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States also looks like stabilising within the next 50 years at under 160 millions. Only Russia, among the non-Asiatics, will continue to increase—judging from the shape (see chart) of its population. Between the two wars, under a continuing revolution, it grew from 140 millions to 170 millions. If, as seems likely, it reaches 300 millions 50 years hence, it can scarcely fail to be the dominant state of the world.

Millions Must Be Fed

Population in itself, however, means merely weakness unless the material resources to support them in efficiency are also present. India, for example, can continue only a sub-continent of misery and a mere pawn in international affairs so long as its millions continue ill-clad, ill-housed, and ill-nourished. China likewise has been everybody's orchard and is included among the Big Four only because all the world cultivates a millionaire-to-be. But industrialism, which expands population, expands living standards even faster. Better farming in the East will produce not only more for all, but more for each. In India it is the yield per acre that can stand most boosting (c.f. 800lb. per acre of rice and wheat against 3000lb. per acre in Italy). In China, whose farming efficiency is greater than India's, though still far below Western standards, the three-quarters of the country that is still unfarmed may feed the 600-800 million Chinese of half-a-century hence.

The faster agricultural and living standards rise, of course, the sooner will this coming upsurge of Eastern population become stabilised at a new level, as has already happened in the West. The faster world living standards reach one general universal level the sooner also will trade problems settle themselves. Continuing prosperity for any nation depends on its customers and suppliers continuing prosperous also. In concrete terms, only a well-fed and wealthy East can afford New Zealand's butter and meat, for example.

The century which saw Europe's great population increase saw also Europe's greatest expansion abroad. This opening century of Asiatic growth can scarcely fail to fill the world's remaining empty (and cultivable) spaces. Already Javanese are hacking down the jungles of Celebes and Sumatra. Indians outnumber Fijians in Fiji. It is difficult to imagine how they can be shut out for ever from Africa. Africa indeed seems marked by nature and by proximity to be India's New World. Chinese likewise have made Singapore in all but political control a Chinese city. They will spread through the Indies. Fleeing from invaders they have discovered their relatively empty South and absolutely empty West. And their present trickle of refugees into Central Asia (Sinkiang) must become a stream of permanent settlers after the war.

Two New Races

Russia-in-Asia is also expanding, as her continued resistance, after Russia itself had largely been occupied, made us aware. Not only has industry streamed

north and east (8 per cent. of Russian coal was in 1913 mined in Siberia; in 1937 38 per cent.), but population has increased twice as fast east of the Urals as west of them. The Soviet Far East, facing Japan, has doubled its people in the last 15 years. The occupants of these new territories are also becoming a new people, Russian mainly, but heavily mixed, to the Government's delight, with indigenous Asiatic elements. When the process is complete, and when South America's Indian-European mixture has finally settled, the world will have two new races. But that is the shape of a far distant future indeed.

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