of rye bread, cabbage soup and fish. The peasants only received 10 acres of land which wasn’t enough for them to feed themselves or produce a wage as they needed at least 13 acres; however, their land was made smaller due to the inheritance procedure. Due to poor conditions they suffered from a high number of deaths, in 1891 they suffered from famine which lead to the death of over 400,000 peasants’ in the Volga region also 40% of peasant children died before they reached adulthood. In hope for a better life the peasants had been encouraged by Stolypin to move to Siberia in order to gain more land however when they arrived to Siberia there was no land to be handed over. Due to the fact that there was no land the peasants had to move to the overcrowded cities where they became involved in revolutionary parties. Peasants became unhappy as Stolypin had executed over 2796 peasants for opposing the Tsar which lead them to renaming the hangman’s noose “Stolypin’s neck tie”. Many of peasants were conscripted into the army which meant fewer men to work on the land along with the dropping number of horse as the army requested them therefore those who relied on animals suffered, by 1916 a third of the peasants that been conscripted had been seriously injured. In 1915 when the Russian army retreated to Poland and Lithuania they welcomed a ‘scorched earth’ policy which lead to the destruction of farmland therefore ruining the peasant’s livelihood. Overall the peasants weren’t a significant factor as they lived a better life than before as they no longer had to pay redemption payments and remained loyal to the Tsar and continued to call him ‘Little father’. Evidence also shows that the peasants didn’t have a bad life as they were no longer starving as their crop yields had increased by 50% and due to the increase, some peasants were now able to buy land, who became known as ‘Kulaks’. Therefore, the weakness of the Tsar was a more significant factor.

Many historians would argue that the February revolution was caused by the discontent workers. After experiencing a boom in the industries Russia had become the fourth largest worldwide producer of coal however the workers didn’t gain much from the ‘boom’ as they still worked long hours for low pay and were continuously being watched by the Okhrana. Due to Stolypin’s policy overcrowding became more of an issue which allowed disease to spread more quickly, affecting majority of workers. However, unemployment grew as industries that didn’t benefit towards the war were no longer needed. Due to the abandonment of Poland and Lithuania, the number of peasants leaving the farmland and the food shortages their living conditions deteriorated, in St Petersburg 40% of private housing had no sanitation or running water. By 1917 there was a major food shortage in Petrograd and Moscow as the railways were committing to the war rather than the cities, Petrograd was only received half the grain needed to feed the people, which lead to social unrest. In January 1917 in order of Bloody Sunday, 140,000 workers went on strike in Petrograd and by