

SOCIAL & POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGY

- A. Thomas Carlyle's "Signs of the Times" (1829)**
- B. Five components of the "Mechanical Age"**
 - a. Uniformity and standardization**
 - b. Work becomes more regimented**
 - c. Speed**
 - d. Time-orientation**
 - e. The idea of progress**
- C. Conclusion: these ideas form essential elements of what is now referred to as "modernity," the modern world view of things.**
- D. Questions:**
 - a. Did mechanization deskill workers?**
 - i. Workers no longer own their own tools (see Smith and Clancey, pp. 182-83)**
 - ii. See McGaw's argument in S&C, p. 160**
 - b. Were workers "anti-technology"? (cf. S&C, p. 162)**
 - c. What accounts for the absence of class consciousness in the Berkshire paper industry as opposed to its presence at Lowell and Harpers Ferry? (see S&C, pp. 151, 162-63, 184)**
 - d. Was "quitting" or "leaving" a form of worker protest? --"to better myself" (cf. pp. 159 and pp. 148-50)**
 - e. What about gender differences?**
 - i. Women's work and women's pay (cf. p. 152 [re. Waltham]; p. 166 [re. Berkshires])**
 - ii. Working conditions in the Berkshire Mills versus those in Lowell?**