

TWO-THIRDS WORLD'S POPULATION AT WAR



Two thirds of the world's population is at war. The estimated population of the world is 4,691,751,000. The population of the belligerent countries and their colonies, total, 1,144,400,000. The Entente Allies, following the entry of the United States, consist of:

British Empire	448,000,000	United States	112,000,000
France	87,000,000	Total	948,100,000
Italy	37,000,000	Central Empires	
Japan	37,000,000	Austria-Hungary	50,000,000
Montenegro	500,000	Bulgaria	4,800,000
Portugal	15,000,000	German Empire	81,000,000
Roumania	7,600,000	Turkey	24,500,000
Russia	175,000,000	Total	160,300,000
Serbia	4,600,000		

HOW IRELAND IS HELPING BRITAIN

A Wonderful Response To Food Production Appeal

Acres Tilled Grows

Agricultural Department Mobilizing All the Essentials and Giving All Possible Assistance — A Vast Plowing Match

Few realize the wonderful response of the Irish agricultural classes to the government's appeal for extra food production since the submarine crisis of this winter, says an Irish correspondent in The Daily Chronicle, London. The Irish agricultural classes have their difficulties like their British brothers. They, too, have a shortage of labor. They have given men to the army and navy—in spite of what unfair critics say—and tens of thousands of their men and women have gone to England for munition work. The one advantage they have is in the large proportion of very small farmers who do not use hired labor, but only that of their own families. In spite of all drawbacks they have been steadily increasing their output of food for Great Britain since the war.

Ireland's Food Exports.

Do we realize the significance of that output? It is the greatest food supply coming into Great Britain from any country in the world excepting only the United States. The published averages of the last two years before the war of the value of the food and drink stuffs reaching Great Britain from the different countries were: Ireland, £38,000,000; United States, £38,000,000; Argentina, £30,000,000; Denmark, £21,500,000; British India, £18,500,000; Canada, £18,000,000; Russia, £15,500,000; Australia, £14,000,000; New Zealand, £9,000,000.

The war had disturbed this balance somewhat, bringing in greater supplies from America, but Ireland has increased her output so that the value of her food exports to Great Britain for 1915 (the latest published figures available) was £46,000,000, while she has kept up the basis from which she sent this supply by increasing her home breeding stock and her tillage. The Imperial importance of Ireland as a food contributor, a sustainer of Great Britain will perhaps thus be realized by some who had not quite thought of it before.

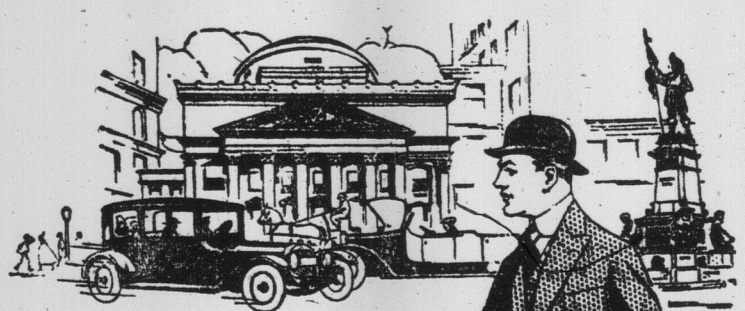
Respond to the Call.

But great as that production is, the Irish agriculturists are at this moment, in view of the submarine danger, engaged in a mighty effort to increase it. Their Department of Agriculture, clearly with the full concurrence of the agricultural classes, have thrown all their executive machinery and their very representative organization into the appeal and into the effort, and to make sure that there shall be no failure they have obtained a defence of the realm regulation making a certain minimum of extra tillage compulsory on every holding in Ireland of over ten acres in extent. This far-reaching and novel law enacts that every occupier shall till at least 10 per cent of the arable part of his holding, in addition to whatever amount he tilled last year (unless he had already cultivated 50 per cent, when he is not obliged to do more). There are 350,000 holdings to which this regulation applies, with an arable area of 14,500,000 acres. It is a remarkable testimony to Irish public spirit that this draconian measure has been accepted by the agriculturists, not only without objection, but with emphatic approval, and that so hearty is the voluntary effort which is being made that the compulsion seems only likely to be needed to an insignificant extent.

Mobilizing Essentials.

The department's representative County committees of agriculture, which have for years been organized in every county, have stopped all other work and put their expert and administrative staffs on to the new food-production schemes. They have organized special committees in every parish, and have mobilized the available supplies of seeds, manures, implements, making them go as far as possible by a system of local exchange. One of the problems is that the supplies of all these requisites are short in Ireland this year. Ireland's potato crop for 1916-17, for instance, is 43 per cent short of a normal year's crop. Thus it is only with strenuous economy and systematic distribution she can manage to have seed for the extra tillage.

A Vast Plowing Match. The whole of Ireland appears to be engaged in one vast plowing match. Descriptions are given in the department's bulletins of plows being drawn by every available type of animal, hunters, carriage horses, mules, jennets, even bullocks. Men and even women, who never



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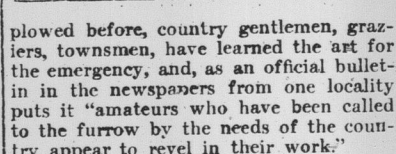
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plowed before, country gentlemen, graziers, townsmen, have learned the art for the emergency, and, as an official bulletin in the newspapers from one locality puts it "amateurs who have been called to the furrow by the needs of the country appear to revel in their work."

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE PROROGUED YESTERDAY WITH USUAL CEREMONY.

Toronto, April 12.—The Ontario legislature was prorogued this afternoon with the usual ceremonies. In this prorogation speech, Sir John Hendrie, lieutenant-governor, expressed his satisfaction at the unanimous declaration of the house of the determination of the people to do their utmost to bring the war to a successful conclusion. He emphasized the importance of a widespread response to the campaign for increased produc-

tion. He welcomed the returned soldiers and declared it was a privilege of the people to show their appreciation in every way.

Darwin's Experience With Potatoes

Few people, probably, have had such an experience with potatoes as once befell Charles Darwin when crossing the Andes (says a writer in the Manchester Guardian). The exploring party had put some in a pot to prepare for a meal in the usual way, but after they had remained for some hours in boiling water they were nearly as hard as ever. The pot was left on the fire all night, and next morning it was boiled again, but yet the potatoes were not cooked. The cooks came to the conclusion that the "curled pot," which was a new one did not choose to boil potatoes. Darwin, of course, knew that the failure

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was to be attributed to the diminished boiling-point of water is considerably from 10,000 to 14,000 feet above the level of the sea, neither eggs, potatoes, nor there must have it either baked or steamed, one result of which is that the tablelands of Peru, at an elevation of 14,000 feet, nor meat can be sufficiently boiled, so roasted.