

Spain's Industrial Awakening



OLIVES OF SPAIN — OLIVES AND OLIVE OIL ARE IMPORTANT PRODUCTS OF THIS COUNTRY

By FRANCIS H. Sisson,
Vice President Guaranty Trust Com-
pany of New York.

THE effects of the war in general upon the European countries which remained neutral were diverse, depending on factors peculiar to each nation. The interchange of goods between nations plays so important a role in economic life that any serious disturbance of the normal course of world trade affects all countries.

The extent to which a nation shares in such a disturbance depends on such factors as its location with reference to other nations, the nature and extent of the restrictions upon its trade, changes in relative demand for commodities in other countries, and the country's own degree of self-sufficiency as regards the sources of the goods it consumes.

With these considerations in mind we shall note some of the outstanding developments which have taken place in some of the European countries that took no direct part in the war.

Spain was benefited indirectly by the industrial and commercial disturbances growing out of the war more, perhaps, than any other neutral European country.

For a long time Spain has not held the place in industry and world commerce which the country's wealth of resources and its superior geographical position make possible. With an area more than double that of the United Kingdom, its population of about 20,000,000 is less than half that of Great Britain.

No other European country possesses so great a variety of minerals in large amounts as Spain. Coal, iron, copper, lead and mercury are abundant. The coal fields of Spain contain deposits estimated at 4,500,000,000 tons, while the unmined iron ore deposits are estimated at 700,000,000 tons.

The available water power is estimated at more than 5,000,000 horsepower.

But, partly because of inadequate transportation in the interior, these and other natural resources have not been utilized sufficiently in providing the bases of a modern industrial organization. Spain has imported coal, although it might have been exporting on a large scale, and but a tenth of the water power is being used.

On the eve of the war, however, a new spirit of enterprise was making itself felt. And because the favorable influences affecting Spanish industry in the last five years were brought to bear at such a time as to strengthen and accelerate a forward movement

already begun, the results promise, in the main, to be durable. The period since 1900 has been one of marked economic development in various lines of enterprise. Of the total area of Spain, 88 per cent. is classed as productive. The adoption of modern agricultural methods and machinery and a more extensive use of fertilizers have greatly increased crop yields in recent years. From 1908 to 1917 the production of grains increased 24 per cent., and that of olive products 150 per cent. The sugar beet yield in 1917 was double that of 1913. The total value of farm

products in 1917 was estimated at approximately \$2,000,000,000, almost two and one-half times the value in 1913. The coal mined in 1917 totaled 5,367,000 metric tons—more than twice the production in 1900 and 45 per cent. in excess of the output in 1911—and was about three-fourths of the national consumption of coal in 1917. The value of the iron output in 1916 was \$76,000,000—54 per cent. greater than in 1907. The value of the steel output more than doubled in the same period, the value in 1916 being \$115,800,000. The total value of Spanish mineral products in 1917 was approxi-

mately \$245,000,000, an increase of 41 per cent. compared with 1913. Cut off from previous sources of supply of important products during the war, Spain was forced to increase domestic production in various directions. A great variety of manufactures formerly imported are now produced within the country. Cotton

manufacturing is one of the principal Spanish industries, and recent successful experiments in the growing of cotton indicate the possibility of supplying an important part of the raw material from domestic production. In 1913 the imports of merchandise were valued at \$227,000,000, exceeding exports by \$38,000,000, while the ex-

portation of bullion and coin, \$8,920,000, was offset by only \$522,000 imported. In 1917 the merchandise imports had declined to \$142,000,000, and exports had risen to \$246,000,000, giving an excess of exports amounting to \$107,000,000; and the net importation of coin and bullion was \$110,000,000. In 1918 there was an appreciable decline in both branches of the foreign trade, due in part to shipping difficulties.

The debt of the Spanish government increased but slightly during the war, from \$1,750,000,000 in 1914 to \$1,900,000,000 in January, 1919.

The gold holdings of the Bank of Spain increased from \$103,000,000 in June, 1914, to \$134,000,000 in December, 1918. In the same period the ratio of gold reserves to note circulation increased from 28 per cent. to 37 per cent.

The Spanish government and industrial leaders are co-operating not only in an effort to retain the industrial gains made in recent years, but in preparation for further expansion in the future.

Perhaps no country, by virtue of its geographical position, is more favorably situated for the development of commerce than is Spain, which is centrally located with reference to trade with Europe, the Levant, Africa, and the Americas. Although Spain preserves but a remnant of its former Colonial Empire, there are racial and cultural ties with other lands, with South and Central America in particular, which enhance the competitive ability of Spanish traders in those countries.

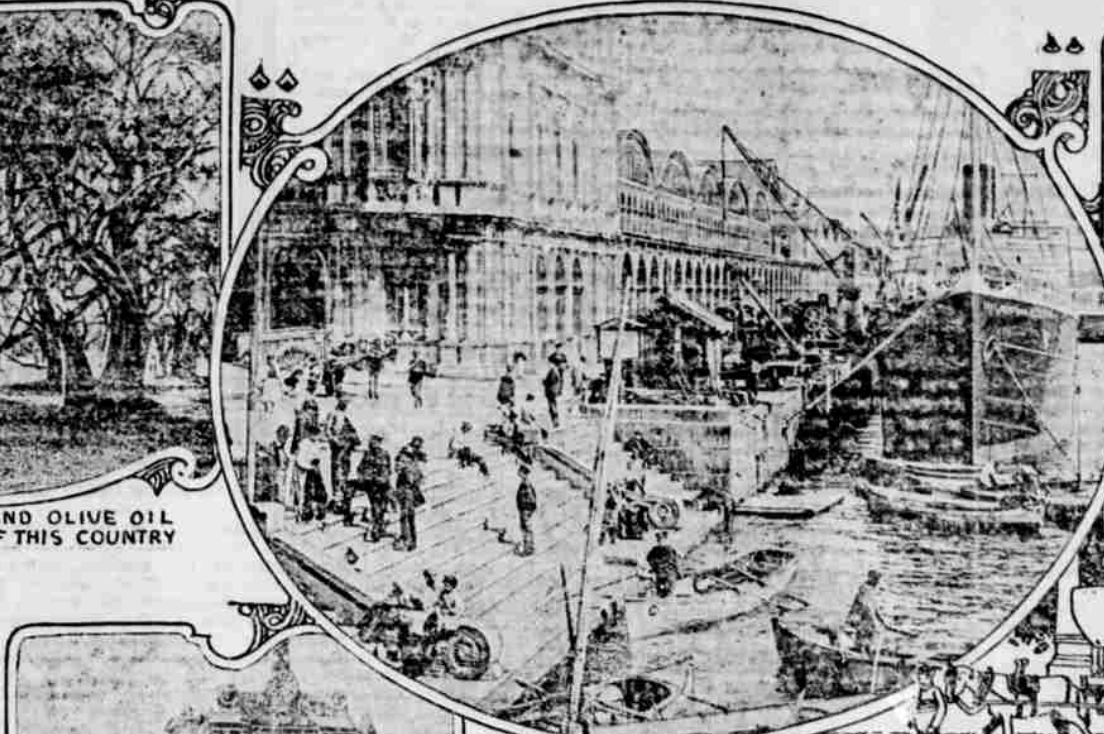
Extensive improvements have recently been made in Spanish port facilities in preparation for larger trade. Beginning with Cadiz in September, 1914, a number of free ports, including Vigo, Barcelona, Bilbao, and Santander, have been established. These will encourage the further development of Spanish manufacturing centers.

The Spanish merchant marine, like nearly all European merchant fleets, was reduced during the war, but new construction is proceeding rapidly.

Internal means of communication are being improved, and several projected railways promise to strengthen materially Spain's advantages in commercial competition. Among these is the proposed railway from Vigo, on the northwest coast, to the French border. Another project is the plan to construct a railway across Spain from a point in Southern France to Algeiras, a link in the proposed line from Paris to Dakar, on the west coast of Africa.

Equally promising are the recent developments in hydro-electric power transmission. In Catalonia, the principal industrial district of Spain, works already under construction will add 200,000 horsepower to that now in use, making a total for the country of about 700,000 horsepower.

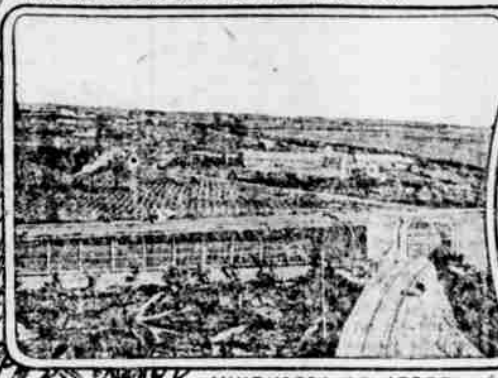
The industrial reawakening of Spain, the beginnings of which are so clearly in evidence, is fortunately timed and is supported by varied and rich natural resources. Most important of all, the imperishable pride of the Spanish race is reasserting itself in the direction of industrialism.



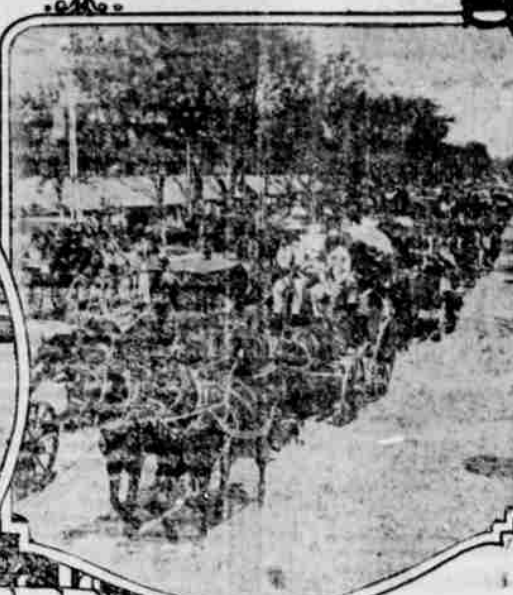
AT BARCELONA — SPANISH SHIPPING HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES DURING THE WAR



BANK OF SPAIN, MADRID, THE KINGDOM'S FINANCIAL CENTRE.



VINEYARDS OF JEREZ — WINE PRODUCTION IS ONE OF SPAIN'S GREAT INDUSTRIES



SCENE ON THE PASEO CATALUNA DE RIVERO WHERE SPANISH SOCIETY DRIVES DURING THE CATTLE FAIR



IN THE HEART OF SPAIN'S CAPITAL CITY

Slavery Still Issue In British Empire

By Russell Browning.

UNITED PRESS STAFF CORRESPONDENT. LONDON, Jan. 25.—The British slave trade, although abolished in 1807, is still a subject of controversy. Some people believe that the trade should be completely abolished, while others believe that it should be restricted to certain areas.

Some Englishmen are startled at the time by the pronouncement of a prominent churchman or politician that the institution of slavery exists in some parts of the British Empire. The Englishman's reaction is based on the fact that he has heard of slavery in the United States, but he has not heard of slavery in the British Empire.

European native labor for work in the colonies is at present being attracted to the attention of Lord Milner, who has been approached by a delegation which included the archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Salisbury, pressing the opinion that any attempt to deal with the labor situation in East Africa by recourse to slavery will end in economic and administrative disaster.

It is suggested that a Royal Commission be appointed to inquire into the labor situation in the districts where the slave trade is still active. The commission is expected to report in the near future.

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Little Money For Boxing Promoters

By Henry L. Farrell.

UNITED PRESS STAFF CORRESPONDENT. NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—Promoters who go into the boxing game with the idea of getting rich quick are blowing bubbles, according to John S. Smith, chairman of the New Jersey state boxing commission.

"Outside of boxing circles it is the common belief that the promoters are making huge sums of money under the high prices that have been in force for the past year, but it is not so," he declares. "The commission knows it to be a fact that very few promoters in New Jersey found themselves very rich when they figured up their winnings at the end of 1920. What big money was made in the ring went to the boxers who never take any chances."

"One big club in New Jersey lost \$15,000 and none of the clubs earned a very big margin on their investment. There is no money in the big fights. The promoters who made the money in New Jersey last year are the little fellows who staged small bouts in small arenas regularly. Several of these 'little' promoters staged bouts every week and made from \$100 to \$200 profit on each. It was not big money, in the modern interpretation of the word, but it satisfied them."

"These little promoters helped the big fights also because they gave the fans good sport at small prices and they enabled young fighters to get a start. When the big promoters with all star affairs control the field, the only chance a young boxer has to get on is in the preliminaries, and there are always scores of applicants for every open place."

Ring followers close to Tex Rickard assert that a winter of big money bouts in Madison Square Garden have not returned the peer of American promoters much profit.

This may explain why the promoters are supporting the movement for lower prices of admission, because with "lower gates" automatically will come lower purses for the boxers and larger attendance.

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War Talk Is Dying Away

By Henry W. Kinney.

UNITED PRESS STAFF CORRESPONDENT. TOKYO, (By Mail).—While isolated quotations from speeches of the statesmen out of office may be printed occasionally to prove apparently belligerent feelings on the part of Japan toward the United States, there can be no doubt that the people of Japan do not wish war. Nor are they vitally interested in the issues which are supposed to make war.

This does not mean that it is impossible to irritate and insult Japanese pride that Japan may feel driven into a fight preferring even to be beaten to accepting an insult without protest. But, even though a few politicians, anxious to make a case against the government, may be found in Japan, who make statements which appear very warlike, it seems apparent that, instead of interest and indignation against the United States in the matter of Japanese immigration to the U. S. A. increasing, the public is beginning to tire of the matter.

At present the government is sitting tight, desiring that all matters connected with the California question be let alone, at least until such time as some definite outcome of the present Washington negotiations is at hand. The Foreign Office merely lets it be known that these negotiations are making satisfactory progress. It is evident that it now feels that the matter has reached the point where the State Department at Washington must feel out the Senate to submit to that body such provisions that have been agreed upon between Ambassador Shidehara and the officials of the state department. If it is deemed fairly certain that the senate will agree to these arrangements, the whole matter will be practically settled. If, on the other hand, it is decided that there is a fair chance of the Senate's turning down the proposal, it will not be submitted at all, lest Japan's pride be exposed to further humiliation in the senate.

Keeping the public quiet, however, is not as difficult a task as it was a couple of months ago. The Japanese are a volatile people. The great limitations on the franchise of itself operate toward killing general interest in matters political, and the newspapers which stirred up most of the row, are now seeking other subjects, only reverting to the California issue only often enough not to let it be forgotten entirely.

Governor Wants Scenic Beauties State Preserved

(By Associated Press).

SALEM, Jan. 24.—Urging enactment of laws to preserve the scenic beauties along the highways of the state, Governor Ben W. Olcott today delivered a special message to the legislature. The governor submitted in connection with his message drafts of five proposed laws to put his plan into effect.

The laws would give the state highway commission power to acquire rights of way along highways for maintenance and preservation of scenic beauties, would make it unlawful to destroy trees along a state highway without permission of the highway commission, would authorize the commission to acquire land for parks and parking places, and require persons making any alteration in highways or rights of way to obtain a permit from the state highway engineer.

"No other state in the Union has been blessed with so many natural beauties as is the state of Oregon," said the governor in his message. "Crowning all these glories are our forest growths. Without them our mountains would be rocky, forbidding eminences; our streams would dwindle into rivulets; our lakes would be shorn of the sylvan fringes which make them entrancing to the nature lover, and our valleys would be monotonous stretches."

"The public realizes the importance of these things now, and is fully awake to the fact that, while we have many things, there are many things we may lose to and preserve for all posterity. This legislative assembly may make itself remembered in the history of our state by prompt action to assist in the preservation of what should never be lost."

"All the things we have been striving for, the development of tourist travel; the urge to make and keep our state the most livable in the Union; the desire to keep our children in God's own environment, surrounded by the beauties to which they are the true heirs, all of these will be surrendered and lost unless we act and act promptly."

Mather Field to Be Central Point

(By Associated Press).

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 25.—Aerial paths to all national forests in California, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho, Nevada and Utah will radiate from Mather field here during the coming fire season under the plans being made at present.

Five aerial patrols will be on duty constantly during the fire season, with reserve aviators on call at the central station at Mather field. It is a theory of the army that forest patrol work is excellent training for the aviators and close co-operation between the war department and the department of agriculture which controls the forests has been decided upon.

In all five air squadrons and 1000 men will form the complement of Mather field under plans announced unofficially. The field, it is believed, soon will be the largest air service training station in the western department of the army.

A forest ranger's school intended to bring better co-operation with the army aviators is being conducted on the field. To the same end, a meeting of forest supervisors of California, with representatives from several of the western states and from Washington, D. C., will be held there on January 30.

Improvements to care for the added personnel of the air field are expected to consist of twenty four sets of permanent quarters for married officers.

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GERMANY BACK IN FAVOR

(By Associated Press). TOKYO, Jan. 25.—(By Mail).—That Germany is rapidly getting back in her old position as a favorite in Japan, is shown by the fact that the leading book firms are now selling more books in that language than

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