

# WAR A BLESSING TO RUSSIA FROM ECONOMIC STANDPOINT, IS FINANCE MINISTER'S OPINION

## Russian Peasant Now More Prosperous Than Ever Before In Country's History

**Evidence of Improvement All Through Czar's Kingdom, Even Though Nation is Plunged in War—Minister of Finance Tells of Arrangement Among Allies to Pool Expenses of War—How Deficit Caused by Suppression of Vodka is to be Made Up.**

Petrograd, April 12, via London.—The opinion was expressed today by Pierre L. Bark, Russian minister of finance, that, economically considered, the war has been a blessing to the people of this country. Discussing the financial and social aspects of the conflict, in an interview with the Associated Press, M. Bark said:

"Notwithstanding the depressing and paralyzing effect of the war, the Russian peasant class is more prosperous than at any previous time in the history of the country. It is not difficult to account for this unusual prosperity. By virtue of the allowance made by the government to the families of soldiers, which exceeds the earning power of the soldiers, the total income of these families is greater than in times of peace."

"What about vodka?" was asked of the minister.

"It is the prohibition of the sale of vodka which is primarily responsible for the ameliorated condition of the peasant," he responded.

"It is not necessary to invent theories to explain why the Russian people should be more prosperous, for the actual fact is that this prosperity is everywhere noticeable. Before the war the average yearly savings deposited amounted to \$20,000,000, while in the month of January alone about \$60,000,000 (250,000,000 rubles) was deposited."

"What about the crops?" was the next question.

"The farmers have been very fortunate in being compelled to hold their supplies of grain on account of the difficulties of transportation, for grain is now at the highest price of the year. There is every reason to believe the farmers will soon be able to dispose of their grain in foreign markets, and at a great advantage."

**Russia Will Furnish Grain.** Discussing the conference in Paris of the finance ministers of Russia, France, Great Britain for the consideration of financial problems arising from the war, M. Bark said:

"One result was the formulation of an agreement with our Allies to pool all the expense of the war. In accordance with this understanding, Russia is to draw upon Great Britain and France for money expended in the war while our allies are to call upon Russia for grain which they need."

"This is an excellent arrangement for all concerned; for while Russia has enormous resources she is in need of immediate capital, and our allies, on the other hand, have more capital than supplies."

"I have already arranged a credit of \$25,000,000 francs (\$125,000,000) in France, and of \$5,000,000 pounds (\$125,000,000) in England, which Russia is to use at any time the occasion requires. We are on the point of making use of part of the French credit."

In response to a question regarding the recent increase of thirty per cent. in the tariff, M. Bark said: "That is only a temporary affair, designed partly to make up for the loss in revenue from the vodka tax, and I do not believe that this temporary increase in the tariff will discourage foreign trade with Russia."

"In fact, Russia looks forward for a tremendous increase in her trade with the United States and her allies to replace the German trade existing before the war. I am not an authority as to what kind of trade treaties will be formed at the end of the war, but I am sure that everything will be done to open the Russian market to these countries, and not permit it to slip back to Germany."

"There is now a particular opportunity for the United States, for she, of all the countries to which we look for trade, is not crippled by the war." M. Bark was asked what means were being employed to replace the revenues formerly derived from vodka.

"The amount of this revenue exceeded 900,000,000 rubles (\$450,000,000) he replied. "This is being replaced in a diversity of ways, including a special war tax on railroad transportation, matches, sugar and most ordinary commodities."

## TOTAL CASUALTIES OF BRITISH LAST MONTH AT NEUVE CHAPPEL 7,244

London, April 12.—Six hundred and eighty-three names, including twenty-three who were killed, were added today to the previous casualty lists of the losses in the fighting at Neuve Chapelle last month. This list brings the total casualties in this engagement to 7,244. Of this number 2,074 were killed.

## WASHOUT INTERRUPTED TRAIN SERVICE

**Northbound express unable to proceed beyond Argosy owing to washout—River rising and considerable damage to property expected.**

Special to The Standard.

Hartland, N. B., April 12.—The main body of ice in the river started running tonight. The water in the river has been steadily rising for a couple of days and the heavy rain of today gave additional impetus to the current. A heavy jam at Peel broke just after seven and forced the whole body into action. The ice is quite thick but honeycombed, and it is thought much damage will be done. The piers of the bridge here are standing the strain in good style. With the starting of the ice the water at once commenced to rise and is coming up at the rate of about a foot an hour. It is expected that before morning all the lower levels will be flooded and considerable damage may be caused to barns along the intervals.

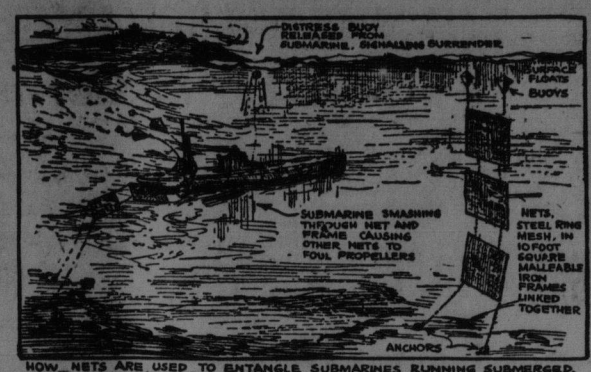
People along the river front who have suffered in former years are making hasty preparations to flee for safety, and to remove as much of their property as possible. At Peel before the jam broke the water had overflowed the banks and surrounded the store of Hatfield & Son at Middle Simonds. A jam at what is known as Grand Bar, a short distance below here, is imminent, and if this occurs disastrous effects will be felt here. No damage has resulted as far as reported, to any portion of the C. P. R. tracks running close to the river. A serious washout occurred at a place called Argosy, this side of Grand Falls. The north bound express today was unable to complete its journey and was obliged to return, arriving here two hours late.

## CHRISTENING OF FERRYBOAT FOR P.E.I. SERVICE

**Lady Drummond to officiate at ceremony today—Sir Max Aitkin forced to return from front owing to ill health.**

London, April 12.—(Gazette Cable.)—Sir Max Aitkin, M. P., official eye-witness for the Canadian Expeditionary Force, has been compelled to return to England from the front owing to ill health and the probability is that he will be unable to resume his duties for some time at least. Mr. W. L. Griffith, secretary of the High Commissioner's Office, is about to leave for a visit to the front and this, together with the fact that the last report from the eye-witness was handed out from that office, is taken to suggest that the trip is being made over.

## BRITISH TRAPS TO CATCH GERMAN SUBMARINES.



Miles of submarine traps have been set by the British navy at harbor entrances and other strategic points around the British Isles to catch the German submarines engaged in blockading England. The traps are not unlike gill nets used by fishermen. Malleable iron frames ten feet square, three frames joined, are sunk to a depth of thirty feet, suspended from immense buoys. If a submarine, which is a blind thing when submerged, enters one of these frames its sides are caught, causing the lower frames to buckle upward, catching the propeller. Thus the craft is in the position of a fish floundering in a net, and its occupants are doomed. It was reported that three submarines had been caught in this way during the first ten days of the blockade, but this report was not confirmed.

## ESCAPE GUNFIRE; BAYONETTED BY THE INFANTRY

**French Artillery pours shells into trenches where Germans were crowded in great numbers.**

Paris, April 12.—There has been given out in Paris a description by an eye-witness of the attempt made by the Germans on April 8 and 9 to retake a small fort at Beauséjour held by the French.

Two companies of volunteers led in this attack. They showed an absolute contempt for death, but nevertheless they were stopped by the fire of the French artillery and infantry. Only a few of them escaped. Another attack, in which the Germans paid a heavy price, was successful in capturing the first line of trenches. These positions were held by two companies until April 9. The Germans were so thick in these trenches that they crowded each other and interfered with the freedom of operations. Into this mass of men the French artillery fired. Those who escaped the shells were mostly bayoneted by the French infantry. Only ten men survived.

Richard Reid, Agent-General for Ontario, is also proceeding to the front. He will go on behalf of the provincial government for the welfare of the Canadian troops.

Lady Drummond, of Montreal, will perform the christening ceremony on Tuesday when the ferryboat built for the Canadian government for the Prince Edward Island service by Armstrong-Whitworth, Newcastle-On-Tyne, will be launched.

Aside from the scarcity of alcohol, there is said to be no particular lack of the necessities of life in Petrograd. Lemons, it is true, writes a correspondent, cost 12 cents apiece, and dessert raisins \$1.25 a pound. Figs are dear and oranges, flowers, since the supply from Nice is cut off, are beyond the reach of any but the rich.

## PEOPLE OFTEN SAY "How Are We To Know When The Kidneys Are Out Of Order?"

**EASIEST THING IN THE WORLD!**

The location of the kidneys, close to the small of the back, renders the detection of kidney trouble a simple matter. The note of warning comes from the back. The kidneys become overtaxed and fail to do their work at nature's call.

Backache is the signal sent out by the kidneys the minute they become overtaxed. Those who heed the warning when it first comes, usually have but little trouble.

The danger lies in delay. Doan's Kidney Pills stimulate the action of the kidneys, and enable them to perform their duty perfectly.

Mrs. Greig Murphy, Lower Ship Harbor East, N.S., writes: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills in my family with great success, and don't think there is a better pill for the kidneys. I was very miserable with my back, and could hardly get about. I got a box, and tried them, and found that they were really good, so I took in all about six boxes, and soon found my back cured, and my kidneys as well as ever."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50c per box, 3 boxes for \$1.25; for sale at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

When ordering direct specify "Doan's."

## German Soldiers See Their Finish When Kitchener's New Army Takes Field

**Officers and men frankly admit their uneasiness—Tell French civilians they know they will be overpowered by masses of men England will put in field.**

London, April 12.—"It is a significant fact that although the action of Neuve Chapelle, the enemy has made no attempt to retaliate in any quarter but has remained inactive while we have established ourselves securely on the ground won," is a declaration made by the "eye-witness" attached to British army headquarters on the continent in a communication dated April 9.

Looking back over the past four months, it is instructive to note the gradual weakening of the German resistance on our front. Formerly any offensive action on our part was met with an immediate counter stroke. This is the first occasion on which the enemy has made no reply at all. This does not mean, of course, that the resistance is collapsing, but the Germans have none the less admitted that with the troops at their disposal at this front they are unable to avenge their defeat.

"Some light has been thrown on the conditions prevailing in the area behind the German lines which served to

confirm the impression that the general situation is creating great anxiety."

Referring to the condition bordering on panic which prevailed at Lille during the fighting at Neuve Chapelle, this writer goes on to say:

"Both officers and men have openly expressed their uneasiness. Apparently a marked change began to occur in the general demeanor of the German troops soon after Christmas. Till then they had been absolutely confident but latterly this feeling has been steadily decreasing. German soldiers have told French civilians they recognize they would be overpowered by the masses of men Great Britain was going to place in the field and they have tried to persuade them that the British were equally bent on ruining France and that they would grab everything for themselves."

In conclusion the "eye-witness" mentions the fact that the Germans war levy at Lille, Robaix and Tourcoing during March amounted to \$1,000,000.

the floor trading and advanced five points to 110. Buyers had to pay five points higher than the previous close for Ogilvie, Laurendeau was also in good demand at 167. With few exceptions the market closed higher for the day. A noteworthy feature is the amount of stock taken off the market for investment. In the good bonds there are none offering around present prices. C. P. R. notes sold at 104.

## HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.  
A Weber, New York; E Murphy, A Peckham, O W Hobrecker, Halifax;

W N Yetman, Toronto; Mrs J J Taylor, Fredericton; N Rogers, Toronto; H Jayes, England; A Cullison, Jacques River; J N Scott, Montreal; J I Bennett, London, Ont.; A W Reupert, G L Linton, Montreal; D J Lowman, Boston, Mass.; Geo H Drew, R J MacLellan, G Thomas, E A Graham, Brunswick, Me.; E M Tromer, Toronto; E S Carter, Rothesay; Geo T Wilson, London, Eng.; V B Nickerson, Chicago; F B Frapp, Cape Tormentine; H M Downing, Carleton; N B Jones, Montreal; H E Ellard, Toronto; J H Smith, Montreal; Chas E Oak, Bangor; Geo J Ross, Shediac.

### Solves the "Breakfast Problem"

For nine years Kellogg's Corn Flakes have constantly increased in popularity and have solved the breakfast problem in thousands of Canadian homes.

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**Kellogg's CORN FLAKES**

TOASTED CORN FLAKES

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## Youthful Army Leaves Paris For The Front Full of Confidence

**Class of 1916 Conscripts as jolly as if out for a picnic—Well trained and keen to face the enemy.**

Paris, April 12.—Paris was enlivened today by crowds of conscripts of the 1916 class parading the streets to the strains of the Marseillaise, previous to departing to join their regiments in the centre and the south of France.

Railroad stations were crowded with

conscripts and their friends. All street car lines running toward the stations carried singing and shouting bands, the youths being as jolly as if they were out for a picnic.

These nineteen-year-old recruits compare favorably with those of previous levies, and they showed the better effect of physical training in preparation for their service in the army. All appeared to be full of confidence and they departed without a sign of reluctance or regret.

### New Settlers

A party of new settlers for the province will arrive here on the Allan Liner Corsican next week.

## That Awful Ache of Lumbago Rubbed Away For All Time

**Heerah! No More Suffering—Every Ache Goes Quick. RUB ON NERVILINE**

Lumbago is a peculiar sort of rheumatic trouble that affects the muscles about the loins and back. At times its agony is intense. Severe spasms of pain shoot in all directions, and become more severe on stooping.

In treating lumbago or stitch in the back, it is necessary to keep warmly covered to prevent a sudden chill. Attend to this, and then apply Nerviline freely.

Almost instantly you feel its warm soothing action. Right through the cords and muscles the healing power of Nerviline penetrates.

Quick as a wink you feel the stiffness lessening. You realize that a

powerful pain-subduing remedy is curing the pain, is easing your distress, is making you well again.

Nerviline quickly cures backache and lumbago because it has the strength, the power and penetrating force possessed by no other known remedy. Its amazing curative action is due to certain extracts and juices of rare herbs and roots, combined by a secret process, and forming a truly magical medical marvel.

Any sort of aches in the muscles and joints Nerviline will cure quickly. It eases the pain right up—relieves stiffness, restores the muscles in their wonted elasticity and vigor.

It's the quickest thing imaginable for rheumatism, sciatica or neuralgia. As for earache, toothache, sprains or strains, nothing can excel good old Nerviline.

Get the large 50 cent family size bottle, it's the most economical; trial size, 25 cents. All dealers or the Cattaraugus Co., Kingston, Canada.