

Toward the Modern Era 1870-1914

A. The Cultural Climate – Growing Unrest

The culture of Western Europe and the U.S. was in a contrast:

New and exciting: new governments replacing old monarchies, new discoveries in science and technology improved standards of living for many. Also existed a time of despair: working conditions in industry was bad, living conditions for many were poor and the uncertainty of the future with all the new elements brought into the world.

Thus a mood of doom and gloom, or uncertainty, affected all Western Culture and some of the major reasons are as follows:

1. Growth of Democracy
2. Scientific Progress
Medicine
Transportation
3. Management vs. Labor
4. Challenge to Religion