

**Exceptionally Excellent Info #6**  
**Some Highlights on Economic Issues, 1914-1917**

- 1914 Aug British Parliament authorizes increase in Army of 500,000 men.<sup>1</sup>  
 Britain passes the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA)  
 Russia prohibits sale of alcohol for duration of war
- Aug Germany sets up KRA for centralized allocation of raw materials.<sup>2</sup>
- Sept France implements policy of industrial mobilization
  
- 1915 Jan Introduction of food rationing in Germany (Imperial Grain Corporation)
- Feb Germany declares "commercial blockade" of allied shipping
- March Munitions of War Act (Britain)
- May Junior minister for munitions appointed (Albert Thomas)
- June Creation of Ministry of Munitions in Britain, headed by Lloyd George
- July Britain creates National Register of all persons 15-65 yrs of age
- Aug French law creates notion of "military workers."<sup>3</sup>
- Nov Russia creates Metals Committee for purchasing supplies for metals industry
- Dec Austria introduces bread rationing
  
- 1916 Jan Britain implements military conscription
- Feb Britain creates a Ministry of Blockade (as part of Foreign Office)
- April "Easter Rebellion" in Ireland
- Aug Launching of the Hindenburg Program in Germany
- Nov Russia extends fixed prices to all major foods
- Dec Germany passes Auxiliary Service Law (conscripts all males 17-60 yrs old)  
 Coalition gov't in Britain replaced by gov't under David Lloyd George
  
- 1917 Jan France introduces compulsory arbitration of wage disputes
- Feb Germany initiates unrestricted submarine warfare
- March Russian Provisional Gov't creates state monopoly in grain trade

**Prominent people:**

Walther Rathenau, first head of KRA  
 David Lloyd George, first minister of munitions (Britain)  
 Albert Thomas, first junior minister for munitions (France)

**Totally Tremendous Triads**

Stalemate Economic Warfare Economic Mobilization	State (government) Industry Raw materials
--	---

<sup>1</sup> Recruiting appeal called for men between ages of 19 and 30, indicating a term of service "for a period of three years, or until the war is concluded." The age limit was raised to 35 later in August.

<sup>2</sup> KRA = Kriegsrohstoffabteilung, the War Raw Materials Division.

<sup>3</sup> These were men released from the army for needs of war production, but who effectively lost freedom to change jobs or strike.