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FIVE GREAT EUROPEAN NATIONS ENGAGE IN BLOODY WAR

TITANIC STRUGGLE HAS BEEN STARTED

WHICH MAY CHANGE EUROPEAN MAP

EMPEROR WILLIAM OF GERMANY SAYS HE DID ALL IN HIS POWER TO AVERT WAR BUT IT HAD TO COME—JAPAN WILL AID ENGLAND IN THE STRUGGLE IF NECESSARY—ITALY REMAINS NEUTRAL

Events in the European crisis have been developing rapidly for the past week. The die is cast and Europe is about to be plunged into a general war which has been the apprehension of statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic for generations. The German ultimatum to Russia, demanding that Russia cease the mobilization of her army, expired at noon last Saturday, and at 5:15 o'clock the German emperor signed a mobilization order and at 7:20 the German ambassador at St. Petersburg delivered a declaration of war in the name of his government to the Russian government and the entire staff of the embassy immediately left St. Petersburg. The declaration was expected to come soon but had not been looked for until a few days later.

The German emperor and his advisors have maintained to the last that they made supreme efforts for peace and that the last of the series of appeals from Emperor William to Emperor Nicholas was a telegram repudiating responsibility for the calamity threatening the world on the ground that while Germany was mediating with Austria-Hungary at Russia's request, Russia by her general mobilization, was threatening Germany's safety.

One of the redeeming features of the dark prospect is that Italy has declared her neutrality, but how long she can maintain it is a debatable question. Belgium, Holland, and Turkey are neutral so far, but it cannot be told how long they will remain that way. England has as yet given no statement as to what she will do. The cabinet has been in session several days to consider her attitude in this crisis. The government will have to make its momentous decision between the two schools of thought which prevail there—one advocating that England hold aloof and only seek to protect Dutch and Belgian neutrality, and the other arguing that the entente with France entails England going to the assistance of France if that country is attacked by Germany. There is quite a bit of hostile feeling in England toward Germany and the majority of the people are for war. If Germany violates Belgium's neutrality as it seems she is going to do, England will probably enter the war. Sir Edward Grey's speech to Germany was a hint that if she will keep her soldiers off Belgian soil and her battleships away from the coast of France that will be the price of great Britain's armed neutrality.

France gave the order for the mobilization of her army some time after Russia had mobilized her forces. Before Germany had declared war on Russia, the government asked France what her intentions were should Russia refuse to cease mobilization. The answer was unsatisfactory and Germany invaded France and began fighting without any declaration of war. The line up is that Russia, France, Serbia and Montenegro are arrayed against Austria-Hungary and Germany. How long it will remain this way can not be told, for other countries are liable to enter the contest any time. Practically all the countries of Europe have mobilized their armies for protection.

100,000 Germans poured into Luxembourg who will concentrate on the French frontier. Actual German invasion of France occurred at Nancy and Longwy, and a battle was fought at Nancy, but no facts about it are known. It is reported that the Russians have invaded Germany near Swindon. Serbia, the original cause of the upheaval, seems to have almost been lost sight of. The Austrians have almost ceased operations against Serbia in order to meet the greater danger in Russia. The first shots between Russia and Germany were exchanged between patrols near Proskien, 120 miles southeast of Konigsberg. Some firing between German and French fleets has taken place in the North Sea. Sunday German troops fired upon and brought to earth a French flying machine near Wesel. Saturday night several other air crafts were seen in the Rhine provinces. One was observed flying from Keppich toward Andernach, ten miles northwest of Coblenz. Others were sighted near Duere flying in the direction of Cologne. A hotel keeper in Kochem and his son tried to blow up the Prussian State railroad tunnel at Kochem. The attempt failed and the men were shot and killed.

The mobilization of the English navy was completed at four o'clock Tuesday morning. However, diplomatic activity continues in England and all is being done that can be to keep that country out of the war. The

whole world is awaiting with eagerness the definite policy of the British cabinet which the prime minister is daily expected to give. John Burns, president of the local government board, has resigned owing to the disagreement over the war policy of the English government, and Viscount Morley, president of the council, is expected to resign. Not one man in a hundred in England wants her to remain neutral. Germany, through her diplomats, has tried to keep Great Britain out by a virtual offer to refrain from using her navy against France as the price of Great Britain's neutrality. The British government regards with the deepest distrust Germany's violation of Belgium's neutrality, but makes no declaration as to whether it considers that measure provocation for war. France has been assured by England that no German fleet shall be allowed to attack her coast. However, England has not yet pledged herself to contribute an army to the continental war.

Germany sent a note to Belgium Monday evening at seven o'clock proposing to Belgium friendly neutrality coupled with free passage through Belgian territory of German troops, promising the maintenance of Belgian independence at the conclusion of peace and threatening in case of refusal to treat Belgium as an enemy. Belgium answered that an attack on her neutrality would be a flagrant violation of the rights of nations.

Later—Germany has formally declared war on England, and England has declared war on Germany, and a titanic conflict is about to be started that will startle the world. Germany's reply to Great Britain's ultimatum demanding a satisfactory reply on the subject of English neutrality was a refusal of the request that Belgian neutrality should be respected. As soon as this reply was received the British ambassador at Berlin received his passports and the British government notified Germany that a state of war existed between the two countries. All Europe is in arms. The British Foreign Office issued the following statement: "Owing to the summary rejection by the German government of the request made by his Britannic majesty's government that the neutrality of Belgium should be respected, his majesty's ambassador at Berlin has received his passports, and his majesty's government has declared to the German government that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Germany from 11 o'clock p. m., August 4." King George addressed a message to the British colonies August 4, expressing appreciation of their spontaneous assurances that they will give the fullest support to the motherland. All England's efforts for peace were fruitless. Following is a copy of a telegram sent by the king to the Russian Emperor on August 4: "I make a personal appeal to you to leave open the grounds for negotiations for possible peace." The Russian Emperor replied that he would have accepted the proposals had not Germany declared war. His reply, in part, is as follows: "Germany showed no disposition to mediate and her preparations and those of Austria made it imperative that Russia should mobilize, but I gave most categorical assurances to the German Emperor that the Russian troops would not move so long as the negotiations continued. I trust your country will not fail to support Russia and France."

Emperor William opened the imperial Parliament at Berlin August 4th with a speech from the throne. He said in part: "The world has been a witness to the indefatigable manner in which we stood in the front rank in the endeavor to save Europe from a war between the great powers. The greatest perils due to events in the Balkans appeared to have been overcome but then the assassination of my friend, the Arch Duke Ferdinand, opened up a great abyss. "My ally, Emperor Francis Joseph, was compelled to take up arms to protect his empire against the dangerous agitation in a neighboring state. "In pursuing its interests the Russian empire stepped in the way of Austria-Hungary. Not only our duty as an ally called us to the side of Austria-Hungary, but the great task was cast upon us to protect our position against unfriendly forces. It was with a heavy heart that I was compelled to mobilize my army. "The present situation arises not from temporary conflicted interest or diplomatic combinations, but it is the

result of ill will existing for years against the strength and prosperity of the German empire.

"We are not pushed on by the desire of conquest. We are moved by the unbending desire to secure for ourselves and those coming after us the place in which God has put us. "My government, and above all, my chancellor, tried until the last moment to prevent the worst happening. Premier Viviani made the French government's statement to the War Chamber of Deputies August 4, and his remarks created the deepest enthusiasm. He declared that Germany "irrefutably and logically justified the acts of the French government." During his remarks he said: "France has been unjustly provoked; she did not seek war; she has done all in her power to avoid it, war was forced upon her she will defend herself against Germany and any other power who takes part by the side of Germany in the conflict. "Against an attack which violates all the laws of equity and all rights of nations, we have taken all necessary dispositions."

President Poincare, in a message to the Senate and Chamber of Deputies declared that Germany "had tried treacherously to surprise France," and added: "France is ready and our troops will allow mobilization to be methodically carried out." A proclamation issued by the Japanese government, hopes for speedy restoration of peace, and points out Japan's desire to remain neutral, but says that should England participate in the hostilities and the purposes of the Anglo-Japanese alliance be threatened, Japan may be compelled to take measures for the fulfillment of its obligations. The proclamation is generally interpreted as preparing the people for the action of the Japanese navy as soon as Great Britain's decision is announced. The German fleet is very active around Kiao Chau and has already captured a Russian cattle steamer. It is said that Kiao Chau may be occupied by the Japanese in the event of a defeat of the German squadron in the Far East, thus closing the Pacific ocean for the war vessels of Russia and Great Britain and permitting them to proceed to Europe undisturbed, if they desire to do so.

Germany has made an appeal to Italy to stand with her. The attention of the Italian government has been called to what Germany describes as hostile acts on the part of France which the German government asserts constitutes a case coming within the terms of the treaty of Alsace, even though on account of these acts the declaration of war came from Germany. The Italian government still keeps her attitude of neutrality. Turkey has informed Great Britain that her army is being mobilized. This mobilization, Turkey says, is a precautionary measure and Turkey will remain absolutely neutral. The appearance now is that Europe will soon be plunged into an actual war, perhaps one which will have as far reaching results as any in her history. At the end of it, some of the greatest world powers may have become but provinces. It can hardly be doubted but that this war will greatly change the map of Europe. It is feared that the balance of power may be destroyed and that some overlord of the earth may arise that will give trouble throughout the world.

President Wilson of the United States issued a proclamation of neutrality Tuesday, and forbids any of our citizens to take any part in the war in any way. That to accept the German proposal would be to sacrifice her honor and would resist oppression by all possible means. "The Rochambeau, one of the largest of the French line's fleet of steamboats due in New York from Havre has been requisitioned by the French and immediately upon its arrival in this country it is to be turned over to the French consul. It will probably be used to transport reservists to France. The council of labor party in Brussels has decided to abandon the anti-war demonstration which has been going on there and resolved to issue a manifesto to socialist workmen declaring that by exercising the legitimate right of self defense they are fighting against barbarism and for political liberty and democracy. In England the suffragettes have agreed to abandon all their operations and raids until the war crisis is past. Prince Roland Bonaparte, aged 56, has offered to serve in the army, although, he said, he realizes that the

WANTS TRUST BILLS

NEW ENGLAND POINTS TO ACTION OF UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INDORSING PRINCIPLE FEARS.

New England is clamoring for quick passage of the trust bills. In that center of industry the sober undercurrent of thought strongly advocates this action in the interest of better business.

The New England point of view, substantially, is the same which prevails throughout the country. As the subjoined editorial from the Worcester (Mass.) Evening Post shows the referendum recently taken by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States which represents the principal organizations of the country's business men in all the great cities and States, demonstrates an overwhelming sentiment in business circles in support of the main features of the trust program.

Business does not fear, on the contrary, it welcomes the trust bills. The Worcester Post's editorial follows:

"Among organs of plutocracy and in a partnership that, pat-like, avoids light, the chatter continues that 'business men' are in terror-paralysis opposing and protesting against the pending anti-trust legislation. For the second time decisive disproof appears in the result of the referendum taken by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The first of these tests of the sentiment of the genuine business men showed a four-to-one approval of the trade commission part of the administration program. The second referendum, whose results have now been analyzed and made public brings even more emphatic approval of all except one of the other essential features of this program. The participating organizations were 559 in 38 states. Forty-five did not vote at all for one reason or another, but only five because 'opposed to further legislation.' The nature of some of the other questions induced some of the organizations from voting on them.

"On the question of prohibiting interlocking directorates tending to eliminate competition, the vote was more than 12 to 1 in favor of doing so—491 to 40. As applied to railroads, except by permission of the Intra-state Commerce Commission in special cases, the vote was 494 to 33; as to railroads and bankers, however, the result was the other way, 123 to 77 in favor of allowing bankers among railroad directors.

"Corporate ownership of stocks in competing corporations was condemned, 432 to 75, by these organizations.

"The further chief new principle of the proposed legislation making conclusive for further private suits for damages, a final decree or judgment in a government prosecution for violation of the Sherman law, was approved 484 to 62.

"To the most disputable measures, for regulation of railroad security issues, the Chambers are opposed, 445 to 74, following committee recommendation and perhaps fearing, as Louis D. Brandeis argues, that it would operate too much like a government guarantee.

"The referendum had questions about statutory forbiddal of price-discriminations, sales and leases that death prevent dealings with competitors, etc. The votes were strongly against such legislation—presumably because the lines are already drawn on these questions by Supreme Court decisions.

"No shadow of excuse is now left for misrepresenting the attitude on this great subject of the men of honest commerce and industry in this country. The work of distinguishing them from the predatory interests is important. The duty of the Senate is plain."

law prohibits princes of a family once reigning in France from enlisting. The prince also puts his several homes at the disposal of the government. The police has begun arresting strangers in Paris as suspects.

The condition of many Americans traveling in Europe is very distressing. Many are turned out of hotels and are unable to secure transportation out of Paris and other cities in which they are, and the embassy buildings in some places are piled high with their baggage. Those who have been traveling with letters of credit are unable to get them cashed on account of the closing of the banks in Europe. However, the United States government is coming rapidly to the aid of these people, sending money to our representatives abroad, with which the letters of credit may be cashed, and ships are being sent over to transport them home. A large appropriation has been made this week by Congress for the relief of our Americans who are in distress abroad. Postmaster Burtison is going to limit the amount of money orders that can be sent abroad now during the trouble. He is not doing this to prevent Americans from getting necessary money but to keep any U. S. money being sent over by money order for speculative purposes.

Latest Report—Germany has formally declared war on Belgium, and the first real battle of the war was fought Wednesday when Germany attacked Liege, and several thousand dead and wounded is the toll paid by the German army. The Belgians made a heroic defense, repulsing the Germans after heavy and continuous fighting, and suffered no loss, one of their squadrons attacking and driving back six German squadrons. Eight hundred wounded Germans were carried into Liege where they will be cared for. Prior to the attack on Liege, General Von Emich, commanding the German army of the Meuse, issued a proclamation calling for an open road

CANNON PROPHET OF EVIL

FORMER CZAR OF HOUSE IS ONLY PESSIMIST IN HIS HOME TOWN—NO GLOOM IN DANVILLE.

Joseph G. Cannon, of Danville, Ill., former speaker of the House, has been conspicuous among the press agents of the "hard times." Starting facts concerning business conditions at Danville have been laid before the House by Representative Frank T. O'Hair, the Democrat who defeated Cannon in the Danville district two years ago.

The foremost business men of Danville, including the principal bankers, with the exception of the officials of the banking institution over which Cannon himself presides, unite in declaring that conditions never were better at Danville.

At no point in his speech did Mr. O'Hair mention Cannon. He merely "answered lies with facts."

"Inasmuch as business conditions are of a psychological nature," said Mr. O'Hair, "I offer in evidence the facts as stated by competent witnesses who are the leading citizens of Danville, the largest city in the district which I have the honor of representing in Congress.

"These gentlemen are for the most part either Republicans or Progressives and therefore, according to the politicians, might be said to be testifying against their interests; but these men whom I know personally are Americans and patriots and business men first and partisans only as a secondary matter.

"Below are their statements: "By L. C. Chaffee, president of the Peyton Palmer Co.)

"I will say from a personal knowledge, that today retailers are very hopeful concerning future prospects. They are enjoying excellent business and their patrons are optimistic. Illinois is about to experience one of her best trade years, simply because everybody is pulling for prosperity, thinking prosperity and talking prosperity."

"By J. S. Emery, president of the Emery Dry Goods Co.)

"There is not another class of Danville people to whom prosperity means more than to us merchants. Prosperity means to us good business, a return on our money invested, and the ultimate expansion of our establishments. I believe that when I say that 1914 from a mercantile standpoint has more brilliant prospects in store than any other year since the dawn of the twentieth century, that I am echoing the belief of every other merchant in Danville."

"By George W. Telling, president of Commercial Trust & Savings Bank.)

"I believe every man connected with a local bank will agree with me when I say that more Danville toilers and wage earners—the city's backbone—are saving money now than ever before."

"By Harriet Adams, secretary of Vermillion County Building Association.)

"The outskirts of the city, which have hitherto presented a vacant and barren appearance, are filling up with handsome little homes—abodes for the toilers and wage earners—the men who form the backbone and foundation of every city in this country. This process of building, of filling up of what once was waste places, is the surest sign of prosperity visible in Danville today."

"By Charles U. Falkamp, president of Civic Federation.)

"Danville's present standing in the commercial life of Illinois has been attained by co-operation, and her future depends wholly upon co-operation. The city is prosperous today, and the present is the time to take advantage of this prosperity and lay plans for the future."

"By H. C. Smith, president Allith-Prouty Co.)

"Business conditions have settled from the somewhat spasmodic business outlook of a year ago. Factory prospects in Danville for the ensuing year are excellent, not only with us, but I believe, every other concern in Danville that relies mainly upon the Nation at large for its profits."

HEARD ON THE STREETS

WHAT OUR TOWN CORRESPONDENT HEARS AND THINKS—MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST DISCUSSED.

Mr. M. L. Winningham, of Central Falls, was in town one day recently.

Europe is going to war some nations will sit up and take notice.

Mr. G. E. Bulla, of Randleman Rt. 2, was in town last Saturday.

Mr. Jarvis Miller of Caraway, spent a few hours in town Monday.

Mr. Bob Jordan, of near Central Falls, is at Candor enjoying the watermelon season.

No matter whether a town is Democratic or Republican, it wants a progressive ball team.

Watermelons are getting to be plentiful on this market and the prices are always low.

There are nearly one hundred automobiles in Randolph county, which is one of the signs of the times.

Messrs. B. F. Gray and Charlie Glass, of the Cedar Falls section were in town one day last week.

The masons are now pushing the work on the walls of the new Fox building.

The person who looks on the bright side of things is likely to look on the right side of things.

Mrs. C. C. Miller and daughter, Miss Ivie, and Mrs. Annie Miller spent Saturday night in the Caraway section.

A good many people were in town Monday, it being the first Monday in the month.

Mr. G. R. Bonkemeyer, of Central Falls, made 226 bushels of wheat on seven acres this year.

A new war cloud has loomed up in Europe which may involve all the leading powers of the continent. If

Try to make your mark in the world, but don't make it with red paint.

Mr. A. W. Allred, of Climax Route 1, was in town one day last week. He says crops are doing nicely in his section.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lawrence, of Caraway, were in town one day last week selling some home made ham.

Don't forget to attend these prizes on time.

Your correspondent to see the intent welfare of the people will get together, we can transform our little town into a clean young city within a short period. We should have civic pride enough about us to keep our town clean and dare anyone to come in and dirty it.

We have had quite a number of our influential citizens express themselves in favor of a county fair for Randolph county this fall. Of course, it is a capital idea, and by a little determined effort on the part of the farmers and business men we can have a large fair. The farmers and business men would be most benefited by it and they should get in behind it, and press it for due consideration.

MRS. WOODROW WILSON LIES AT POINT OF DEATH

Just as The Courier goes to press the news comes that Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, wife of the President of the United States, is in a dying condition. Four months of almost unbroken illness, a complication of nervous ailments and Bright's disease, have sapped her strength away. The end is regarded as a matter of days, perhaps hours. Her husband and three daughters are at her bedside and relatives have been summoned. Physicians have been in consultation for days but it was admitted at the White House last night that hope for her recovery had almost vanished. Every moment that could be spared from official duties has been devoted by the President to his wife. From her sick room he has been giving directions to the various department heads for the relief of thousands of Americans stranded abroad.

through Belgium for the advance of his forces, suggesting that prudence would show it to be the duty of Belgium to accede to this, and avoid the horrors of war. The Germans burned the city of Vise, eight miles from Liege, and shot many of its residents. French troops have joined the Belgians in opposing the progress of Germany through Belgium and it is reported that possibly Great Britain may send reinforcements. Woodrow Wilson has offered the services of the United States as a mediator between the warring nations.