



THE DEVIL'S PORRIDGE MUSEUM

WW1 Gap Worksheet

HM Factory Gretna – Watch the film and look at the panels in The Devil's Porridge Museum to find out the information to fill in the gaps.

HM Factory Gretna was Britain's largest munitions factory during WWI, stretching _____ miles along the Solway Coast from _____ to _____. It was built in response to the _____ of 1915, when The Times newspaper reported The British Army was running dangerously short of artillery shells on The Western Front. This led to a change of government and the development of a national programme for munition production. A new government department was created to solve the munitions shortage with _____ - _____ becoming the Minister of Munitions.



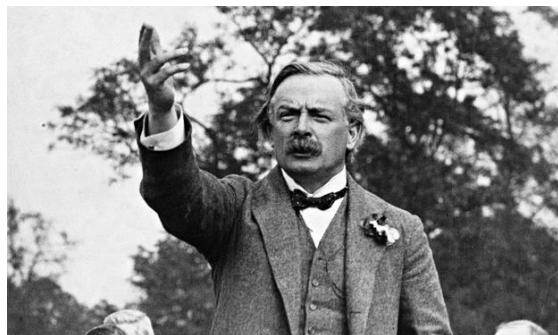
NEED FOR SHELLS.

BRITISH ATTACKS
CHECKED.

LIMITED SUPPLY THE
CAUSE.

A LESSON FROM FRANCE.

"The want of an unlimited supply of high explosive was a fatal bar to our success." It is to this need that our Military Correspondent, in the message we print below, attributes the disappointing results of the British assault in the districts of Fromelles and Richebourg on Sunday. By way of contrast, he records the fact that the French, in cooperation with whom he made our movement upon the German lines, fired 276 rounds of high explosive per gun in one day and levelled the enemy's defences with the ground.



Over _____ thousand labourers, mostly Irish _____ as well as 8,000 experts from the fields of chemistry, engineering and project management planned and built the factory in only _____ months.

The townships of _____ and _____ were built to house the munition workers. These new settlements were seen as ideal communities, designed by the architects _____ and _____ .



The settlements had many amenities including church halls, shops, police barracks, a fire station, bakeries, a kitchen and dance halls.

At its height, _____ people worked at HM Factory Gretna, _____ of whom were women. By January _____, the factory produced _____ tonnes of _____ per week, more than all the other factories in Britain combined. Sir _____ visited the factory as a war correspondent and nicknamed the explosive mixture of nitro - _____ and _____ - glycerine the 'Devil's _____'.





The factory had the first Women's _____, introduced to monitor the largely-female workforce.

Gretna Police Service had 167 women officers in June 1918, the largest female police force and the first area in Britain to have a branch of the women's police force.

To control the unruly behaviour of the Irish Navvies and others that flooded into the area during the war, the government introduced the _____, buying-up many of the pubs around the city of _____ and effectively nationalising the drinks industry.



After the First World War, and despite much protest to keep it open, HM Factory Gretna stopped production. The decision to sell off the factory and townships led to a number of auctions, the largest of which took place in _____. The factory was used as storage depot in World War Two.