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### Problems of Urbanization

In the 19th century, lots of countries in the world, including the US, experienced the extensive growth of its cities, known as urbanization. Lots of people from rural areas moved to metropolises in pursuit of a new life and new opportunities. Urbanization in the 19th century was also associated with numerous significant problems, such as the rise of poverty, the extensive spread of crime, and an increase in environmental pollution. Moreover, even though the authorities have made efforts to resolve such issues, they continue to be associated with the cities, even nowadays.

One of the most significant problems related to urbanization of the 19th century was the increase in poverty. The issue was that the inhabitants of cities were excessively dependent on their jobs as their primary sources of income; however, the number of available vacancies was far less than the number of the city's inhabitants. In such conditions, lots of people were unemployed and, thus, impoverished. It led to the emergence of another problem related to cities, namely crime. Some citizens desperate to find legitimate occupations and unable to do so started earning money in illegal ways. The above-mentioned problems are still far from being resolved, since urban development that is handled too chaotically contributes to the emergence of

marginalized urban areas that are closely associated with criminal activity (Owusu 2).

Nonetheless, a more deliberate approach to employment security and the development of a comprehensive system of law enforcement, respectively, have addressed such issues.

Apart from that, the cities of the 19th century also became problematic due to the increase in pollution. At that point, people were, primarily, not concerned with environmental questions; thus, no steps were taken to protect the water, soil, and air from the pollution produced by the large factories built around the cities. For instance, the River Thames in London, which was in the centre of the extensive industrialization of the 19th century, "is another example of water pollution due to urbanization (Reible 12). Even nowadays, this problem is far from being solved; however, it is addressed by the authorities who demand stricter security and sustainability requirements of modern industrial facilities.

To conclude, during the urbanization of the 19th century, cities became significant problems for a number of reasons. They were associated with increased levels of poverty, which in turn contributed to the development of crime. Moreover, urban industrial facilities polluted the environment. Nowadays, the authorities and specific bodies aim to address the enumerated issues, but when it comes to urbanization, they remain as relevant as ever.

Works Cited

Owusu, George. *Introduction: Urban Crime and Poverty Nexus*. Ghana Journal of Geography, vol. 8, no. 1, 2016.

Reible, Danny. *Fundamentals of Environmental Engineering 1st Edition*. CRC Press, 1998.