Questions for Discussion and Review (Week III)

RELEVANT LECTURES: Numbers 7 ("The Congress of Vienna and the Restoration"), 8 ("The Industrial Revolution"), 9 ("The Response to Industrialism"), 10 ("The Utopian Socialists")

RELEVANT READING: McKay, Chaps. 22, 23; Perry, Chaps. 5 and 6.

1. Identifications.
   a. open field system  b. Enclosure Acts
c. free trade (laissez-faire)  d. Thomas Malthus
e. Louis Philippe  f. Mercantilism
g. Spinning Jenny  h. putting-out system
i. Fourier  j. Potato Famine
k. Robert Owen  l. Metternichian system

2. Review Questions.
   a. What were the most fundamental accomplishments of the agricultural revolution? In which countries were the most important advances made?

   b. Why were the Utopian Socialists called “utopian”? How did Marx distinguish his theories from theirs?

   c. How can one explain the unprecedented population growth in Europe, beginning at the end of the eighteenth century? What kept population relatively stable in earlier times?

   d. What were the fundamental beliefs of early nineteenth century conservatives like Metternich? How would you distinguish conservatism of that time from modern American conservatism? What do the two have in common?

   e. Which special factors explain the rapid industrialization in England, beginning in the late eighteenth century? Why was industry relatively slow to develop in such previously advanced areas of Europe as France?

3. Discussion Questions.
   a. “Without industrialization modern Europe would be in as tragic and debased a situation as modern India. Industrialization is the salvation of modern times.” Do you agree with this quotation? Did the particular form that industrialization took in England result in a better or a worse life for the great mass of the English people? Might other forms of industrialization have done a better, or at least a more humane job? Which do you find the most persuasive among historical interpreters of industrialization, the “optimists” or the “pessimists”?

   b. “The Congress of Vienna assured a century of peace, and the statesmen who were represented at it must be praised for their foresight.” Do you agree? What have been the criticisms levied at
the statesman of the Congress? Why were there so many wars in the eighteenth (and the twentieth) and so few in the nineteenth centuries?

c. What is the relationship of liberalism to industrialization? In what sense is it appropriate to term liberalism a “bourgeois” ideology? May socialism then be called a “working-class” ideology—or conservatism an ideology of the privileged?

d. Were the agricultural and industrial revolutions really “revolutions”? What did they have in common with the French Revolution? How would you define a “revolution”?