

1: The History of Bricks and Brickmaking

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Economic History of Sweden The Economic History of Sweden Although Sweden is a relatively small country in terms of population it is economically quite significant and extremely important as a test of an alternative economic system. The precise nature of that economic system is in dispute. It is definitely not socialism of the Stalinist variety. Ninety percent of production is in the private sector, yet the state controls about fifty percent of the disposition of national income. The export industries necessarily have to be free to maintain efficiency and international competitiveness. Some characterize the Swedish system as Welfare State Socialism but a more accurate characterization would be Welfare State Corporatism. The benevolent corporatist society is one in which decisions are made through negotiated compromise among the organized interest groups. Compromise has been a prominent feature of Swedish political history since And a notable feature of Swedish life is the plentitude of organizations that Swedes can and do belong to. Swedes are not only organized, they are organizationalized. The Industrial Revolution in Sweden Although Sweden did not possess the coal deposits of Britain and Belgium she did have ores of iron and other metals. The iron ore was of very high quality. The extensive forests of Sweden provided the charcoal used for smelting iron before the days of the coke furnaces of the industrial revolution. When Britain industrialized she looked to Sweden for raw materials, particularly forest products, for her industrial machine. The commercial relations between the Brits and the Swedes were not always the smoothest and Swedes were left with an image of the market economy being one of exploitation. Through most of the recent history up to the middle of the twentieth century Sweden was a poor agricultural country, oriented more toward eastern than western Europe. In about its economic development process started. In there was a Liberal-Socialist coalition which formed the government. In Sweden and almost everywhere outside of the United States liberal means what conservative means in the U. What is called liberal in the U. The most prominent socialist of that time was Hjalmar Branting and he was included in that government. In the socialists got enough electoral support for Branting to form a Social Democratic Party government. There was a minor setback for Branting and then after new elections in he formed a new Social Democrat government which remained in power until Various liberal-conservative governments held power until when the Liberal Party leader had to resign as a result of his involvement with Ivar Kreuger and his financial scandals. Market demand collapsed, particularly export demand. Businesses faced with declining sales laid off workers. To survive against the lower prices in their markets businesses tried to cut wage rates. Workers reacted by going on strike. Governments sent in soldiers to try to maintain order in the labor disputes. Soldiers confronting them fired into the crowd killing several. The public reaction to those deaths contributed to the electoral victory of the Social Democratic Party in The Social Democratic Party that came to power in had represented the labor movement and had, at one time, advocated socialism. It had, again at one time, been officially Marxist, just had been the Labour Party in Britain. What materialized under Swedish Social Democratic Party rule was not Marxist socialism but a democratic social welfare state. Labor unions are a relatively more important institution in the Sweden than in the U. Also consumer cooperatives handle a substantial share of the retailing in Sweden. The Social Democrats in needed the cooperation of another smaller political party, the Agrarian Party, to form a government. In power, the Social Democrats were pragmatic. Very quickly they forgot about doctrinaire socialism and focused upon the immediate issue of reducing unemployment. It was probably instinctive to the hard-working Swedes that if workers were not gainfully employed in private industry they should be put to work building public works projects. Later the writings of the British economist John Maynard Keynes provided an argument for solving the depression unemployment by public investment projects financed by government borrowing. Later, in , the Swedes developed some institutions which they felt would help the market economy function better. A provision in the tax code allowed Swedish businesses to gain tax

deductions for placing up to one half of their profits in the Central Bank. This placed a substantial amount of funds at the disposal of the government to use in stabilizing employment and carrying out a regional policy for equalizing incomes throughout the country. Also in an agreement was reached between labor and management for facilitating collective bargaining and moderating disputes. They agreed to give each other advanced warning of any significant action and thus allow for negotiation and even mediation. The agreement was perhaps motivated by a fear that both labor and management would lose out to government authority if they did not reduce the labor disputes taking place in the country. The process called remiss involves the creation of a Commission of Inquiry whenever any major change in a law or policy is being considered. This leaves people with the necessities taken care of but with a yearning for more income to spend at their discretion. Many Swedes have coped with this need for discretionary income by working two jobs. In recent decades some issues have emerged with the Swedish system. The harmony between the blue-collar industrial workers and the white-collar services is not complete. Likewise there are differences in the private industry workers and the public service workers. It shows up in the lesser loyalty the public service workers have to their employers and the greater number of strikes by these workers. This was not a threat to company ownership. Such union representatives were better able to convey the needs of the company and the constraints it faced to the workforce that the management would have been able to. Later unions tried to have funds created which would enable unions to purchase control of the companies. This policy was strongly resisted and only about one percent of the value of Swedish companies have been acquired through these funds. From to the Social Democratic Party lost control of the Swedish government to opposition parties. The Social Democratic Party returned to power in In the Social Democrats lost to the Moderate Party and its political allies. The Social Democratic Party received only 35 percent of the vote, down almost 5 percent from its showing. This was the lowest percentage for the Social Democratic Party since universal suffrage was introduced in Parties that get less than 4 percent of the vote do not get representation in the national legislature. The parties of the left did not do well in the election of If the Welfare State has functioned to the satisfaction of the Swedish people then it is a system worthy of consideration by other industrialized countries. On the other hand, if it was serious flaws then these should be noted. While the Swedish system might be a suitable model for industrialized countries it is probably not affordable as a system for developing countries. The long tenure of the Social Democratic Party led to a mentality of its leaders that they knew better than the people what was best for them. For example, Sweden had initially adopted the left side traffic system of Britain. When other countries adopted the right side system of France more and more problems were arising. The government called for a referendum on the issue. The Swedish public decisively voted against the change. Nevertheless the government mandated the change and at a designated time Swedish drivers were required to cross over into the opposite lanes. The change was however accepted. But the notion of the Social Democrats that they and they alone know what is best for Sweden can be irritating. The danger is that the Social Democrats will become an elite much like the aristocracy of old. Swedish industry must compete in international markets. This limited the restraints that the Welfare State could impose on Swedish industry. Swedish industry has successfully competed despite the rise in wage rates, the shorter workday and increasing vacation time mandated for Swedish labor. The unemployment rate has been kept low. The Regional Economy of Sweden Regional Development Policies and Programs of Sweden The regional problem is the relative high growth of the Stockholm area and the relatively lower economic opportunities in the northern and forested areas. The imbalance of Stockholm is not only in terms of the distribution of population but also the even greater imbalance in income and production. In seven percent of the population lived in the Stockholm area but by this share had risen to 18 percent. Stockholm accounted for about 24 percent of output. There has been a conscious attempt to bring about an equality of standards of living in the rural areas, but this has not accomplished much. There has also been government efforts to promote the mobility of labor both to reduce unemployment in problem regions and to provide labor in tight labor market areas. There is a principle of Swedish governmental policy, known as the "solidarity principle," that says wages should be equal throughout the country. Prior to , the goal was "men to jobs," but after it changed to "jobs to men. They levy an income tax and account for a major share of government spending. Efforts to stimulate lagging economies often take

the form of grants from the national government to the county and municipal governments.

2: The Industrial Revolution in Europe - ERIH

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One of the triggers was the unusually high growth in the population which set in around the middle of the 18th century and produced a gigantic reservoir of workers. At the same time new, more efficient methods of production became necessary in order to supply the basic needs of so many people. In this situation Great Britain enjoyed two important advantages: This was why the United Kingdom dictated the rhythm of progress to the rest of Europe from onwards for the next century or so. The first spinning frames were created on the British Isles. These were followed by mechanical weaving looms, and it was not long before textile factories were shooting out of the ground. At the same time a boom in the iron industry broke out. As soon as people discovered how to turn coal into coke iron manufacturers had excellent, almost unlimited reserves of fuel at their disposal with which to process iron ore. Once steam engines were introduced to heat the furnace ovens more quickly and effectively, the skylines in the coal regions were quickly covered in colliery towers and the chimney stacks of iron works. Workers poured into the new industrial centres and in a few years villages exploded into major cities: Working hours were around 14 hours a day and the workers were slaves to the rhythm of the machines. Women were expected to work just as hard for less pay, especially in the collieries and textile factories. Children too were unscrupulously exploited. The workers lived in constant fear of unemployment and hunger. Their desperation often exploded into bloody acts of rebellion. Machine-breakers tried in vain to put a brake on developments, but the new inventions fitted together like cogs in a wheel. Improved steel production led to more rails with which to transport steel steam locomotives drawing wagons full of coke and steel. France was a major industrial competitor on an equal level with Great Britain. As early as the 18th century, supplies of cotton to the textile factories rose five times as quickly as in the British Isles. French manufacturers concentrated on finished products. These were often luxury goods like woven silk, china and leather goods. Such traditional trades were the first to be mechanised and this explains why the first major strikes happened in the silk-processing industries. Skilled workers in Lyons took industrial action in the 18th century to force the introduction of minimum wages. Since France has relatively few resources of coal and iron, collieries and ironworks only began to appear in the middle of the 19th century to cater for the growing railway industry. Slowly but surely the focus of employment began to switch from the agrarian sector to industrial production. The industrial revolution in Europe had very different features. Belgium, one of the first industrialised countries, was able to draw on rich resources of iron ore and coal and a strong tradition of textile manufacturing. For this reason industrial development ran along similar lines to that in Great Britain. In Switzerland too, structural development developed at a relatively early stage but in a completely different manner. Here people compensated for the lack of raw materials by specialising in niche products from silk weaving, cotton processing and engineering, including clock-making. By contrast, although the countries on the edge of the continent – Spain, Greece and the Balkan countries – were able to increase their exports of agrarian products and raw materials, they continued to lag behind in industrial production for many years. In Germany new methods of production developed very late because the country was divided up into so many small states. Nevertheless after the customs union of productive heavy industries developed in the mining regions of upper Silesia, in the Saarland and the Ruhrgebiet. At the same time the building of the railways gave a decisive boost to expanding steel production and mechanical engineering. Thanks to their high reserves of capital and high standards of training, German businesses were able to take over a leading role in the new chemical and electro-technical industries in the second phase of industrialisation towards the end of the 19th century. The first working-class political party was set up in Germany; this was followed by the SPD in 1869. It was not until that the British Labour Party was founded. Even when strikes still led to bloody conflicts with government authorities, trades unions were legally allowed in many countries. Some of these were Marxist orientated others demanded fundamental social reforms. Around the turn of the 20th century a wave of strikes befell the major industrial countries. The first large-scale organised workers movements were successful in

demanding higher wages, and demands for a twelve-hour working day were soon followed by demands for a ten-hour day. France and Prussia followed. In order to damp down social conflicts the German government introduced sickness, accident and old age insurance for workers in the s. But at the same time the tempo of mechanised work increased, and in many industrial countries thousands of people continued to live in overpopulated slums with catastrophic hygienic conditions. The industrial age in the Netherlands only really began around The country was not only covered in waterways it possessed very little natural resources. These two factors made it very difficult to build up heavy industry and construct railway connections. For this reason businesses tended to concentrate on developing pre-industrial trades. It was primarily the processing of agricultural products like milk and meat which laid down the basis for future mechanisation. Finally, around the end of the 19th century, major concerns were created in the new industrial areas of electro-technology and chemistry. Dutch and Danish farmers developed new forms of marketing. Organised along cooperative lines, they were able to market their agrarian products over ever greater distances:

The history of the revolution in Sweden: occasioned by the change of religion, and alteration of the government, in that kingdom.

The first Swedes were stone age hunters and fishermen who lived near the coast. However after 4, BC farming was introduced into Sweden. The farmers used stone tools and weapons. After 2, BC they learned to use bronze. The bronze age craftsmen soon became very skilled at making things of bronze. In bronze age Sweden horses and chariots were used and carvings of boats suggest that trade was important. Then about BC iron was introduced into Sweden. The iron age Swedes had contact with the Romans. They sold slaves, furs and amber to Roman merchants. In return the Romans sold them Mediterranean luxuries. However the Swedes were more interested in trade. Improvements in ship design made long distance trade possible. The number of merchants and craftsmen increased at that time. However Sweden was, of course, an overwhelmingly agricultural society. It was divided into three classes. At the bottom were the slaves or thralls. Slaves were a common item of trade. They were made to do all the hardest and most unpleasant work. Above the thralls were the freemen. Their wealth varied greatly and it depended on the amount of land they owned. Some were quite well off and owned slaves. Above them were the jarls or earls. By the 9th century Sweden had become one kingdom. However Swedish kings had little power. When a king died his eldest son did not necessarily inherit the throne. It might go to a younger son or even to the dead king's brother. However as the centuries passed the king's power slowly increased. In the 11th century Sweden was converted to Christianity. Afterwards it became a part of Western civilization. A missionary called Ansgar went to Sweden in but he had little success in converting the Swedes. However a Swedish king, Olof Stokonung, became a Christian in However it was a long time before all Swedes were converted. Paganism lingered on in Sweden until the end of the 11th century. Nevertheless by the middle of the 12th century Sweden had become a firmly Christian country. In King Eric led Sweden in a crusade to convert the Finns. Although whether the crusade was really motivated by religion or by politics is debatable. After his death in Eric became the patron saint of Sweden. In the 13th century the Swedes conquered Finland. The church feared that the Finns would be converted to Eastern Orthodox Christianity and so looked with favor upon a Swedish invasion. A second crusade was launched in The Russian fought the Swedes for control of Finland. However by Finland was in Swedish hands. Finland remained a province of Sweden until Viking farmers had two large fields. Each year one was sown with crops while the other was left fallow. By the 13th century Swedish farmers had begun using the three field system. Every year one field was sown with spring crops, one was sown with autumn crops and one was left fallow. As well as improvements in agriculture Swedish trade and commerce prospered. New towns were founded while old ones expanded. Jarl Birger founded the town of Stockholm about Then in King Magnus granted the upper class exemption from paying taxes in return for military service. However in most of Europe the peasants were serfs, halfway between slaves and freemen. Swedish peasants were never reduced to serfdom. King Vladermar passed laws which applied to all of Sweden at that time each province had its own laws. The laws improved the rights of women and strengthened the crown. Finally in the Swedish king issued a code of laws for the whole country. Then in the Swedish nobles rebelled against the King, Albert of Mecklenburg They called in Margaret the Regent of Norway. In her army defeated Albert and captured him. The three countries were temporarily united into one kingdom. This was called the Union of Kalmar. However Erik alienated the Swedes by giving Danes and Germans important positions. He also fought a war against Holstein. As a result the Hanseatic League an alliance of Baltic trading towns stopped Sweden importing salt and stopped Swedish iron exports. In the Swedish peasants and miners rebelled. In Erik was deposed. In he was replaced by his nephew Christopher. However in the Swedish nobles chose one of themselves, Karl Knutsson, as king and Sweden separated from Denmark and Norway. From to regents ruled Sweden. In the regent Svante Nilsson Sture began a war with Denmark which lasted until In Sture captured the archbishop, Gustav Trolle and his castle. However in the Danes intervened and Sture was killed. His widow carried on the fight. She and her followers held Stockholm until September On 4 November Christian II was crowned. The

king then arrested his enemies in Stockholm. Trolle tried them for heresy on the grounds that they had ignored the authority of the church. Afterwards 82 people were executed in the bloodbath of Stockholm. Executions were also carried out in other parts of Sweden. However his policy backfired. In Sweden rebelled. Gustavus Vasa led them. Trolle was forced to flee and Gustavus became king of Sweden in 1523. At that point the Union of Kalmar ended completely and Sweden became an independent country. In the early 16th century the Reformation reached Sweden. The New Testament was translated into Swedish. The whole Bible was translated in 1541. Gustavus allowed the church to adopt certain Lutheran practices such as marriage of the clergy. Gradually Sweden turned from being a Catholic country into a Protestant one. Finally in 1593 the Swedish church adopted the Confession of Augsburg a statement of Protestant doctrine. Things did not go smoothly for Gustavus. In 1597 there was a rebellion in Sweden, which he crushed. Slowly Gustavus increased his grip. In 1634 Gustavus made the Swedish crown hereditary. He decreed that his eldest son would succeed him as king. Gustavus died in 1632. In 1658 the Swedes took Tallinn and part of Estonia. However the Danes also had ambitions in this area and the two countries went to war in 1658. He ended the war with Denmark in 1659.

4: Economic History and Economy of Sweden

The history of the revolution in Sweden, occasion'd by the change of religion, and alteration of the government, in that kingdom. Written originally.

It is nearly impossible to escape the fact that there will be a royal wedding in Sweden this year. The marriage of Crown Princess Victoria to Daniel Westling is in the news almost daily and pictures of the happy couple beam down from billboards at passengers arriving at Arlanda Airport. One can only speculate over whether the timing of the wedding is merely coincidence or careful and thoughtful planning to help commemorate the foundation of the current Bernadotte dynasty. So how did it come to be that an ambitious middle aged man from southern France was able to be proclaimed Crown Prince of Sweden? By the first decade of the 19th century the face of Europe had been scarred by war and revolution. At the same time the once mighty war machine of Sweden was but a faded memory. The country was in political turmoil and without an heir. In a feat that would have been impossible before the French revolution and the fall of the Bourbon monarchs, the non-aristocratic Bernadotte rose in the ranks of the French military to become an officer. His military expertise brought him to the attention of Napoleon who eventually made Bernadotte a Marshal of France. This was one of the highest honors of the time. There is however a parallel storyline to the life of Jean Baptiste Bernadotte which may also explain his rise in the ranks. She also happened to be the first love of Napoleon. No matter which way you look at it, Bernadotte became a well regarded man during the French Republic and later Empire. His reputation spread all the way to Sweden where a dynastic crisis was occurring. There is a lot of speculation on how the name of Jean Baptiste Bernadotte ever made it into the running, but most historians agree that it was in fact a lone Swedish nobleman who encouraged Bernadotte to contend for the position of Crown Prince. The choice was not immediately popular, and the nobleman was actually imprisoned for a short time because of his tactlessness in suggesting the position to a mere French marshal. The new Swedish monarch was not of royal birth, and the turmoil the now exiled Napoleon had thrown the continent into was not forgiven. Napoleon did not install Bernadotte on the Swedish throne, but their names were still closely associated. The affiliation to the Napoleonic Dynasty was however never completely severed. After two hundred years the royal legitimacy of the Bernadottes is no longer an issue. Besides the Royal Wedding the Bernadotte bicentenary will also be commemorated in the late summer and autumn. On October 20 the Royal Family will visit the port city of Helsingborg where Bernadotte first stepped onto Swedish soil. Juan Navas, a journalist and former information secretary at the Royal Court, will be writing a series of articles about Swedish royalty in the run up to the royal wedding on June 19th. From next week he will also be writing a royal wedding blog.

5: A History of the Late Revolution in Sweden

*The History of the Revolution in Sweden: Occasioned by the Change of Religion, and Alteration of the Government, in That Kingdom (Classic Reprint) [Vertat Vertat] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Private services are exclusive of dwelling services. Growth and Transformation in the Agricultural Society of the Early Nineteenth Century During the first half of the nineteenth century the agricultural sector and the rural society dominated the Swedish economy. Thus, more than three-quarters of the population were occupied in agriculture while roughly 90 percent lived in the countryside. Many non-agrarian activities such as the iron industry, the saw mill industry and many crafts as well as domestic, religious and military services were performed in rural areas. Although growth was slow, a number of structural and institutional changes occurred that paved the way for future modernization. Most important was the transformation of agriculture. From the late eighteenth century commercialization of the primary sector intensified. Particularly during the Napoleonic Wars, the domestic market for food stuffs widened. The population increase in combination with the temporary decrease in imports stimulated enclosures and reclamation of land, the introduction of new crops and new methods and above all it stimulated a greater degree of market orientation. In the decades after the war the traditional Swedish trade deficit in grain even shifted to a trade surplus with an increasing exportation of oats, primarily to Britain. Concomitant with the agricultural transformation were a number of infrastructural and institutional changes. Domestic transportation costs were reduced through investments in canals and roads. Trade of agricultural goods was liberalized, reducing transaction costs and integrating the domestic market even further. Trading companies became more effective in attracting agricultural surpluses for more distant markets. In support of the agricultural sector new means of information were introduced by, for example, agricultural societies that published periodicals on innovative methods and on market trends. Mortgage societies were established to supply agriculture with long term capital for investments that in turn intensified the commercialization of production. All these elements meant a profound institutional change in the sense that the price mechanism became much more effective in directing human behavior. Furthermore, a greater interest in information and in the main instrument of information, namely literacy, was infused. Traditionally, popular literacy had been upheld by the church, mainly devoted to knowledge of the primary Lutheran texts. In the new economic environment, literacy was secularized and transformed into a more functional literacy marked by the advent of schools for public education in the s. The Breakthrough of Modern Economic Growth in the Mid-nineteenth Century In the decades around the middle of the nineteenth century new dynamic forces appeared that accelerated growth. Most notably foreign trade expanded by leaps and bounds in the s and s. With new export sectors, industrial investments increased. Furthermore, railways became the most prominent component of a new infrastructure and with this construction a new component in Swedish growth was introduced, heavy capital imports. The upswing in industrial growth in Western Europe during the s, in combination with demand induced through the Crimean War, led to a particularly strong expansion in Swedish exports with sharp price increases for three staple goods – bar iron, wood and oats. The charcoal-based Swedish bar iron had been the traditional export good and had completely dominated Swedish exports until mid-nineteenth century. Bar iron met, however, increasingly strong competition from British and continental iron and steel industries and Swedish exports had stagnated in the first half of the nineteenth century. The upswing in international demand, following the diffusion of industrialization and railway construction, gave an impetus to the modernization of Swedish steel production in the following decades. The saw mill industry was a really new export industry that grew dramatically in the s and s. Up until this time, the vast forests in Sweden had been regarded mainly as a fuel resource for the iron industry and for household heating and local residential construction. With sharp price increases on the Western European market from the s and s, the resources of the sparsely populated northern part of Sweden suddenly became valuable. A formidable explosion of saw mill construction at the mouths of the rivers along the northern coastline followed. Within a few decades Swedish merchants, as well as Norwegian, German, British and Dutch merchants, became saw mill owners running large-scale capitalist enterprises at the fringe of the

European civilization. Less dramatic but equally important was the sudden expansion of Swedish oat exports. The market for oats appeared mainly in Britain, where short-distance transportation in rapidly growing urban centers increased the fleet of horses. Swedish oats became an important energy resource during the decades around the mid-nineteenth century. In Sweden this had a special significance since oats could be cultivated on rather barren and marginal soils and Sweden was richly endowed with such soils. Thus, the market for oats with strongly increasing prices stimulated further the commercialization of agriculture and the diffusion of new methods. It was furthermore so since oats for the market were a substitute for local flax production "also thriving on barren soils" while domestic linen was increasingly supplanted by factory-produced cotton goods. The Swedish economy was able to respond to the impetus from Western Europe during these decades, to diffuse the new influences in the economy and to integrate them in its development very successfully. The barriers to change seem to have been weak. This is partly explained by the prior transformation of agriculture and the evolution of market institutions in the rural economy. People reacted to the price mechanism. New social classes of commercial peasants, capitalists and wage laborers had emerged in an era of domestic market expansion, with increased regional specialization, and population increase. The composition of export goods also contributed to the diffusion of participation and to the diffusion of export income. Iron, wood and oats meant both a regional and a social distribution. The value of prior marginal resources such as soils in the south and forests in the north was inflated. The technology was simple and labor intensive in industry, forestry, agriculture and transportation. The demand for unskilled labor increased strongly that was to put an imprint upon Swedish wage development in the second half of the nineteenth century. Commercial houses and industrial companies made profits but export income was distributed to many segments of the population. The integration of the Swedish economy was further enforced through initiatives taken by the State. The parliament decision in the s to construct the railway trunk lines meant, first, a more direct involvement by the State in the development of a modern infrastructure and, second, new principles of finance since the State had to rely upon capital imports. At the same time markets for goods, labor and capital were liberalized and integration both within Sweden and with the world market deepened. The Swedish adoption of the Gold Standard in put a final stamp on this institutional development. A Second Industrial Revolution around In the late nineteenth century, particularly in the s, international competition became fiercer for agriculture and early industrial branches. The integration of world markets led to falling prices and stagnation in the demand for Swedish staple goods such as iron, sawn wood and oats. Profits were squeezed and expansion thwarted. On the other hand there arose new markets. Increasing wages intensified mechanization both in agriculture and in industry. The demand increased for more sophisticated machinery equipment. At the same time consumer demand shifted towards better foodstuff "such as milk, butter and meat" and towards more fabricated industrial goods. The decades around the turn of the twentieth century meant a profound structural change in the composition of Swedish industrial expansion that was crucial for long term growth. New and more sophisticated enterprises were founded and expanded particularly from the s, in the upswing after the Baring Crisis. The new enterprises were closely related to the so called Second Industrial Revolution in which scientific knowledge and more complex engineering skills were main components. The electrical motor became especially important in Sweden. A new development block was created around this innovation that combined engineering skills in companies such as ASEA later ABB with a large demand in energy-intensive processes and with the large supply of hydropower in Sweden. The State, once again, engaged itself in infrastructural development in support of electrification, still resorting to heavy capital imports. A number of innovative industries were founded in this period "all related to increased demand for mechanization and engineering skills. This was, of course, not an entirely Swedish phenomenon. These branches developed simultaneously on the Continent, particularly in nearby Germany and in the U. Knowledge and innovative stimulus was diffused among these economies. The question is rather why this new development became so strong in Sweden so that new industries within a relatively short period of time were able to supplant old resource-based industries as main driving forces of industrialization. Traditions of engineering skills were certainly important, developed in old heavy industrial branches such as iron and steel industries and stimulated further by State initiatives such as railway construction or, more directly, the founding of the Royal Institute of

Technology. But apart from that the economic development in the second half of the nineteenth century fundamentally changed relative factor prices and the profitability of allocation of resources in different lines of production. The relative increase in the wages of unskilled labor had been stimulated by the composition of early exports in Sweden. This was much reinforced by two components in the further development – emigration and capital imports. Within approximately the same period, the Swedish economy received a huge amount of capital mainly from Germany and France, while delivering an equally huge amount of labor to primarily the U. Thus, Swedish relative factor prices changed dramatically. Swedish interest rates remained at rather high levels compared to leading European countries until , due to a continuous large demand for capital in Sweden, but relative wages rose persistently see Table 5. As in the rest of Scandinavia, wage increases were much stronger than GDP growth in Sweden indicating a shift in income distribution in favor of labor, particularly in favor of unskilled labor, during this period of increased world market integration.

6: Gustavian era - Wikipedia

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This led to economic growth benefiting large sections of the population and leading up to a consumption revolution starting in the 1700s. It also led to rapid demographic increase. The "mercantilist economic policy" of the 17th century banned rural trade for the purpose of drawing a clear line between the urban and rural economies. Craft and industrial production were regarded as urban source of livelihood, therefore centralized manufacturing were preferred. Early Industrialization, regional specialization and institutional changes [edit] In the period the protoindustries developed into more specialized and larger industries. Important institutional changes in this period included the abolishment of most tariffs and other barriers to free trade in the 1700s and the introduction of the gold standard in 1816, linking the Swedish krona at a fixed parity to gold. These institutional changes helped the expansion of free trade. Large infrastructural investments were made during this period, mainly in the expanding rail road network, which was financed in part by the government and in part by private enterprises. During this period new industries developed, with their focus on the domestic market: The rapid expansion of these industries was clearly helped by the existence of a well functioning risk capital market: The private banks issued loans to start-up companies, with stocks as security. As the company was in business and showing positive business figures, the stocks were sold on the stock market, enabling the bank to lend the money to other start-up companies. The rapid credit expansion led to bank tragedy in 1811, as well as a property market collapse. Having imported vast amounts of foreign capital to finance its industrialization, during a year period, from 1810 to 1811, Sweden was probably one of the leading debtor nations in the world by 1811. This situation would change rapidly in the coming decade. In the First World War commenced and international demand for Swedish exports of strategically important products such as steel, to be used in the armaments industry, increased rapidly. The warring nations had imposed severe limitations on trade between each other, as a neutral country, Sweden was not affected by these restrictions. The warring nations, such as the UK, to a large extent used the printing of new money as a means of financing the war, leading to inflation and thus causing the prices for Swedish exports to rise rapidly. The massive transfers of foreign money as payments for wartime Swedish exports meant that Sweden went from having been one of the most indebted nations in the world before the war, to being a net creditor after the war. Wealth inequality[edit] A study found that Sweden had lower levels of inequality than other Western European states in 1800 but that the levels converged with those of other European states to become roughly the same by 1900.

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This is a History of Sweden from through , more known as the Gustavian era of Kings Gustav III and Gustav IV, as well as the reign of King Charles XIII of Sweden.

The German Empire was founded on January 18, , in the aftermath of three successful wars by the North German state of Prussia. Within a seven-year period Denmark, the Habsburg monarchy, and France were vanquished in short, decisive conflicts. The Schleswig-Holstein question , which had threatened the balance of power in northern Europe for more than a decade, took on a new dimension with the cession of Schleswig and Holstein to Prussia. The liberals in the parliament had a reduced majority, and they were now split in their attitude to Prime Minister Otto von Bismarck; his success had shaken their liberal principles. The moderates broke away from the Progressives Deutsche Fortschrittspartei to form the National Liberal Party , a party in which liberalism was subordinated to nationalism. Bismarck, on his side, made a conciliatory gesture by asking for an act of indemnity for the unconstitutional collection of taxes since the beginning of the parliamentary struggle with Prussian King William I in . This act was passed on September 3, , by a vote of to . It was a decisive step in German history. Instead of a struggle for power, there was henceforth compromise. The capitalist middle classes ceased to demand control of the state, and the crown and the Junker governing class conducted the state in a way which suited middle-class needs and outlook. However, the decision of September 3, , was not undone, and Germany did not become a constitutional monarchy. He also dreaded the possibility of inflammation of radical feeling in a unitary German state. Therefore he tried to change as little as possible, and the North German Confederation which he created in had curious echoes of the Austrian-dominated German Confederation which had vanished in . Indeed, Bismarck still thought of German unification as primarily an affair of foreign policy: German interests could best be represented by a single, united power abroad. However, since this domination was exercised in the interests of conservatism , he expected little change. The federal constitution which he hastily drafted early in was not a sham. It contained genuine federal guarantees for the individual states. Nevertheless, it was a pretense in that the reality on which it rested was not federal. A federation must be an association of states more or less equal in power. In the North German Confederation, Prussia overshadowed the other parties so decisively that Prussian will was always likely to prevail. The federal constitution was adopted by the North German Reichstag on April 17, . Four years later it became, almost without change, the constitution of the German Empire. Two principles were balanced against each otherâ€”the sovereignty of the German states and the national unity of the German people. In constitutional theory the first carried the day. The Bundesrat Federal Council , its members nominated by the state governments, initiated laws, conducted the federal government, and could alter the constitution by a two-thirds majority. Prussia, which had 17 members out of 43, could thus veto any constitutional change. The king of Prussia, as president of the federation, nominated the chancellor , who was to carry out federal affairs under the direction of the Bundesrat. The Reichstag, on the other hand, elected by direct universal manhood suffrage , was strictly limited to legislative activities. There was no provision by which it could interfere with the activities of the federal government. Yet, despite these provisions, the Bundesrat soon lost all importance, and the German government became as much in need of a parliamentary majority as if Germany were a thoroughly liberal state. The federal element counted for more in the sphere of administration, where there was a real division of duties. The federal authority controlled foreign affairs, the army, and economic affairs, and there was to be a single judicial system and a single legal code. The states conducted ordinary administration and remained in control of educational and religious matters. In July Bismarck offered to all German states a new customs union on condition that they accepted a customs parliament. As this parliament was to consist of the members of the North German Reichstag with members from southern Germany added, this was, in essence, a way of smuggling in German unity by a side door. The North German Confederation was regarded by many, including Bismarck, as a halfway house to German unification which would stand for a long time. Indeed, between and the movement for German unity lost ground in southern Germany. Luxembourg had been a member of the old confederation, and a Prussian

garrison still remained there. Napoleon III proposed to buy the grand duchy from its ruler, the king of the Netherlands. The response was an outcry in Germany and questions in the Reichstag. Bismarck felt that no essentially German issue was at stake and probably held too that Prussia was not ready for a new war. There was an uproar in Germany and other European powers protested. After a conference in London, Luxembourg became an independent neutral state with its fortifications dismantled. Thereafter Napoleon sought more actively for an alliance with Austria but without effect. Early in Bismarck made a move against France which has been variously interpreted. Bismarck hinted unofficially to the provisional rulers of Spain that they should offer the throne to Prince Leopold von Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, a member of the Roman Catholic branch of the Hohenzollern family. It has been argued that Bismarck gave this advice in order to provoke France into war and that he was driven to do so by the trend of opinion hostile to Prussia in southern Germany. There is little evidence for this. It is just as likely that he promoted the candidature to increase the prestige of the Hohenzollern dynasty or to keep out some rival prince. At all events, he could not have foreseen the folly of the French government, which deliberately forced a crisis when it had already received satisfaction. They were to know nothing until Prince Leopold was actually elected. There were wild protests in Paris and an immediate demand that Leopold be ordered to withdraw. This was not enough for the French government, and it insisted that King William, as head of the Hohenzollern family, should promise that the candidature would never be renewed. This demand was presented to the king at Ems by the French ambassador, Vincent Benedetti, on July 14. Though William refused to give a promise, he dismissed Benedetti in a friendly enough way. This version provoked a French declaration of war on July 19. The Franco-German War Though the war was perhaps not planned by Bismarck, it was certainly not unwelcome to him. The French had supposed that they would take the offensive. Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. This army was surrounded at Sedan and on September 2 forced to surrender. That brought the overthrow of Napoleon and the establishment of a provisional government in Paris. The new government was resolved not to surrender any French territory, and the war was therefore continued. Strasbourg surrendered on September 28 and Metz on October 23. The German armies were then free to press the siege of Paris throughout the winter. An armistice was then concluded and a French national assembly elected which had to authorize the conclusion of peace. Preliminary terms were agreed to by Jules Favre on February 26, and the final peace treaty was signed at Frankfurt am Main on May 10. France had to cede Alsace and most of Lorraine, including Metz, its capital. Bismarck seems to have doubted the wisdom of such excessive demands but was overborne by the German generals. On their prompting he also demanded Belfort, but he abandoned this demand in exchange for a victory march by the German army through the streets of Paris. France had also to pay an indemnity of five billion francs, and the Germans remained in occupation of part of France until the amount was paid. From *A History of France*, by H. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library

The making of the empire During the war, negotiations were pushed on for the uniting of all Germany outside Austria. Otto von Bray-Steinburg, the Bavarian prime minister, held out against any real union and demanded special treatment for Bavaria. Bismarck turned his flank by securing the incorporation of Baden into the North German Confederation. Bavaria also kept its own army in peacetime. In one relatively insignificant concession, a committee of the Bundesrat under Bavarian chairmanship was to advise the chancellor on questions of foreign policy; the advice was seldom sought and never taken. There remained the question of a name for the new state. Bismarck wished to revive the title of emperor, a proposal most unwelcome to William. With great adroitness Bismarck maneuvered one against the other and actually induced Louis to press the imperial title on William. The proposal was seconded by the other German princes and supported by the North German Reichstag; the leader of the Reichstag deputation was Eduard Simson, who had offered the imperial crown to Frederick William IV in on behalf of the Frankfurt assembly. William could hold out no longer. He was proclaimed German emperor at Versailles on January 18, 1871. A Reichstag was elected from all Germany, and this Reichstag accepted the constitution of 1871 with concessions to Bavaria as the imperial constitution on April 14, 1871. Alsace-Lorraine was treated as a conquered province. It was made a Reichsland and ruled by an imperial governor, or Statthalter. In theory this was a temporary settlement, but Alsace-Lorraine never developed the German loyalty which would have qualified it for autonomy. The constitution left open the great question of the powers of the Reichstag over the

executive. The question was symbolized in two forms: As to military credits, Bismarck tried to include the sums necessary for an army of 400,000 men as a permanent grant in the constitution and thus exempt from parliamentary criticism or control. He failed to carry this and had to agree to a compromise, the Septennat, by which military credits were to be voted for seven years—hence, the political crises which occurred every seven years, when artificial alarm had to be created in order to renew the army grant.

German Empire
Map of the northern part of the German Empire c. 1871
Map of the southwestern part of the German Empire c. 1871
Map of the eastern part of the German Empire c. 1871

Only a small group, the Deutsche Reichspartei German Imperial Party, composed mainly of officials, remained loyal to him. On the other hand, the National Liberals were more enthusiastic for Bismarck than ever before, and from 1871 they formed almost a government party. Bismarck discussed proposals for legislation with their leader, Rudolf von Bennigsen, and the National Liberals supported his general conduct of policy. Moreover, in the first years, the National Liberals managed to win more votes than any other single party despite universal suffrage. Only in 1877 did it become clear that a purely middle-class party could not keep its hold on peasant and working-class voters. Rudolf von Bennigsen, detail from an oil painting by Franz von Lenbach, 1871; in the Landesmuseum, Hanover
Courtesy of the Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum, Hanover

Thus the first period of the empire was the great age of liberal reform.

8: Sweden – Economic Growth and Structural Change,

This thus paved way to the first industrial revolution of Sweden in the early 19th century. Early Industrialization, regional specialization and institutional changes () [edit] In the period the protoindustries developed into more specialized and larger industries.

Zero - Conventional masonry without visible joints The History of Bricks and Brickmaking Man has used brick for building purpose for thousands of years. Bricks date back to BC, which makes them one of the oldest known building materials. They were discovered in southern Turkey at the site of an ancient settlement around the city of Jericho. The first bricks, made in areas with warm climates, were mud bricks dried in the sun for hardening. Ancient Egyptian bricks were made of clay mixed with straw. The evidence of this can be seen today at ruins of Harappa Buhen and Mohenjo-daro. Paintings on the tomb walls of Thebes portray Egyptian slaves mixing, tempering and carrying clay for the sun dried bricks. The greatest breakthrough came with the invention of fired brick in about 3, Bc. From this moment on, bricks could be made without the heat of sun and soon became popular in cooler climates. The Romans preferred to make their bricks in spring, then they stored them for two years before selling or using them. They only used white or red clay to manufacture bricks. The Romans succeeded in introducing fired bricks to the entire country thanks to mobile kilns. These were bricks stamped with the mark of the legion who supervised the brick production. Roman bricks differed in size and shape from other ancient bricks as they were more commonly round, square, oblong, triangular and rectangular. The kiln fired bricks measured 1 or 2 Roman feet by 1 Roman foot, and sometimes up to 3 Roman feet with larger ones. The Romans used brick for public and private buildings over the entire Roman empire. They built walls, forts, cultural centre, vaults, arches and faces of their aqueducts. During the period of the Roman Empire, the Romans spread the art of brickmaking throughout Europe and it continued to dominate during the medieval and Renaissance period. When the Roman Empire fell, the art of brickmaking nearly vanished and it continued only in Italy and the Bizantine Empire. In the 11th century, brickmaking spread from these regions to France. During the 12th century bricks were reintroduced to northern Germany from northern Italy. This created the brick gothic period with buildings mainly built from fired red clay bricks. This period lacks in figural architectural sculptures which had previously been carved from stone. The Gothic figures were virtually impossible to create out of bricks at that time, but could be identified by the use of split courses of bricks in varying colours, red bricks, glazed bricks and white lime plaster. Eventually custom built and shaped bricks were introduced which could imitate the architectural sculptures. In the 16th century, Brick Gothic was replaced by Brick Renaissance architecture. In medieval times, the clay for making bricks often was kneaded by workers with their bare feet. They clay was shaped into brick by pushing it into a wooden frame placed on a table, which was covered with sand or straw to prevent the clay from sticking. After excess clay was wiped off with a stick, the brick was removed from the frame. After the great fire of London in , the city was rebuilt with mainly bricks. Adobe brick, which is sundried brick made of clay and straw, has been made for centuries in Central America, particularly in Mexico. Some Aztec adobe structures still exist, one example is the Pyramid of the Sun, built in the 15th century. Bricks crossed the Atlantic with Dutch and British immigrants with some brickmasons among them. In Virginia brick structures were built as early as At that time it was common for brickmasons to make the bricks on the jobsite. It is known that bricks were transported from Virginia to Bermuda in in exchange for food and oil. Many early American skyscrapers are clad in brick or terracotta. It took 10 million bricks to build the Empire State Building. During the Renaissance and Baroque periods, exposed brick walls became less and less popular, consequently brickwork was covered in plaster. Only during the mid 18th century brick walls started to regain their popularity. Bricks were made by hand until about Once the Industrial Revolution broke out, the brickmaking machinery was introduced. Consequently, the number of clays that could be made into brick was greatly increased which influenced the production capacity. Handmade brick production ranged up to 36, bricks per week but by a brickmaking machine made 12, bricks a day. As brick structures could be built much quicker and cheaper, they replaced other raw materials like stone or rock. During the building boom of the 19th century, when more than 10

billion bricks were produced annually, many American cities like Boston and New York favoured locally made bricks. In Victorian London, due to the heavy fog, bright red bricks were chosen which made buildings much more visible. Although the amount of red pigment was reduced in bricks production, red remained the most desired colour for the brick and still does to this day. Wright and Louis Khan. Nowadays, apart from wood, bricks seem to be commonly used building material.

9: Economic history of Sweden - Wikipedia

The Industrial Revolution in Sweden. Although Sweden did not possess the coal deposits of Britain and Belgium she did have ores of iron and other metals. The iron ore was of very high quality. The extensive forests of Sweden provided the charcoal used for smelting iron before the days of the coke furnaces of the industrial revolution.

The elections afterward resulted in a partial victory for the Caps party, especially among the lower orders; but in the estate of the peasantry the Caps majority was merely nominal, while the mass of the nobility was dead against them. The second obliged him to abide, not by the decision of all the estates together, as heretofore, but by that of the majority only, with the view of enabling the actually dominant lower estates in which there was a large Cap majority to rule without the nobility. The third clause required him, in all cases of preferment, to be guided not "principally" as heretofore, but "solely" by merit. All through the estates wrangled over the clauses. An attempt of the king to mediate foundered on the suspicions of the estate of burgesses, and on February 24, It was now, for the first time, that Gustav began to consider the possibility of a revolution. The estates could assemble only when summoned by him; he could dismiss them whenever he thought fit; and their deliberations were to be confined exclusively to the propositions which he laid before them. But these extensive powers were subjected to important checks. Thus, without the previous consent of the estates, no new law could be imposed, no old law abolished, no offensive war undertaken, no extraordinary war subsidy levied. The estates alone could tax themselves; they had the absolute control of the Riksbank - the Bank of Sweden, and the right of controlling the national expenditure. The king was now their sovereign lord; and, for all his courtesy and gentleness, the jealousy with which he guarded and the vigour with which he enforced the prerogative plainly showed that he meant to remain so. But it was not till after eight years more had elapsed that actual trouble began. The Riksdag of had been obsequious; the Riksdag of was mutinous. It rejected nearly all the royal measures outright, or so modified them that Gustav himself withdrew them. When he dismissed the estates, the speech from the throne held out no prospect of their speedy revocation. His attempt in the interval to rule without a parliament had been disastrous. It was only by a breach of his own constitution that he had been able to declare war against Russia in April; the Conspiracy of Anjala July had paralysed all military operations at the very opening of the campaign; and the sudden invasion of his western provinces by the Danes, almost simultaneously September, seemed to bring him to the verge of ruin. The nobility never forgave him. Catherine II of Russia concluded a secret alliance with Denmark, in which the Swedish revolution was described as "an act of violence" justifying both powers in seizing the first favourable opportunity for intervention to restore the Swedish constitution of . Moreover, France agreed to pay its outstanding subsidies to Sweden, amounting to 1.

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