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# OVER POPULATION CLAIM IN JAPAN IS PROVED FALSE

No Surplus Existing There That Requires Territorial Expansion—There Must be a Retention of Manpower if Country is to Expand Industrially.

BY CHASE S. OSBORN, JR.

Japan and her "booming millions" is a problem in population that has been in the mind of the world for some time. You have heard of the tremendous increase of people in the island empire and you wonder what is going to become of them all.

Somewhere, sometime, you have read that "Japan must have an outlet for her surplus population. The Japanese people, barred from the British dominions in the Pacific, barred from entrance into America, must have an outlet."

And then someone chattered: "Give Japan Siberia. Give Japan Manchuria. Give Japan territory in Asia. That will keep her from the Pacific and the Atlantic doors from the Yellow Peril."

This is precisely what occurred without the slightest overstatement. There has been considerable talk of such programs in America, and the open suggestion has been made that if we could get Japan into Siberia the "California" question would be ended forever.

In any such policy as this there is the greatest possibility of danger as well as the utmost measure of injury to other interested peoples.

We should instantly cease such advocacy for many reasons, the principal one of which is the fact that there is no excess of population in Japan—in other words, there is no such thing as over-population there; and for a second and very good reason that the Japanese is not a colonist and does not go to the territories already his.

This claim of over-population in the realm of international diplomacy by the Military Party, moreover, and while it has deceived some it must not be permitted to become the basis of any concessions to the Japanese government.

I have said that there is not a condition of over-population in Japan, and now let us see about it.

All Land Not Inhabited.

Japan has her millions to be true, as well as a high annual increase in population. But there are some interesting statistics in this connection that should be given wide circulation so that there may be a thorough understanding of this situation.

The population of Japan proper is approximately 60 millions. The density of population is put at 340 people per square mile, and this is compared as follows with the most densely populated countries of Europe: Belgium, 252; England and Wales, 238; Holland, 171; Italy, 121; Germany, 120. But Japan claims that her habitable area is so small that it compares as 19 per cent to 74 per cent, the latter applying to Belgium.

Japan, however, declares that all of her habitable land is inhabited. But it isn't. There is considerable land on the mainland that is either not cultivated or poorly cultivated, owing to the Japanese reluctance in trying to raise rice where the climate is not favorable. Other crops could be grown in an abundance in these places. Japan has plenty of room in the rich Hokkaido, but the Hokkaido is only partially developed. It can easily support 12 millions of people, but its present population is only two millions. The Japanese do not like to live in that section because the winter weather is too severe. There is plenty of room in Formosa, but the Japanese will not go there because the summers are too hot. There is no restriction on the Japanese emigrating to Manchuria, but there would have to be competition in farming with the Chinese and this he cannot successfully do, which experience has clearly shown. In petty trade the Japanese are successful, but the Japanese must look to preferential treatment. Neither is there any law against the Japanese colonist going to Siberia, but there the winters are cold and he can not stand them.

The fact is that the Japanese is not a successful colonist; that he is a town dweller by instinct; that he is averse to taking up his home in foreign lands except under the most favorable conditions.

The colonists took up approximately 3,000 acres of Idaho land which has been known in Western history as the bad lands because of its inaccessibility to transportation and its lava formation. There is some irrigation, but it is said to be poor and water never is plentiful.

Local men who know the country say the colonists will suffer for lack of water in the summer and that it will be impossible to raise and market crops at a profit.

Local men who know the country say the colonists who made friends here during their two days stay last summer have written back that they have been disillusioned.

Mud Slinging.

St. Hon. Arthur Meighen has lost no time in replying to the innuendoes and insinuations of Hon. T. A. Green in his manifesto in regard to corruption, control by "big interests" and political morality.

Will Mr. Green name a solitary charge of corruption or scandal against the Meighen Government or the Union Government which preceded it? No Canadian Government since Confederation and no belligerent administration has the clean record of the present Ministry. It is a record of which Mr. Meighen and the Canadian people have reason to be proud. The public accounts committee, where charges are investigated and which has not met more than a half dozen times in the past four years, and in every case the Government has come out with flying colors. Let Mr. Green name his charges; otherwise he should refrain from mud-slinging and from cant about the party which he leads being the sole repository of political morality in Canada.

Little Marion had been visiting her aunt and she had enjoyed herself exceedingly. Taking her leave she enthusiastically remarked: "Oh, Aunt Kate, I've had an unmemorable time."

# Prize Winners At Orphans' Fair

Numerous Drawings Saturday Night—All Booths Report Big Business.

The winners in the games and drawings at the Protestant Orphans' Fair which closed on Saturday night were: L. O. A. B. drawings, guessing weight of cake, prize electric reading lamp, Mrs. J. B. Harding, 244 Elliot Row; chocolate, Mrs. J. Glen, Victoria Street, first; Mrs. M. J. Wilson, Albert Street, second; layer cake, B. H. Waterson, 43 Mecklenburg Street, first; cream, Mrs. M. T. Smith, 217 Victoria Street, first; Mrs. James Taylor, 65 Lansdowne Avenue, second; prizes toilet sets.

Prize drawing, electric iron, ticket No. 11,698, Mrs. J. B. Harding, 244 Elliot Row; chocolate, Mrs. J. Glen, Victoria Street, first; Mrs. M. J. Wilson, Albert Street, second; layer cake, B. H. Waterson, 43 Mecklenburg Street, first; cream, Mrs. M. T. Smith, 217 Victoria Street, first; Mrs. James Taylor, 65 Lansdowne Avenue, second; prizes toilet sets.

The drawing for the Chevrolet car in connection with the Protestant Orphans' Fair has been postponed until November 10, when it will take place whether all the stubs are in or not. The drawing will probably take place at the Imperial Theatre.

# SOVIET RUSSIA TO TAKE UP DEBT OF IMP. RUSSIA

This Conditioned Upon Great Powers Recognizing the Soviet Republic.

Riga, Oct. 29.—Official confirmation that the Russian Soviet Government has agreed, under certain conditions, to recognize the foreign debts of the Imperial Russian Government has been received here through the Rosta official Bolshevik News Agency. Soviet Russia's recognition of the debts, M. Chicherin's note says, is conditional upon the great powers concluding peace with and recognizing the Soviet Republic. The Foreign Minister proposes the holding immediately of an international conference to consider the demands of all nations upon Russia and the Russian claims upon them, and to work out a final Treaty of Peace.

According to the Rosta despatch, George Chicherin, the Soviet Foreign Minister, yesterday despatched a note to the British, French, United States, Italian and Japanese Governments saying that the Soviet Government would agree to recognize the old Russian debts, incurred up to 1914, under the condition that "Russia be given certain privileges making possible the practical fulfillment of those obligations."

The first indication that Soviet Russia was considering the recognition of the foreign debts of the old Imperial Government was reported on Thursday of this week in a despatch from Copenhagen, which quoted another despatch from Riga, Estonia, to the effect that Maxim Litvinoff, chief of the Russian Soviet Legations abroad, had said in an interview:

"We have informed Great Britain and France that the Soviet Government is ready to acknowledge Imperial Russia's debt to foreign capitalists, but it would be absolutely necessary to confer regarding the ways and means of redeeming that debt."

The funeral of Simon Allen took place Saturday afternoon following service at the Mission Church by Rev. J. V. Young, Interment at Fernhill.

The funeral of William A. Gallant took place Saturday afternoon following service at his residence, 113 St. Patrick Street, Interment at Fernhill.

Winnipeg, Oct. 28.—Rev. Joseph Henri Pruthomme, in St. Boniface Cathedral was today elevated to the Episcopate of the Roman Catholic Church by His Excellency Pietro Di Maria, Apostolic Delegate to Canada.

Pittsburg, Oct. 28.—Among the 27 persons formally recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission here today was William McKee, of Bonshaw, P. E. I., who was drowned while trying to save a companion at Westville, P. E. I., on August 16, 1920.

raised by foreigners, especially Americans.

The editor of the Yomiuri and of the Asahi had similar criticisms to make of the American proposal, of which I was interested in saying, especially in view of the oft-repeated claims to the contrary.

Indeed, there is no question of over-population confronting Japan. There is no compelling necessity of providing an outlet on the Asiatic continent, or on any other continent, for the overflow population of the Japanese empire.

The Japanese plan of the development of industry, long since decided upon, takes care of the disposition of the people.

When surplus population is used as an argument in justification of a Tokyo policy it is merely the head of the military showing itself in the same familiar pose of deception.

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# U. S. Decided Against Germany At The Parley

Presence Deemed Not Vital as Nation Already Was Disarmed.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 29.—Reports from Berlin that the United States may send an invitation to Germany to participate in the arms conference are denied here by Government officials. Participation of Germany has been considered and discarded.

When the United States sent its invitations to the Powers to participate in the conference it was realized that the line must be drawn somewhere. There was a natural group in existence and this group included the Powers which had been instrumental in putting down the attack which Germany made upon civilization. If the invitations had been extended beyond this group it would have been necessary to hold a word conference since no fair explanation could have been found for excluding one nation and including another.

A world conference, it was realized, must have been an excellent thing if a league of nations had been the aim of the conference. Those who have opposed the idea of a league have been largely moved by the fact that it must include the entire world of nations and that such an organization was impracticable. The league which was formed was merely an organization dominated by the powers which had the military strength to enforce their will upon it.

Results First Concern.

When President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes considered the arms conference they made the initial decision that it must be conducted on practical lines. Results were aimed at more than discussion of theories.

Limitation of armaments is the main object and connected with this goal is the necessity of removing the outstanding cause of friction among the nations.

Those who have perfected the plans for the arms conference realize there can be no limitation of armaments so long as these causes remain and so long as the nations are preparing to meet them. Accordingly it was decided to invite into the conference those nations which had powerful armaments and those nations naturally were the ones which had emerged victoriously from the war.

So far as Germany is concerned theoretically disarmament has already taken place. While there are differences of opinion as to the degree of actual disarmament that has taken place in Germany, there is only one opinion as to the necessity of making complete disarmament a condition of peace.

Leaders in American thought could see no reason why Germany should be invited to participate in a discussion of the limitation of armaments when theoretically she is already disarmed and when the degree of disarmament which takes place in other countries must depend upon a continuation of this condition.

**LAST TRIP OF SEASON.**

The S. S. Governor Dingley, of the Eastern Steamship Line, made her last trip of this season between this port and Boston on Saturday. She arrived here in the morning with 65 passengers and a fair amount of freight. She left the same evening with a fairly large passenger list and a good cargo. For the winter freight coming from Boston by water for St. John will come via Yarmouth, from which port it will be brought here in the Keith Cann.

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