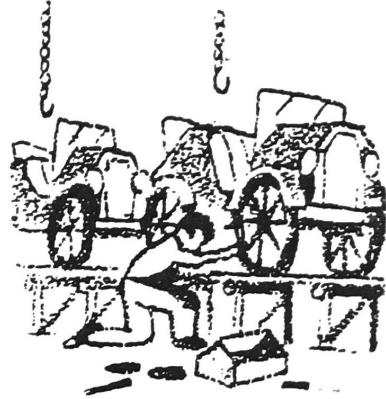


## BIG BUSINESS

The growth of business and industry had both advantages and disadvantages for the people of the United States. At first the rich benefited at the expense of the working class. But in time the workers too saw an improvement in their standard of living. Industrialization was a great step forward in spite of the problems that it created.



As you read the statements below, decide which ones are advantages and which are disadvantages of the age of big business. Fill in the spaces with an A for advantage or D for disadvantage.

- (1) ☐ Manufacturing was done by machine instead of by hand.
- (2) ☐ The opening of factories provided new job opportunities for thousands of people.
- (3) ☐ An impersonal relationship developed between workers and their employers.
- (4) ☐ Large urban areas experienced the beginning of air and water pollution.
- (5) ☐ A huge increase occurred in the amount and variety of goods produced.
- (6) ☐ Factory workers were on the job six days a week.
- (7) ☐ New standards of workmanship resulted in higher quality consumer goods.
- (8) ☐ Schools and universities were founded to train engineers and clerical and professional workers.
- (9) ☐ Machines forced workers to work faster and without rest periods.
- (10) ☐ Factory work usually involved doing the same thing over and over again during the day.
- (11) ☐ Most workers who found jobs in the cities lived in run-down neighborhoods called "slums."
- (12) ☐ The typical day for factory workers was 12 hours in length.
- (13) ☐ Many young children worked 10 to 12 hours a day.
- (14) ☐ Mass production methods made manufactured goods more affordable.
- (15) ☐ Men were paid low wages while women and children earned even less.
- (16) ☐ Early factories were poorly lighted, heated, and ventilated.
- (17) ☐ Labor unions eventually won shorter hours, better pay, and improved conditions for workers.
- (18) ☐ Many immigrants took jobs away from Americans because they were willing to work for low wages.
- (19) ☐ New inventions such as the vacuum cleaner, automobile, and telephone saved hours of hard work and improved transportation and communication.
- (20) ☐ Industry adopted Eli Whitney's system of standardized parts so that parts which wore out or broke could easily be replaced.
- (21) ☐ The assembly line, first developed by Henry Ford, made it possible to turn out large quantities of goods at low cost.
- (22) ☐ Corporations created jobs for more workers.
- (23) ☐ Corporations sometimes established monopolies and sold their products at high prices.
- (24) ☐ Americans had the opportunity to buy shares of stock in a corporation and receive dividends when the company made a profit.
- (25) ☐ Sometimes big business bribed government officials or used other methods to get laws passed which favored it.
- (26) ☐ Corporations could raise huge sums of money to start new industries.
- (27) ☐ Industries began to use up such natural resources as iron, coal, and forest products.
- (28) ☐ Consumers were now able to shop at department stores, specialty shops, and mail-order houses.
- (29) ☐ Small businesses found it difficult to compete with large corporations.
- (30) ☐ Workers lost their jobs when business suffered during recessions and depressions.