

HAVE MET BEFORE

ALLIANCE AND ENTENTE OF HAVE THREATENED WAR

PAST CLASHES FREQUENT

Story of the Political Intrigue of European Nations Which Has Finally Blotted the World With Devastation. How Austria Has Played Her Diplomatic Cards Poorly.

For the third time in the last five years the two great groups of European powers, the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente stand face to face with the obvious possibility that war may result from the clash of rival purposes. To-day Russia, France and Great Britain are in one camp, Germany, Austria and Italy in the other, and between the two lies the old question of European balance of power.

In 1909, when Austria annexed Bosnia, France, Great Britain and Russia protested. The annexation was in fact an express violation of the agreement made in the great congress of Berlin after the Russo-Turkish War. It not merely increased the territory of a member of the Triple Alliance but it extinguished the hope of a little Slav state racially, politically, religiously related to Russia.

At the critical moment in 1909 Germany appeared "in shining armor," declared for Austrian purposes and threw her sworn into the balance. Russia and her allies were unready for war and were compelled to accept the crushing and humiliating defeat—but the consequences of the defeat were manifold. From that hour began Russian intriguing in the Balkans to promote that unity which was presently to destroy Turkey.

In 1911, when Germany sent her warship to Agadir, the two groups came into collision again. In 1909 Germany had threatened Russia; in 1911 she menaced France, demanding as the price of recognition of a French protectorate in Morocco huge territorial grants for herself. But this time the Triple Entente was less compliant. British fleets assembled, Russian armies were mobilized, and finally Lloyd George made the memorable speech which amounted to a warning to Germany that England stood with France.

Then it was Germany's turn to yield, as it had been Russia's in 1909. Some territorial gain she did make in the swamps of the Ubanghi, but Morocco became French, German prestige was terribly shaken and the passionate resentment of the German people has found expression ever since in the press and in the utterances of many of her public men.

The defeat of the Triple Alliance in Morocco was quickly followed by disasters more serious. Italy went to Tripoli and in making war upon Turkey attacked a power regarded in Germany as an ally, whose army, German trained, was confidently expected to stand with the Triple Alliance on the great day of European conflict.

Defeated by Italy, Turkey was next compelled to face the alliance of the Balkan states, whose union was the direct product of Russian diplomacy. With the victories of Lule Burgas, Kumanovo and Jenidje-Vardar, Turkish power in Europe collapsed and the small Balkan states, increased by great territorial gain, stood on Austria's southern frontier barring her road to the Aegean, and in the case of Serbia threatening to play the role on the Danube that Sardinia had played on the Po and unite the southern Slavs as Sardinia united Italy.

To prevent this Austria resorted to desperate tactics. Like Germany, she had expected Turkish victory, and the Ottoman ruin found her unprepared. Toward Serbia she adopted bullying tactics. To break up the Balkan alliance, which was in fact a Russian creation and an adjunct of the Triple Entente, she promoted the discussion among the Balkan allies which resulted in the second war.

But again Austria backed the wrong horse. Not only was Bulgaria defeated and Serbia still further increased in territory and prestige, but Austrian support for Bulgaria had alienated Roumania, hitherto the steadfast friend of the Triple Alliance, and precisely as the Serbians began to dream of regaining Bosnia and Herzegovina Roumania cast envious eyes on the millions of Roumanians in Hungary.

Meantime, as the situation of Austria had been compromised abroad, it was weakened at home. Half the population of the Dual Monarchy is Slav, but the ruling races are German and Magyar. Austrian bullying of Serbia provoked protest, riot, disorder at home. In Bohemia, Croatia, Galicia, Slav populations protested in vain but found cause for hope and enthusiasm in the triumph of the Serb.

Only one diplomatic triumph Austria brought home in her campaign.

Serbian aspirations for a "window on the sea" were thwarted and the Albanian kingdom was created. But no sooner had it been created than the rival ambitions of Italy and Austria began to clash and European observers forecast a quarrel between Austria and Italy such as Schleswig-Holstein provoked between Italy and Austria.

Thus, on the edge of the present crisis the Triple Alliance found itself in a badly weakened condition. Austria on her southern boundary was confronted with Serb and Roumanian armies, whose fighting capacity was proved, whose national aspirations would be promoted by Austrian disruption. Greece, too, excluded from North Epirus by Italy, had been driven to the Entente and possessed a fleet and an army to be reckoned with.

At home Austria faced growing disorder. Her Slav populations, their racial pride and confidence roused by Serbian and Bulgarian victories, no longer endured with patience the persecutions of Germans and Hungarians. Disloyalty was on the increase on all sides, and Austria seemed about to succeed Turkey as "The Sick Man of Europe."

In this situation German newspapers and public men began to demand that the clash between the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente should be postponed longer. Time plainly was with the enemy. Austria was growing weaker, Austro-Italian rivalry in Albanian as well as secular rivalry in Trieste and the Trentino plainly promised future quarrels which might destroy the fighting value of the Triple Alliance and leave Germany alone between France and Russia.

It is the German temper which makes the present crisis serious. At the time of the Bosnian clash no nation in Europe desired war, and only Germany was ready. At the moment of the Moroccan dispute Germany backed down because she found France, England and Russia ready and the possible gain incommensurate with the possible loss a great war might bring.

To-day a very considerable faction of German official life believes that only by war can Germany maintain her pre-dominance in Europe and that a few years more of peace will leave her far behind Russia in strength, in resource and in allies. To-day she can count on Austria and probably Italy. To-morrow Austria may have fallen apart, but Russia, England and France are not likely to grow weaker.

The challenge Austria has issued to Russia, then, is Germany's challenge. It is also her own declaration of a determination to fight for her existence. Russia has enlisted Serbia and Roumania on her southern boundary. Austria has promoted Slav aspirations and disloyalty in Austria. Now Russia must leave Serbia to her fate, abandon her schemes to destroy Austria within and without, she must publicly confess she can not aid her weaker Slav allies, or she must fight. Austria prefers to be destroyed by war rather than by the attrition of intrigue.

If France and Great Britain stand with Russia her decision can not be mistaken. If France and Russia are agreed to resist the result will hardly be different. But British statesmen are unlikely to run the risk of a German victory which will leave Germany with her hands free to fight for naval supremacy.

The worst phase of the present crisis is that neither Alliance nor Entente can low escape war without tremendous loss of prestige. The challenge of Austria has been made in such fashion that it leaves Russia no visible choice between war and dishonor. German official utterance gives the thing the value of an issue between the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente.

It is the combination of all of these circumstances which makes the present crisis seem the most serious Europe has known since Bismarck edited the fateful Ems dispatch and the Franco-Prussian war resulted.

SHOOT 100 SPIES.

Brussels, the Capital of Belgium, Expires Secret Watchers.

Brussels has been covered by a net work of German spies. Six hundred already have been arrested and 100 were shot Monday.

Some of the Germans captured wore uniforms of gendarmes and civic guards. Many were armed with bombs and revolvers and rode in automobiles bearing false numbers. They also had in their possession telegrams and letters with the counterfeit signature of the Belgian minister of war.

Just before and after the fighting began private signs were discovered on bridges, military works and aqueducts indicating that those structures should be blown up.

Senators Ratify Treaties. The Senate Thursday ratified treaties submitted by the president. Action of those for Panama and the Dominican republic were postponed.

Calls Ambassadors Home. The Italian ambassadors at London, Paris, St. Petersburg and Berlin have called to Rome to consult with the ministry about the war.

LITTLE REAL WAR NEWS

ABSENCE OF INFORMATION OF TROOP ACTIONS.

Germans Hold City of Liege, But Belgians Have the Forts—Actions Expected in Alsace With the French.

No new actions have been reported in this country between any of the armies now engaged in war in Europe. The German troops are still in possession of the city of Liege but the Belgian defenders maintain their possession of the forts around the city.

It has been reported that the intention of the Germans is to send an army to the north of Liege, with the view of taking the forts from the near. This army will probably meet opposition from both English and French troops, who under no circumstances would allow the Germans to flank the Belgian forts.

Numerous skirmishes are reported along the Franco-German frontier, but none of them are of serious import. It is stated that the German troops were unsuccessful in their attempt to drive the French out of Muelhausen, which was taken by the French several days ago. It is also reported that a superior force of Germans compelled the French to take up position outside of Muelhausen, where an engagement was fought, with success to the French.

Reports of sharp encounters along the Austro-Russian frontier came through the wires Tuesday. Austrian troops are reported to have taken Mieschow, in Russian Poland, while the Russians officially announce the dislodgment of a body of Austrians at Zalesche, in Austrian Galicia.

Russia is concentrating a strong army in Finland. It is also reported that six carloads of German prisoners passed through Vilna Tuesday bound for St. Petersburg, which seem to indicate an engagement on the Russo-German frontier.

A Belgian official report gives the German loss around Liege as 2,000 killed, 20,000 wounded, 9,700 prisoners.

ACCEPT TERMS.

New Haven Makes Peace With Government.

Attorney General McReynolds received word Tuesday night from New York that the directors of the New Haven railroad have agreed to his terms for a peaceful dissolution of the system which will put an end to the court proceeding begun there several weeks ago.

Department of justice officials, asked some time ago if there was any possible way to avoid fighting the suit through the courts, replied the only way was to carry out the terms of the agreement for dissolution made months ago. Attorney General McReynolds, however, made his demands regarding the separation of the Boston & Maine stronger than formerly.

In the old agreement the trustees were to hold the New Haven's Boston & Maine stock for two years and a half. Under the present understanding they will hold it for only one year. The attorney general is expected to see they are in no way interfered with by the New Haven. They are expected to dispose of the stock in 12 months but failure to do so on reasonable grounds probably would lead to an extension of time.

TELLS OF RICHARDS.

Cansler Says He Told Different Story in 1912 Campaign.

Cansler of Tirzah, candidate for railroad commissioner, has published the following card in The State: I saw in your valuable paper of even date, page six, John G. Richards in substance says that any one saying in 1912 that he (Richards) told one party he was a Bleasite and another he was a Jones man "was a liar." I said so. I will not attempt to refer to the number of times Richards did say so. I thought so "little of such a man then, and no v. but if he will deny this I shall cite him at least one case with proof. I am on a bed of affliction, but I am rapidly improving.

James Cansler, Of Tirzah. Columbia hospital, August 12.

MUST DISSOLVE

International Harvester Company Declared to be a Monopoly.

The International Harvester Company Thursday was declared to be a monopoly in restraint of interstate and foreign trade and was ordered dissolved by a majority decision in the United States district court.

Unless the \$140,000,000 corporation submit a plan for the dissolution of the combination into at least three independent concerns within 30 days, or in case of appeal within 90 days of the issuance of an appeal mandate from the United States supreme court, the decision announces that court will entertain an application for the appointment of a receiver for all the properties of the corporation.



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CLINKSCALES TO SPEAK.

Will Make Whirlwind Campaign of Spartanburg County.

It is announced that plans were under way for Clinkscapes to make a whirlwind campaign of Spartanburg county on Friday, Saturday and Monday before the primary. Automobiles will be used and an effort will be made to have Clinkscapes speak in every part of the county on those days. Such a campaign will be the first of its character ever made in Spartanburg county. He will speak to travel 100 miles and speak 15 times each day if the schedule is carried out.

Slain in His Office.

E. P. Emory of Chicago, a railway man, was found slain in his office Wednesday. The general disorder prevalent pointed to a hard struggle.

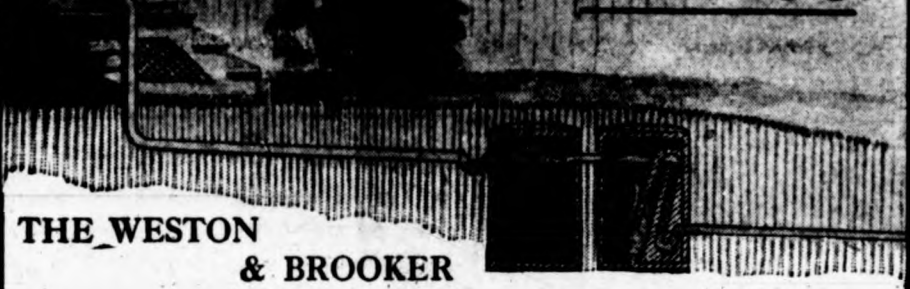
To Protect Trade Routes.

The British admiralty has dispatched its fastest cruisers to run down the German ships which threaten the North Atlantic trade routes.

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President Wilson is considering placing the same censorship on cables as was recently placed on wireless stations.

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