

# TERRESTRIAL BATTLE EAST WITH RUSSIANS TRYING TO AVERAGE DEFEAT AT SOLDAU

## HOW RUSSIA OF THE DRINK HABIT

Petrograd, Nov. 18.—There is prohibition in Russia today, prohibition which means that not a drop of vodka, whiskey, brandy, gin or any other strong liquor is obtainable from one end to the other of the habitable globe.

The story of how strong drink has been utterly banished from the Russian Empire was related to the Associated Press by Michael Demitrovitch Tchelisheff, the man directly responsible for putting an end to Russia's great vice, the vodka habit.

It should be said, in the beginning, that the word prohibition in Russia must be taken literally. Its use does not imply a partially successful attempt to curtail the consumption of liquor, resulting in drinking in secret places, the abuse of medical licenses, and general evasion and subterfuge. It does mean that a vast population who consumed \$1,000,000,000 worth of vodka a year; whose ordinary condition has been described by Russians themselves as ranging from a slight degree of stimulation upward, has been lifted almost in one day from a drunken inertia to sobriety. The nation has been compelled, virtually overnight, to abandon its enormous daily consumption of vodka, a liquor that is almost pure alcohol, and become abstemious to the extent of letting no liquor pass its lips.

On the day when this special policemen visited every public place where vodka was sold, locked up the supply of the liquor and placed on the shelves the imperial seal, since the manufacture and sale of vodka is a government monopoly in Russia, it is not a difficult thing to enforce prohibition.

From the day this step was taken, drunkenness vanished in Russia. The results are seen at once in the peasantry; already they are beginning to look like a different race. The marks of suffering, the pinched cheeks, the heavy and unresponsive eyes, have gone from their faces. There has been also a remarkable change in the appearance of their clothes. Their clothes are neat and clean, and their women appear more neatly and better dressed. The destitute character of the homes of the poor has been replaced with something like order and cleanliness. In Petrograd and Moscow, the effect of these improved conditions is fairly startling. On holidays in these two cities inebriated always filled the streets, and the sidewalks and even in the streets. Things are so different today that unattended women may now pass at night through portions of the cities where it was formerly dangerous even for men.

government, but the government promptly refused it.

"It then dawned upon me that the Russian bureaucracy did not want the people to become sober, for the reason that it was easier to rule automatically a drunken mob than a sober people.

"This was seven years ago. Later I was elected Mayor of Samara, capital of the Volga district, a district with over a quarter of a million inhabitants. Subsequently to holding this office, I was elected to the Duma on an anti-vodka platform. In the Duma I proposed a bill permitting the inhabitants of any town to close the local vodka shops, and providing also that every bottle of vodka should bear a label with the word poison. At my request the wording of this label, in which the evils of vodka were set forth, was done by the late Count Leo Tolstoy. This bill passed the Duma, and went to the Imperial council, where it was amended and finally tabled.

Found Ally in Czar.

"I then begged an audience of Emperor Nicholas. He received me with great kindness in his castle in the Crimea, not far from the scene of the recent Turkish bombardment. He listened to me patiently. He was impressed with my recital, that most of the revolutionary and social excesses were committed by drunkards, and that the Sveborg, Kronstadt and other naval revolts, and the Petrograd and other mutinous military movements were all caused by inebriation. Having heard me out, His Majesty promised at once to speak to his minister of finance concerning the prohibition of vodka.

"Disappointed at not having been able to get through a government bill regulating this evil, I had abandoned my seat in the Duma. It was evident that the bureaucracy had been able to obstruct the measure. Minister of Finance Kokovsov regarded it as a dangerous innovation, depriving the government of \$500,000,000 yearly, without any method of replacing this revenue.

"While I lobbied in Petrograd, the Emperor visited the country around Moscow and saw the havoc of vodka. He then dismissed Kokovsov and appointed the present Minister of Finance, M. Bark.

The Reaction Following Prohibition.

"Mobilization precipitated the anti-vodka measure. The Grand Duke, remembering the disorganization due to drunkenness during the mobilization of 1904, ordered the prohibition of all alcoholic drinks, except in clubs and first class restaurants. This order, on the first day of the month, showed the Russian authorities the value of abstinence.

"In spite of the general depression caused by the war, the paralysis of business, the closing of factories, the interruption of railroad traffic, the people felt no privation. Savings banks showed an increase in deposits over the preceding month, and the preceding year. At the same time there was a boom in the sale of meats, groceries, clothing, dry goods and house furnishings. The thirty million starved for one month, showed a strong Russian cavalry force, which we defeated on November 16 and November 17, has been driven back through Tilkau.

This miracle has been virtually accomplished by one man. He is Michael Demitrovitch Tchelisheff, originally a house painter by profession, then mayor of the city of Samara, and now a millionaire. Physically he is a giant, standing over six feet, four inches, and of powerful build, although he is 55 years old he looks much younger. His movements display the energy of youth, his eyes are animated, and his black hair is not tinged by gray.

In Petrograd Mr. Tchelisheff is generally found in a luxurious suite of rooms in one of the best hotels. He goes about clad in a blue blouse with a tasseled girdle, and basky black breeches tucked into heavy boots. He offers his visitors tea from a samovar and fruit from the Crimea. Speaking of what he had accomplished for the cause of sobriety in Russia, Mr. Tchelisheff said:

"I was treated in a small Russian village. There were no schools or hospitals, or any of the improvements we are accustomed to find in civilized communities. I picked up an education from old newspapers and stray books. One day I chanced upon a book in the hands of a Moujik which treated of the harmfulness of alcohol. It stated, among other things, that vodka was a poison and was so impressed with this, knowing that everybody drank vodka, that I asked the first doctor I met. If the statement were true, he said. Men drank it, he explained, because momentarily it gave them a sensation of pleasant dizziness. From that time I decided to take every opportunity to discover more about the use of vodka.

"At the end of the eighties, there came famine in Russia, followed by agrarian troubles. I saw a crowd of peasants demanding from a local landlord all the grain and foodstuffs in his granary. This puzzled me; I could not understand how honest men were indulging in what seemed to be highway robbery. But I noted at the time that every man who was taking part in this incident was a drinking man, while their fellow villagers who abstained had sufficient provisions in their own homes. Thus it was that I observed the industrial effects of vodka drinking.

How He Began Anti-Vodka Crusade.

"At Samara, I decided to do more than passively disapprove of vodka. At this time I was an alderman, and many of the tenants living in my houses were working men. One day a drunken father in one of my houses such a terrible impression on me that I decided to fight vodka with all my strength.

"On the supposition that the government was selling vodka for the revenue I calculated the revenue received from its consumption in Samara. I then introduced a bill in the city council providing that the city give this sum of money to the Imperial treasury, requesting at the same time that the sale of vodka be prohibited, and the money was appropriated. It was offered to the

## MOST CRITICAL BATTLE OF RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN

### AUSTRIA

London, Nov. 19, 141 a. m.—An official statement issued at Vienna and transmitted to Reuter's Telegram Company, by way of Amsterdam, says:

"In the southeastern war theatre several battles have resulted in the destruction of the Koluban passages, but our forces had already crossed to the opposite bank. A telegram dated Monday says that 1,400 prisoners and much war material were taken.

"The operations of the Allied troops in Russia have forced the Russian main forces to battle, which has developed along the whole front under favorable conditions. One of our divisions captured three thousand prisoners.

"The advance of the Russians against the Carpathians is of secondary importance. Near Bryzbow a strong Russian cavalry force was dispersed by our artillery."

### FRANCE

Paris, Nov. 18 (10.38 p. m.)—The following official communication was issued tonight:

"The day has been marked by a very violent and almost unbroken cannonade on our front in the north.

"In the region of St. Mihiel the Germans have blown up the west part of Chauvincourt, which they had mined.

"There is nothing to report from the other parts of the front."

### GERMANY

Berlin, Nov. 18.—(Via London)—An official communication issued today by the German general headquarters says:

"Fighting in West Flanders continues, and the situation on the whole remains unchanged.

"In the forest of Argonne our divisions continue successfully French sorties to the south of Verdun were repulsed.

"An attack was made against our forces which had moved forward on the west bank of the River Meuse near St. Mihiel, and although it was originally successful for the enemy it broke down completely later on.

"Our attack to the southwest of Clercy compelled the French to surrender some of their positions. The Chau Chatillon was stormed and taken by our troops.

"New battles have developed in Poland, in the region north of Lodz, but no decision yet has been reached.

"To the southeast of Soldau (East Prussia) the enemy has been forced to retreat. The division of Ciryre, the extreme western wing of a strong Russian cavalry force, which we defeated on November 16 and November 17, has been driven back through Tilkau."

### RUSSIA

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"On the morning of November 17 a German squadron of two cruisers, ten torpedo boats and several other steamers, appeared in the Gulf of Finland. The German squadron was fired upon by the Russian Black Sea fleet, which had been setting on fire several buildings.

"The same day, very early, the Russian Black Sea fleet, which had been setting on fire several buildings, and the town and bombardment of the harbor and barracks, and set on fire buildings along the coast.

"The Turkish ships were sighted off the coast."

Petrograd, Nov. 18.—The following official communication from General Headquarters was issued tonight:

"The advance guards, in an engagement with the Germans, who took the offensive, fell back in the direction of Bzourze. The enemy succeeded in capturing a portion of the region of Lentchitz and Orloff, throwing out advance guards in the direction of Plonk.

"In East Prussia, our troops continue to make progress, and fighting is going on near the Gumbinnen-Angsburg front, which the enemy is defending.

"In the trenches, which we captured near Varschnichen, the enemy abandoned more than 300 dead. Among the officers whom we took prisoners here was an artillery officer sent to the infantry because of a lack of officers for this branch.

"On the front, along the Mazurian lakes, our troops reached the wire entanglements of the enemy's position and forced them. On the front between Czestochowa and Cracow we have attacked important forces of the enemy, detachments of which, operating at Lodovitz, were routed.

"The second month of abstinence made the manifold advantages so clear to everybody that when we called upon His Majesty to thank him for his orders he promised that the vodka business of the government would be given up forever. This promise was promulgated in a telegram to the Grand Duke Constantine. There remains only now to find elsewhere the revenue which, up to the present time, has been contributed by vodka. There has been introduced in the Duma a bill offering a solution of this question. The aim of this bill is not the creation of new taxes, or an increase in the present taxes, but an effort to render the government domains and possessions more productive."

### OBJECT TO REMARKS OF MAJ.-GEN. HUGHES

Toronto, Nov. 18.—A remark made yesterday by Major General Sam Hughes to the effect that the test mobilization of the troops in this city on Monday, was a lot of nonsense, has stirred up resentment that it is difficult to keep from boiling over.

Absolute confidence in General Lesard, who ordered the mobilization, is expressed everywhere, and men are expressing every where, and men are told him what they think of the opinion of the minister of militia.

"General Hughes' breaks through marks

### FRANCE

London, Nov. 19 (2.05 a. m.)—A Petrograd despatch to the Daily Telegraph says:

"The battle now being fought in the northwest corner of Poland may be regarded as possibly the most critical yet fought in the Russian campaign, and although little information is obtainable, it looks as though the victorious Russian advance has suffered a check."

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## Extra Special Values in OSTRICH FEATHERS Today, at Marr's

You will never have a better chance to save money on a purchase of Ostrich Feathers—and beauties they are—than we offer you today. Our only object is to clear them quickly, and we've marked them regardless of profit.

LOOK AT THE PRICES.

OSTRICH FEATHERS worth from \$4.00 to \$12.00 each . . . . . Today \$2.00 and \$2.50 each

OSTRICH FEATHERS worth from \$1.00 to \$2.00 each . . . . . Today 25 and 50 cents each

FANCY FEATHERS worth up to \$1.00 each . . . . . Today . . . . . 25 cents each

FELT HATS, all colors . . . . . 25 cents each

Another lot of ELEGANT BLACK VELVET HATS—from an overstocked hat manufacturer—that should be sold at \$3.00 each, are offered, While They Last, at 98 cents each.

DON'T FORGET—TODAY AT

# MARR'S

The House Famed for Millinery  
1, 3 and 5 Charlotte Street

G. T. P. TELEGRAPH SERVICE FROM WINNIPEG TO PRINCE RUPERT

HALF MILLION FROM BR. GOVERNMENT TO BUY FOOD FOR BELGIANS

Montreal, Nov. 18.—An important step in the development of the Grand Trunk Pacific was registered today when the G. T. P. telegraph between Winnipeg and Prince Rupert, a distance of 1,275 miles were hooked up and through communication opened.

This was announced to President E. J. Chamberlain of the G. T. P. today by a telegram sent over the line by Mr. Donaldson, vice-president. This was promptly replied to by President Chamberlain in a message expressing his appreciation of the service thus inaugurated.

London, Nov. 18.—Francis D. Acland, Parliamentary Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, stated in the House of Commons today that the government had contributed \$500,000 to the Belgian government for the purchase of foodstuffs for the destitute inhabitants of that country.

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Newcastle, Nov. 18.—The county court closed today. Judgment in the case of Storey vs. Crocker reserved. McVarish who broke into Thomas Cassidy's house a few days ago was given ten years in Dorchester under Speedy Trials Act.

DIED.

MALONY—In this city, on the 17th Inst., George Malony, leaving one daughter and two sons to mourn. Funeral from his late residence, 51 City Road, Thursday at 2.30 p. m. Friends invited to attend.

Malcolm Williams in the tremendously forceful

# THE BRUTE

Four-Act Drama Broadway Production

A play that set St. John thinking yesterday.

THE PEPPER TWINS FORBES LAW DUGUID

They sing, play on trumpets, bagpipes, and they dance. The finest baritone we have ever introduced.

Comedy Films and the Orchestra!

FRIDAY "The One She Loved the Best"—Edison feature. Episode No. 9 of "The Trey o' Hearts"

UNIQUE DUNBAR ON THE TRAIL

OUR MUTUAL GIRL'S Jewels Still Missing

Dunbar and the Detective Almost Catch the Thief After a Number of Thrilling Adventures, Margaret Incidentally Tries Some New Styles in Hats and Sweaters.

GOOD THINGS LYRIC

THE BLACKFACE FUN-SMITHS AT THE FORCE OF JOY, striking the Anvil of Pleasure

JONES & McGRILL PECULIAR DIALOGUE BRIGHT SONGS

A WIFE FROM THE COUNTRY Pretty Romance Drama That Swings Between Smiles & Tears

GENTLEMAN FOR A DAY Thanouster Kid Playlet MON.—SOMETHING GOOD.

OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT AT 8.15

Thompson Musical Comedy Company PRESENTING "THE TRAVELLING MAN"

Prices 10-20 and 30c

OPERA HOUSE SUNDAY, 22 November AT 3 O'CLOCK

A LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE BY—

Willis F. Gross, C. S.

Member of Board of Lecturers of the First Church of Christ Scientist, Boston, Mass.

All Welcome Seats Free No Collection.

## GIGANTIC ALLIES SMASH

Attack by British troops today smashed German army in Belgium. Enemy broke through the line and made Regia relief for valuable work.

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