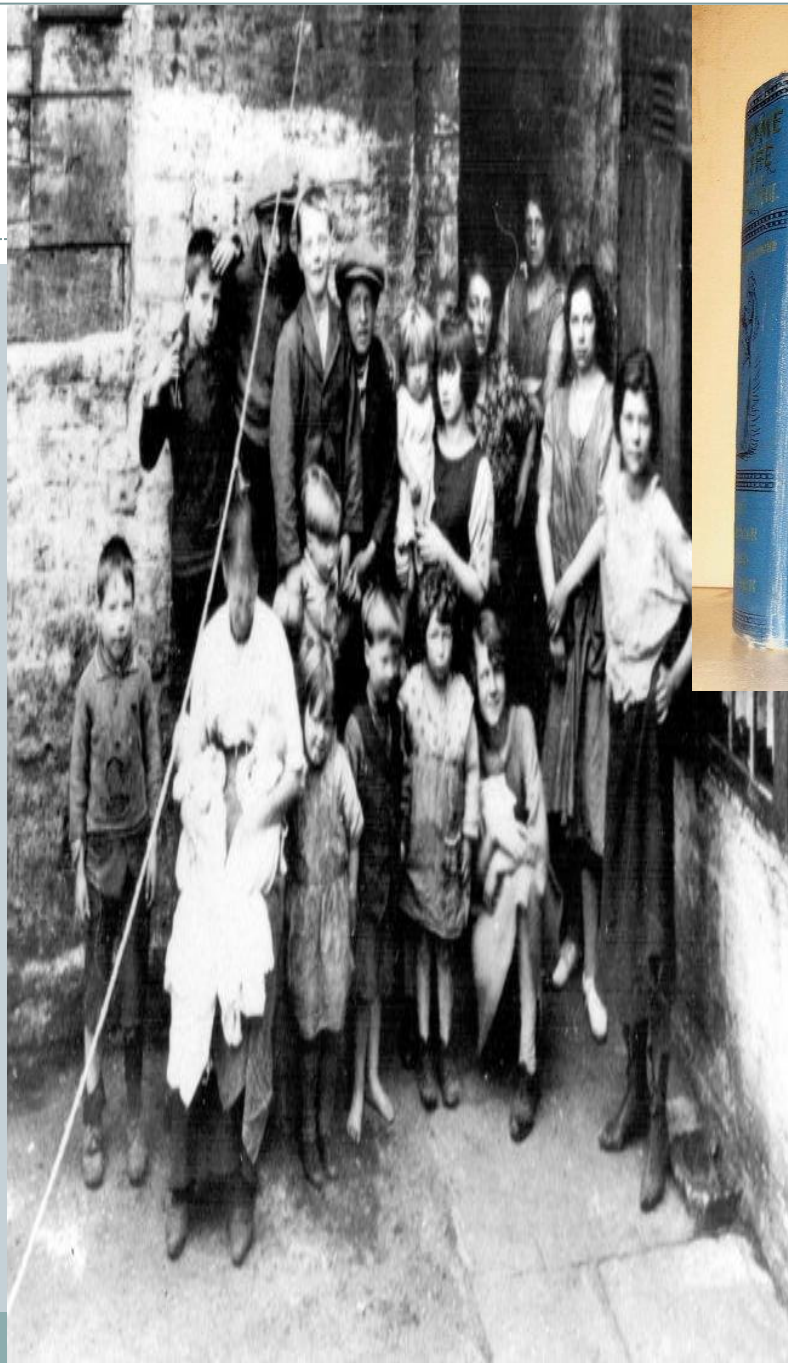


- 19th century sports became organized. The first written rules for rugby were drawn up in 1845.
- Association devised the rules of football in 1863. The first international match was held between England and Scotland in 1872
- At the end of the 19th century bicycling became a popular sport.
- The bicycle was invented in 1885. Bicycling clubs became common in Victorian Britain.

Fashion



- In the 19th century, men's clothes consisted of three parts. Trousers, waistcoats and coats.
- In the early 19th century women wore light dresses. In the 1830s they had puffed sleeves.
- About 1800 women started wearing underwear. They were called drawers. Originally women wore a pair of drawers i.e. they were actually two garments, one for each leg, tied together at the top.
- In the late 19th century women's drawers were called knickerbockers then just knickers.



The Ladies



- In the 19th century families were much larger than today.
- Divorce was made legal in Britain in 1857 but it was very rare in the 19th century.
- In the 19th century wealthy women were kept busy running the household and organizing the servants. Well to do women often also did charitable work.
- In 1874 the first successful typewriter went on sale (It was invented in the USA by Christopher Sholes) and the telephone was invented in 1876.
- These two new inventions meant more job opportunities for women.
- At the end of the 19th century new inventions like the typewriter and the telephone created more jobs for women.



Poverty in the 19th century



- At the end of the 19th century more than 25% of the population of Britain was living at or below subsistence level.
- Surveys indicated that around 10% were very poor and could not afford even basic necessities such as enough nourishing food.
- Between 15% and 20% had just enough money to live on (provided they did not lose their job or have to take time off work through illness).

The Workhouse



The Workhouse – Work Before Charity



- If you had no income at all you had to enter the workhouse.
- The workhouses were feared and hated by the poor. They were meant to be as unpleasant as possible to deter poor people from asking the state for help. However during the late 19th century workhouses gradually became more humane.
- Video: [The Workhouse](#)

Evolution of the Family in the 19th century



Pages 253-256

- Lives of working class children
- Working class leisure – men
- Teenage lovers considering marriage
- Divorce among the working class
- Divorce among the middle class
- Discipline
- John Stuart Mill speaks out
- Infidelity – consequences for men and women
- Prepare a skit that clearly shows the nature of the family during the 19th century from the perspective of the individuals in your scenario.