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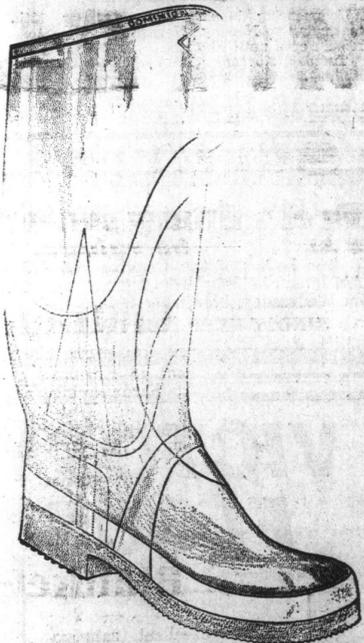
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By the year three thousand the habitable earth will afford standing room only, argues Prof. J. W. Gregory, basing his conclusions upon the rate of population increases between 1906 and 1910. If that continues until the year 3000, our planet will have as many folks as it can feed, he says in an address delivered recently before the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Toronto, and, while one newspaper thinks that "the professional dreamers are a bit wild," the Boston Herald takes them rather seriously, reminding us that "the population of the United States advanced from 3,929,214 in 1790 to 105,708,771 in 1920, and it was by no means all due to immigration." Moreover,

"From 1800 to 1900 European Russia's population jumped from 40 to 106 millions, Germany's from 27 to 56, France's from 35 to 39, and the population of Great Britain from 25 to 41 millions. In the course of the nineteenth century the dwellers of Europe doubled in number; for every four people living in European lands at the time of Napoleon's consulship there were more than nine at the outbreak of the World War. And in this race for numbers the blacks, yellows and browns fall not in their competition with the whites, as may be seen from the fact that in a single century the population of India has expanded from 100,000,000 to more than 300,000,000."

The Boston paper then asks, "With a total world population which has already reached 1,849,600,000, what may we expect in the future?" and tells us:

"Dr. Raymond Pearl, Andrew of Johns Hopkins asserts that in the United States alone a population numbering 197,274,000 by the year 3100 may be confidently anticipated, while B. L. Putnam Weale predicts that the statisticians of 1980 will enter on their records the figure of 4,000,000,000 for the planet as a whole. But the really sensational estimate comes from Dr. H. P. Fairchild of New York University, after a survey of conditions in both old world and new. His numbers for America are 550,000,000 at the end of the twentieth century, and for the middle of the next century 'as many people as there are now on the entire globe.' Nor is he content with even this forecast, for he goes on to say that 'increase in the birth-rate and better living conditions should produce in 10,000 years more human beings than could be provided with standing room.'"

"The professor sums up all conceivable ways out from the dilemma, resort to 'skyscrapers' included. But he omits one obvious and comforting, if selfish, reflection—that the 'jam' will not come in our day. And with a hundred centuries at its disposal civilization should have ample time in which to work out just the solution of the population problem that is needed to keep the world a going concern and insure ample elbow-room for everybody."

Further consolation is proffered us by the Newark News, which observes:

"In practice civilization has made for a decreased birth-rate and a higher type of individual. As far as there is a net gain in the world's population, the means of sustaining it have been adequate, and the future looks much better than it did in Malthus's day. The machine age, with all its marvels, is believed to be in its infancy. More food also is produced on less acreage, where science is applied, yet science has barely made a start."

With a view to defining overpopulation clearly, and to sounding a warning, to the Manchester (N. H.) Union points out that overpopulation is not wholly a matter of numbers and of space:

"We could have a condition of overpopulation; for overpopulation does not mean many people, but more people than there are food and shelter. A very small population could mean overpopulation in a desert or Arctic country."

"A condition of overpopulation may temporarily result from transient and removable causes. Though the war-ravaged Europeans may have had their population reduced by the war, because they had their resources reduced even more, because so many of their dwellings were destroyed, they are in a condition of overpopulation at present."

"Provided we increase our supply of necessities, our American population can increase indefinitely without pressure. But if our food supply lessens through either exhaustion of the soil or, what seems more likely, through a great decrease in the number of tillers of the soil, a condition of overpopulation will result—more mouths than food to fill them. A condition of overpopulation as regards housing can result in the same way—scarcity of building material and a lessened amount of work put into building."

As is generally the case this discussion has revived the question as to whether, while increasing numerically, the human race is maintaining its quality. Evidently the white race—or at all events its Anglo-Saxon branch—is faring well, for the St.

Paul Pioneer Press informs us that, at the Toronto meeting.

Dr. F. C. Shrukall, President of the Anthropological Section took a view quite contrary to the sentiment too widely expressed that the Anglo-Saxon race is about played out and that it is on the slow decline, degenerating into decay. Perhaps this idea is cultivated by the more general knowledge of crime, corruption and greed as compared with the knowledge of the existence of obedience to law, honesty and unselfishness.

"Physically, mentally and morally, Dr. Shrukall declares, we are better than our forefathers. This is his scientific conclusion."

"In stature and weight, we average higher than our forefathers. Our general health is vastly improved and our expectation of life longer. Powers of resistance that have not been equalled were revealed in the great war. Mental defects are decreasing. Advances in education are being made. Smaller families are being offset by lessened mortality in childhood."

In the address that started all this discussion Professor Gregory expressed alarm over the rapid increase of the negro race in Africa and South America, and Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, Director of Science Service, reports him thus for the New York World:

"There is double menace in the race problem, we are warned. From one side is the danger of civilization of the rising tide of color, and from the other is the peril of humanity from the rising tide of color prejudice."

"A thousand years ago the whites held only part of Europe. Now Europeans, though only a third of the world's population, rule eight-ninths of the habitable land. But during the past half-century colored races have increased faster than the white."

"Increased disparity in numbers means, in a democratic age, an inevitable transfer of power; while the former prestige of the white man has been undermined by his own beneficent rule, alike in war and peace, and personal authority which the white man held in 1900 has undergone a momentous decline," said Professor Gregory.

"African negroes are increasing faster than any other people in the world. South America is firmly held by a mixed race, and Professor Gregory thinks it most probable that a similar hybrid people will eventually occupy the southeastern section of the United States with some measure of home rule. The whites can only hope to hold in South Africa certain segregated sections, and in Asia only the north and northwest. White colonists have no chance of permanently occupying land near the overcrowded parts of Asia or accessible to the fast-multiplying negroes of South Africa, he said."

Here Dr. Slosson again quotes Professor Gregory verbatim:

"White merchants may find in these regions profitable trading centers and may for a time rule and administer them, but when white enterprise has subdued the land, built railways and utilized the rivers, the colored man will oust the white man from all but the few posts that require experts."

Resuming in his own person, Dr. Slosson says:

"But Australia may be completely colonized by the white race, for the speaker believes that the conquest of tropical diseases will enable the tropics to support white civilization. Australian experience has proved that even in the hot and humid climate of Queensland, sugar-cane plantations can be more successfully worked by white than by colored labor, although black men can usually stand more heat than white."

"Professor Gregory looks to segregation as the best solution of the race problem, for he does not believe in interbreeding and regards coexistence as incompatible with racial integrity and the highest development of either race. As he puts it, the affectionate, emotional negro, the docile, diligent Asiatic, and the inventive, enterprising European, do not work at their best when associated en masse."

Fashions and Fads.

An evening gown of duvetyne is embroidered in metal and bordered with fur. Vertical bands of fur or fabric are used in trimming the new tunic length coats.

The shoulder flower may be a gardenia, rose, camellia, or a spray of geranium.

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