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AUSTRIA AT WAR WITH SERVA.

May Be One of the Greatest Wars of History. World Looking On to See What Course Other Nations May Take. Russia May Take Up Arms for Her Weaker Neighbor. Strength of the Opposing Nations.

London, July 28.—The Austro-Hungarian government declared war against Serbia today by a manifesto which is one of the briefest of history's momentous documents.

Germany paved the way for this declaration by announcing her rejection of the British proposal to bring four powers together in conference for mediation. Germany explained her ally could not be expected to submit her acts to an European council as though she were one of the Balkan States.

This announcement preceded the declaration of war by only two hours and showed the harmonious working of the partnership between the two nations which stood firmly together through the Bosnian crisis of 1909.

The center of interest has shifted sharply to St. Petersburg, which holds the decision whether an European war, which probably would shift the balance of power if not rearranged the entire map of Europe, is to break out. Negotiations are afoot there between the Russian foreign minister and the Austrian ambassador, which are designed to "localize" the conflict.

There is no enthusiasm in England for war, yet there is a general belief that her obligations to her partners in the triple entente, and her interests as a great European power, will force her to support Russia and France in any steps they may take.

The British warships everywhere are taking on supplies. Soon after it became known that Austria and Serbia were at war, all the officers and sailors ashore at Portland and Weymouth were summoned to their ships.

Text of War Declaration.

Vienna, July 28.—The text of the declaration of war follows:

"The Royal Government of Serbia not having replied in a satisfactory manner to the note remitted to it by the Austro-Hungarian Minister in Belgrade on July 23, 1914, the imperial and royal Government finds itself compelled to proceed itself to safeguard its rights and interests and to have recourse for this purpose to force of arms.

"Austria-Hungary considers itself from this moment in a state of war with Serbia."

Facts About Combating Nations.

Servia.

Serbs, a Slavic tribe, invaded the present Servia—637.
Converted to Christianity—900.
Passed under Turkish rule—1459.
Got independence—1877.
Proclaimed a kingdom—1882.
Population—3,000,000.
Area—18,649 square miles.
Capital—Belgrade.
Standing army—195,000 men.
Navy—None.
Ruler—Crown Prince Regent Alexander.

Austria.

Austria's wars began in 14 B. C., when the Romans conquered the Norici.
The Hapsburg imperial family has reigned in Austria since 1825.
Area—241,513 square miles.
Population—45,405,267.
Capital—Vienna.
Standing army—810,000 men.
Navy—114 ships.
Ruler—Francis Joseph, emperor.

St. Petersburg, July 29.—In Russian eyes the die is cast. Only a political miracle can avert war.

Russia does not swerve from her determination to support Serbia and partial mobilization has already been ordered. There is every indication that the whole vast military machinery of Russia will soon be set in motion.

Should Emperor Nicholas become generalissimo of the forces, as it is understood he will, an immense wave of enthusiasm will sweep over Russia.

The proposal attributed to Austria to discuss terms when Belgrade has been occupied, is regarded as impossible. It is pointed out that before

the opening of hostilities Russia proposed to Austria a direct exchange of views, which Austria rejected.

London, July 29.—The day's events brought no relief to the suspense nor any diplomatic achievement to restrict the Austria-Servian war to those two nations. The feeling throughout England, and the continental feeling as reflected by the correspondents of the London newspapers is tonight distinctly more anxious than yesterday.

Two events have made for pessimism. Direct negotiations between Russia and Austria, which gave the other governments hope of a compromise, have failed and are ended.

Russia is mobilizing against the Austrian frontier four army corps in each of the four districts, consisting of 1,280,000 men. Russia's resolution to stand by Serbia appears to be fixed, and the Russian censor has approved dispatches declaring that Russian sentiment is all for taking up arms.

SELMA NEWS.

Selma, July 30.—Last Tuesday was a big day for Selma. It was the 3rd Watermelon and Baby Show, and under the leadership of Mayor Robert E. Richardson was a big success. There were about 2,500 people present, men prominent in North Carolina political and educational life were here to see their old friends and make new friends. It was the most orderly crowd ever seen here.

It is said that prohibition does not prohibit, but, one thing is certain, years ago that number of people who have gotten together without being a number of drunks. As it was, there was not a drunken person spoken, or a drunken person seen. Whether prohibition prohibits or not it makes men better. The most enjoyable feature of the day was the gathering of the old students of the Hon. John C. Scarborough. There were 22 of them present, from all parts of the State. The speeches were well received. 'Twas a hot day, but as the talks were by the old teachers and students, strict attention was given. The only drawback was that the melons, tomatoes, etc., could not be shown better. They were on the stage, out of the way and one had to look for them. A place for them on the grounds where all could see would have been better. Letters were read from Dr. M. Charles Millender, of Asheville; Mrs. A. B. Creech, of Greensboro; Mr. E. T. Phillips and others, regretting that they could not be present and grasp the hand of their wise old teacher and of their fellow students. The following is a list of the old students present:

James T. Blackman, of Durham, N. C.
Mrs. Mary Buffalo, of Raleigh.
Iredell Talton, of Smithfield.
Charles E. Godwin, of Lexington.
Mrs. M. A. Barnes, of Clayton.
A. D. Ford, of Four Oaks.
Perrin B. Corbett, of Troy.
E. T. Futrell, of Pine Level.
M. C. S. Noble, of Chapel Hill.
John A. Wilson, of Wilson's Mills.
William G. Wilson, of Wilson's Mills.
D. J. Wellons, of Smithfield.
G. L. Jones, of Smithfield.
Adin Powell, of Smithfield.
Mrs. J. C. Scarborough, of Winton.
John E. Allen, of Garner.
Henry D. Hood, Mrs. R. J. Noble, Miss Sallie Kirby, Wiley W. Crumpler, J. E. Little, Charles F. Kirby, and Dr. R. J. Noble, of Selma.

One feature of the Melon and Baby Show was the dinner to the Old Veterans, given by the Daughters of the Confederacy. The old vets were assembled by comrade John H. Parker, bugler for the State Confederate Veterans. For a number of years Squire Parker has been the bugler and has called them to attention at every meeting. It seems that comrade Parker is a fixture at their meetings and the only thing that can keep him away from the annual camps will be the last blast of the bugle sounded by the angel Gabriel.

Mr. Parker has his discharge from the army of Northern Virginia, signed by E. J. Holt, First Lieut. Commanding Roberts Brigade.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. W. Winston, of Oxford, were here last Friday and were the guests of Mrs. G. A. Tuck.

Mrs. M. C. Taylor, of Oxford, is visiting Mrs. R. J. Noble.

Mrs. Baily, of Dunn, spent Tuesday with her aunt, Mrs. W. B. Driver.

SLUMP IN MARKETS OF WORLD.

Expectation and Declaration of War Demoralizes Prices Everywhere.

Associated Press, 28th.

Expectation of war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia and its subsequent declaration today demoralized the markets of the world.

War was not declared until after the Bourses of Europe had closed but in London, Berlin and Paris, panicky conditions and severe declines in securities anticipated the announcement. At all three Capitals, bonds of European Governments which have been dropping steadily registered further losses.

In Vienna the Bourse had been closed since Saturday, but there was a heavy run on the Austrian Savings Banks, the most important in the dual monarchy.

In Paris the Commercial Exchange suspended all dealings in grains, sugar and other commodities and exchange on London and private discount for the first time in years were not quoted.

In Berlin runs on savings banks begun yesterday, grew heavier.

In London, after the close of the stock market, stocks tumbled on the curb.

News of the declaration reached this country while markets were in session. With it came an avalanche of foreign selling on the New York Stock Exchange. Leading securities slumped from 5 to 20 points and conditions paralleled in their intensity the domestic panic of 1907.

Stock exchanges of Montreal and Toronto suspended their sessions.

On the Chicago Board of Trade there was a tremendous rise in wheat and the wildest trading in many years on the expectation that war in Europe would create a demand for American grain. Other foodstuffs also advanced. These conditions were reflected in all produce markets of the country.

On the other hand smart declines were recorded in cotton futures at New York and New Orleans. Coffee also slumped, owing, it was reported, to fears that contemplated financing in Europe of the Brazilian crop would fail. Foreign exchange was demoralized and millions in gold were engaged at New York for shipment to London and Paris.

FOUR OAKS NEWS.

Four Oaks, July 28.—Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Thornton, of Goldsboro, spent a day last week here at the home of W. J. Lewis. Mr. and Mrs. Thornton have been spending some time in South Carolina.

Mrs. J. W. Sanders and children have returned from a visit to Mrs. Sanders' brother, Mr. Chas. Creech, at Littleton, N. C.

Mrs. L. G. Stevens and son, Leon, Jr., are visiting in Smithfield this week.

Messrs. A. Creech and Chester Lassiter left Tuesday for Fuquay Springs on a week's vacation.

Mr. Tommie Strickland, of Atlanta, Ga., and Ransom Strickland, of Coats, N. C., spent Sunday here with their mother, Mrs. Ebb Strickland.

Mrs. Ella Dutton and daughters, Dorothy and Mildred, of Sumter, S. C., are spending some time at the home of K. L. Barbour.

Mrs. B. B. Adams has returned from Asheville, N. C.

Dr. Royall, of Morehead City, N. C., is a guest at the home of Mr. B. B. Adams.

Miss Margaret Moore, of Smithfield, visited Miss Leola Sanders last week.

Mrs. J. B. Stanley and children, of McColl, S. C., are the guests of Mrs. E. Creech.

Mrs. J. J. Sway who has been the guest of Mrs. J. T. Cole for the past two weeks, returned to her home in Norfolk, Va., Monday.

Mr. Lacy Lassiter, of Goldsboro, N. C., visited Messrs. Chester and Victor Cole last week.

Miss Ruth May, of Spring Hope, N. C., is the guest of Miss Alma Adams.

Miss Maybelle Mewborn, of La Grange, N. C., is spending some time at the home of Mrs. E. Creech.

Mr. Arthur Blaylock who has been taking a course in Dentistry at Richmond, Va., for the past two years, is spending his vacation here. Mr. Blaylock has many friends throughout the county, having lived here for several years.

RAIN NEEDED IN THE SOUTH

Hot and Dry Weather Over the Cotton Belt Making Inroads on the Crops.

Washington, D. C., July 28.—Rain is badly needed by growing cotton in many localities, especially in the Southwest, according to the weather bureau's weekly review, issued today. Local showers have maintained the generally good conditions of the crop in some sections, but in many parts of the Central and Eastern belt, hot, dry weather had retarded the plant, and in Texas and Oklahoma considerable deterioration resulted in the drouth. Conditions in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina are summarized as follows:

Virginia—Hot, dry weather was unfavorable for the progress of vegetation. Corn, tobacco, and garden stuff are at a standstill. Good soaking rains are needed.

North Carolina—The rain fall was generally light and scattered. Temperatures were high. Cotton made satisfactory progress, and the early planted is fruiting well. Corn and truck need rain.

South Carolina—Excessive heat with nearly unbroken sunshine marked the week. While crops generally are in good condition, plentiful rains are needed everywhere. The army worm is damaging forage in Charleston County.

INVENTION'S GREAT WONDERS.

Alexander Graham Bell Tells How Genius Labors.

National Geographic Magazine.

Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor, told a class of young students at Washington the other day about putting his head under water and striking two stones together beneath the surface. "It sounded as if a man were hammering for all he was worth at my very ears."

Next he sent a boy a mile away to strike the stones, and "the signals came perfectly clear and distinct."

In these little facts, and the other fact that sound goes over 5,000 feet a second through water to its 1,000 feet through air, lay for somebody the germ of the submarine bell signals used on ships.

Now, in exploring the earth's surface as it lies under deep waters, a great deal of time and labor is expended merely in ascertaining the depth.

"Why," asks Professor Bell, "should we not send down a sound instead and listen for an echo from the bottom?"—thus accomplishing in four seconds a work now taking sometimes more than four hours.

And we should learn by the shorter method something of the nature of things below. "A flat bottom should yield a single sharp return, whereas an undulating bottom should yield a multiple echo, like that heard when you fire a pistol among hills."

Professor Bell then gave an account, which is here condensed, of an invention founded on a smell:

First, a chemist detected in sulphuric-acid waste an odor which on analysis was found to come from a hitherto unknown substance. This was called selenium.

Second, selenium crystallized was found to be a conductor of electricity of phenomenally high resistance.

Third, the new resistant, having been put to use in place of whole coils of wire to balance the Atlantic cable during the period of laying, was found to have at night twice its resisting power of the daytime.

Fourth, Professor Bell, playing upon selenium's sensitiveness to light, produced the photophone, by means of which one may talk over a beam of light.

Speaking of the possibility of making the trans-Atlantic trip by aeroplane, Professor Bell did not venture upon prophecy. He did, however, mention the fact that a flying machine flies faster the higher it mounts, the resistance being less in rarified air and the action of the propeller more rapid.

"A 50-mile-an-hour machine flying two miles high will fly much faster than 50 miles an hour. Besides, at that height a 25 to 50 mile breeze blows in the general direction of Europe."

"Calculation shows that, taking all these circumstances into consideration, our best machines should be able to cross the Atlantic in 13 hours."

NEW YORK COLDEST IN YEARS.

Sweaters, Overcoats and Furs Worn in Efforts to Keep Warm.

New York, July 29.—Light overcoats, sweaters and even furs were much in evidence on the streets and trains in New York last night and early today. The temperature dropped as low as 61 degrees, which, according to the Weather Bureau forecaster, was a record for July 28 since 1884.

Captains of incoming steamships said that the weather on the ocean was cooler during the past few days than they had known it at the end of July for the last twenty-five years.

THE NEWS IN CLAYTON.

Clayton, July 29.—Mrs. J. W. Massey and Miss Winona Massey left on Wednesday last for Black Mountain. They will be gone some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Ellington, of Smithfield, are visiting Mrs. B. A. Hott.

On the first Sunday in August a meeting will begin at Mt. Moriah church. Rev. Carter A. Jenkins, of Calvary church, Richmond, will do the preaching.

We see in the Clayton News of last week a most interesting letter from Mr. J. Dwight Barbour, written while at Atlantic City. He was one of the party of young men who made a tour of Northern cities in Mr. M. G. Talton's car. They returned to town last Saturday night, and report a fine trip.

Mr. and Mrs. John Allen, from Auburn, were in town several days of last week, visiting Mr. Allen's sister, Mrs. David W. Barbour.

Kenly played Clayton at Liberty ball ground Monday afternoon. The score was 7 to 6 in favor of Clayton.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert L. Jones are in the city.

Mrs. Edgar McCullers returned home on Monday of last week, after a two weeks' stay at Wrightsville Beach.

We see from the Clayton News that Mr. W. Allison Johnson will begin service on the police force of Wilson, August 1st. He served for several years as Chief of Police of Clayton. He was a fearless officer, and a terror to evil-doers.

Miss Mildred Barbour returned home on Monday from Ayden, where she has been attending a house party.

Mrs. G. W. Fisher and son, Edgar, were in town on Tuesday, the guests of Mrs. David Barbour. Mr. Fisher, who was at one time pastor of the Methodist church here, is now stationed at Gatesville.

On Friday there is to be a lawn party on the Baptist church grounds, under the auspices of Circle No. Six of the Ladies' Aid Society. It is the first of the season, so let's go and enjoy it. In the case of rain the parsonage porch will be used.

New York Cotton.

New York, July 28.—The much-dreaded announcement that war between Austria and Servia had been declared came at noon today with demoralizing effect upon cotton prices which broke 36 to 50 points under last night on the news or nearly \$2 a bale on new crop positions, making new low levels for the present bear movement. Closing prices were only a shade up from the lowest and 34 to 50 points under the previous night. July contracts showed the extreme decline on the theory that spot cotton would be first to feel the effects of European war. Rumors involving other large continental powers in the controversy added to the feverish condition of the afternoon market when trade was on a large scale, including heavy liquidations, foreign selling and commission house pressure.

It was feared that as a result of the foreign exchange market being more or less disorganized by the European developments there might be unusually large hedge selling in this market as soon as the new crop is ready to move.

Fireworks Kill 25.

Tudela, Spain, July 29.—Twenty-five persons were killed and others fatally hurt while 40 sustained serious injuries as the result of an explosion of fireworks during a local festival today.

Most of the dead were decapitated by the force of the explosion.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

Summary of Weather and Crop Conditions in the Cotton Region for Week Ending July 27th, 1914.

Washington, D. C., July 28.—Cotton continued satisfactory growth in the eastern belt where early planted is fruiting well, but some reports of shedding in Georgia on account of dry weather. In the central belt showers improved cotton in Arkansas and satisfactory growth generally made in other portions except Tennessee, northern Mississippi and southern Alabama, general rains would be beneficial.

Drought becoming serious over most of Oklahoma but cotton holding up well although shedding in some places.

Local showers in many portions of Texas helped cotton but generally insufficient to break drought. Most localities crop is at standstill or deteriorating.

Late truck is reported in good condition but needing rain.

MILL CREEK NOTES

Miss Georgia Hood spent a few days of last week in Smithfield visiting relatives there.

Miss Cora Barfield entertained a number of her friends on Saturday night last. Ice cream and cake were served and the event was greatly enjoyed.

Sheriff W. F. Grimes was in this section Monday on official duty. Messrs. Sam T. Honeycutt, J. A. Massengill, E. T. Watson and J. H. Price, and other candidates have paid us recent visits.

The protracted meeting is now in progress at Mill Creek Christian church. The pastor, Rev. J. M. Saunders, is assisted by Mr. Hugo Grantham, who has charge of the music. The pastor is preaching some powerful sermons, and a great congregation is at every service.

Quite a number of the people of this section attended the Masonic funeral of the late Arthur Lee at Newton Grove last Sunday. The funeral oration was masterfully delivered by the venerable, Rev. W. A. Forbes, of Buie's Creek.

We note the following visitors during the past week: Mr. W. B. Cole, C. H. Higgins and Mrs. W. F. Grimes and children, of Smithfield; Mr. Lacy Lassiter, of Goldsboro; Messrs. Victor and Chester Cole, of Four Oaks; Messdames R. L. Weaver and Rufus Chadwick and Misses Esther, Margaret and Rena Cole, of Wilmington and Mr. W. O. Hocutt, of Oneals township.

This drouth is certainly a serious affair to the farmers of upper Wayne and Sampson and Lower Johnston. Its like has never been known before even by our oldest citizens. Mill Creek for the first time in perhaps 75 years has ceased to be a stream and now stands in small pools of water. Crops of all kinds have suffered greatly and the corn crop, some of which is entirely dead, is cut at least 50 per cent.

The Democratic primary is near at hand. Every Democrat in Johnston should vote in that election, and in every effort should be exerted to maintain the inherent principles of Democracy. The idea of rotation should not be gone too far from; soft palaver, which some of the candidates so effectively use in canvassing the voters should not have a feather's weight in making the ticket. The candidate whose deal in life has been the fairest, whose morals at all times have been best, whose ability to perform the duties of office is the least in question and whose sole intention is to serve the whole people and not a feared few is the one to receive our considerations and our votes.

Bentonville, July 28, 1914.

Spanish Fleet Assembles.

Gibraltar, July 29.—Spain has ordered every available warship to assemble at the Balearic Isles, in the Mediterranean. The battleship Pelayo and several cruisers are proceeding from the Moorish coast, and the cruiser Extremadura and a torpedo boat squadron are leaving Algeciras for the same destination.

All necessary precautions are being taken here.

The news from the European war zone causes trade excitement.