

The Voice of the Age

Parliament has voted: approved Ten Hours Act and Education Act



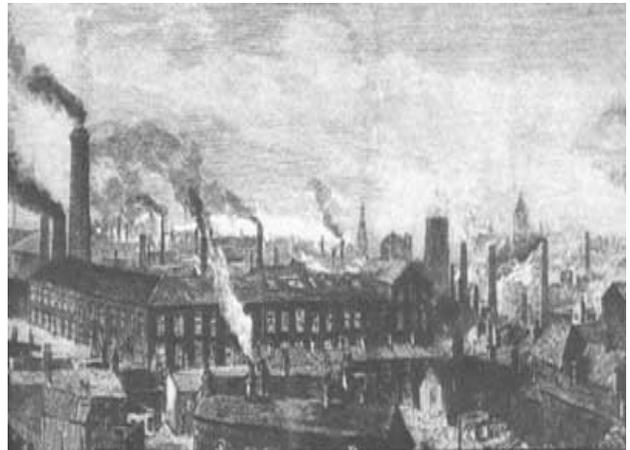
This decision taken by the Parliament is going to change radically the lives of English people: the Ten Hours Act and the Education Act has been finally approved. This is an important achievement for the working class that, from now on, will benefit from the limit of the daily working hours, reduced to a maximum of 10; about the Education act, Parliament recognized elementary education for children as a primary need for the society and, with this law, education for 5 to 13-year-olds children will be compulsory.

The Great Exhibition

The Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations is having more and more success: Crystal Palace, the building entirely made of glass and iron, is considered a huge architectural and engineering masterpiece, able to convey the importance of the whole exposure. The building is located in Hyde Park and it host goods from all the different countries of the Empire, included Britain. The profits will be used for the establishment of different museums in London.

“Hard Times”: A novel of denunciation

“Hard Times” is a powerful accusation of some of the effects of industrial society. In his novel, Dickens is going to highlight the social and economic pressures and problems about this age. The novel is set in “Coketown”, an imaginary industrial town that present lots of problems as pollution due to chimneys and machinery that work continuously, monotony sound, buildings and colors and people who lost their personality, their individuality: they are equally like one another and look like robots.



A new planet discovered: Neptune

This is the first time in the history that a planet is “discovered” on paper before it was observed in the laboratory: The calculations, based on anomalies in the orbit of Uranus, carried out by John Couch Adams, pinpointed the new planet's location with high precision and his theories have been confirmed by astronomers at the Berlin Observatory.