

banking, trade, industry, the postal, tramway and railway services, teaching, health protection, journalism, science and art. About 125 millions live in villages, and of these about 10 millions are State-paid workers, and their dependants are employed on State-farms or in forestry or fishing.

POPULATION has expanded by 30 per cent since pre-War days, but the production of food has failed to increase in a like proportion. Grain crops during the first five years period fell off owing to internal struggles, but in 1933 and 1934 they increased to about 12 per cent over pre-War production. Grain consumption per head of the population, however, has now reached pre-War level, as export has ceased, whereas in pre-War days about 10 million tons of grain were exported annually. The production of potatoes has increased, but this is offset by a decrease in meat and milk. Housing in both towns and villages is very poor, and as yet little headway has been made. The lack of transport facilities is also very apparent. The European parts of the U.S.S.R. have 1.3 km. of railways per sq. kilometre, whereas in the United States there are 4.3 km. per sq. km., despite the fact that the population density in that part of the U.S.S.R. is 30 per cent greater. The most developed part of the country, namely, the Ukraine, has a density of population nearly equal to that of France, but its railway system is less than one third the length. Moreover, all the railways are in poor condition, and the country is practically roadless.

#### Rearmament in Germany

THE question of the extent of Germany's rearmament has recently taken a prominent place in Parliamentary debates and in the public mind, and a number of exaggerated views have been put forward. In one case, for example, it was stated in the House of Commons that no less than £1,500,000,000 had been spent upon warlike preparation during Herr Hitler's regime, and that, in the year 1935 alone, 600-800 millions sterling was spent on armaments in Germany. It is undoubted that Germany has been rearming since 1934, but it is essential that Herr Hitler's programme should be viewed in its true setting and perspective, and to this end Prof. W. A. Bone has prepared a critical examination of the position in Germany based on financial and industrial statistics. This survey, which appeared in *The Nineteenth Century and After of May*, sets out the facts of Germany's industrial activity in the years 1929-35, and shows clearly that the output of those materials upon which armament manufacture chiefly depends—iron and steel, nickel, copper, chromium, tungsten and other non-ferrous metals—merely reflects the slump between 1929 and 1932 followed by the regaining of lost ground to an extent slightly less than that which has taken place in Great Britain. From the analysis given, it is clear that Germany's rearmament, while a factor to be reckoned with, does not account for more than a fraction of the very large monetary sums which have been alleged to be involved.

#### Indian Population of North America

UNTIL recently, it would appear that little attention has been given to certain facts relating to the Indian population of North America, which are disclosed in the census returns. It has generally been accepted that the Indian is a dying race; but it is now indicated that, while certain Indian peoples have undoubtedly become extinct, and the Indians of Mexico to a considerable extent have been fused in the general population, the Indian population north of Mexico as a whole is on the up grade. The problem of the future will be, not the arrest of a decrease, but the provision in the reservations of land adequate to support an increased population. This, at least, it is thought at the moment, is the form which the problem will take in the United States. Data relating to the population statistics were examined by Dr. Clark Wissler recently in a communication on the birth-rate among the Plains Indians, which was presented to the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting at New Haven, Conn., on April 30-May 2. Dr. Wissler then stated that the birth-rate of the Plains Indians would appear to be the highest in the world, being 48 per thousand. The white birth-rate, even before the depression, had sunk to 20 per thousand. He went on to point out that when the Indian was first placed on reservations, there was a rapid decline in numbers, but this had been checked. This was not due to the birth-rate, which apparently has not changed much since 1800, but arose from a death-rate which reached its peak about 1890 and had since declined.

AN even more marked increase is shown by the figures relating to the Indian population of Canada, where between 1931, the census year, and 1934 when a rough count was made, the numbers rose from 108,000 to 112,000. This high rate of increase is no doubt to be attributed largely to the vigilance in matters of hygiene, exercised by the Department of Indian Affairs, which, it is announced in a communication from the Ottawa correspondent of *The Times* in the issue of June 6, is to become a subordinate branch of the new Ministry of Natural Resources. It is also stated that the trust fund which was created for the benefit of the Indians with whom treaties were made at the time of the acquisition from the Hudson Bay Company of the western territory beyond the Great Lakes, now amounts to 14,000,000 dollars, while between 4,500,000 dollars and 6,000,000 dollars is spent on them annually out of public funds. These Indians live on reservations, and their affairs are managed by chiefs and councillors, who have certain restricted legislative rights. In Ontario and Quebec, however, most of the Indians live the life of ordinary Canadian citizens, being sometimes completely merged in the general population, with farms on the reserves. West of the Great Lakes where two thirds of the Indians live, and they have been less affected by the impact of white civilisation, they are much more dependent on the Government, owing to the