

## LOCATION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF SOIL SAMPLES—(Continued)

SAMPLE NUMBER	MILEAGE	TYPE OF SOIL
160.....	347.0 Tenn. 37	Yellow soil
161.....	117.0 Tenn. 22	Light red soil
162.....	119.0 Tenn. 22	Red soil
163.....	122.0 Tenn. 22	Red soil
164.....	123.4 Tenn. 22	Deep red soil
165.....	120.5 Tenn. 22	Deep red soil
166.....	119.0 Tenn. 22	Deep red soil

IS THE WORLD OVERPOPULATED?<sup>1</sup>

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Is the earth at the present time overpopulated? In order to answer this question, we must first decide what *overpopulation* means. Man's necessities are food, clothing, shelter, fuel, and tools; let us agree then for the present that the earth is overpopulated if these necessities do not exist or cannot be produced in sufficient quantity to supply man's needs. There are about 1,800,000,000 people on our globe, all of whom could stand in a rectangle 20 miles wide and 30 miles long, and each person would have nine square feet in which to stand.

*Food.*—In 1930 the world produced 4,871,000,000 bushels of wheat, 3,446,000,000 bushels of corn, 4,786,000,000 bushels of oats, 2,154,000,000 bushels of barley, and 1,780,000,000 bushels of rye. The rice for the world is about 214,000,000,000 pounds a year or 118.8 pounds per capita for the world population. Taking the six cereals given above, namely, wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, and rice, the annual production of these combined is 578.4 pounds per capita.

*Clothing.*—Can the earth clothe its people? The chief sources of material are cotton, wool, silk, flax, rubber, and leather. The world uses annually about 25,000,000 bales of cotton. In 1930 the United States alone produced 13,929,941 bales; this is more than half of what the world normally uses.

What, then, is the answer to our question: *Is the World Overpopulated?* If the definition of overpopulation given above is acceptable and if a system can be established whereby world production can be adequately and justly distributed, it seems that the answer is *No*.

<sup>1</sup>Read before the Tennessee Academy of Science at the Nashville Meeting, November 25, 1932, and published in full in *The Peabody Reflector and Alumni News*, March, 1933.