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WEST VIRGINIA ITEMS OF NEWS.

W. Va. Coal and Coke Shipments.

Charleston, W. Va., August 3.—T. D. Hobart, general coal freight agent of the Norfolk & Western railway, has just issued a statement of the shipments of coal and coke over his lines for the month of June, and for the first six months of the year. The statement shows a gain of 218,925 tons for June, 1914, over June 1913, and an increase of \$24,895 tons for the first six months of this year over the same period of 1913.

Charged with stealing a silk poplin dress from the store of the Logan Mercantile Co., Mrs. Lillie Sydenstricker, aged 19, was arrested in Huntington the first of the week and brought back here for trial. At a hearing the evidence was all against her despite her plea that a clerk in the store had given her the dress, and she was found guilty and fined \$10 and costs, amounting in all to about \$40.

Terrific Rain Storm on Guyan. The most terrific rain storm of the season visited this section last Sunday and in a few hours caused thousands of dollars worth of damage to private and railroad property. Creeks were raised as if by magic and in a number of instances outbuildings were wrecked, fences carried away and chicken houses submerged and poultry drowned.



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COMBATANTS IN EUROPE'S WAR

(Courier-Journal) Serbia is a mountainous country a little less than half the area of Kentucky. The population is slightly larger than Kentucky, and is mainly made up of Servians, although there is a sprinkling of Roumanians and gypsies. The Carpathian and Balkan ranges and the Dinaric Alps make the country rather difficult for large bodies of invading troops and favor small bodies of native soldiers acquainted with the territory and popularly supported.

The Servians are an agricultural people, depending largely upon the sheltered valleys and plains which yield generously while a rigorous climate exists in the mountains. Despite Government efforts to correct the defect there is practically no manufacturing in Serbia, and while the larder can be kept well filled so long as the land is not devastated the Servians are dependent upon help from beyond the borders for the machinery of war.

The Servians are poor. Their revenue is somewhat under \$15,000,000 a year. But they are frugal and the public debt has remained below the \$100,000,000 mark. Modern warfare is enormously expensive and quickly sends the national debt of a small agricultural country beyond the danger mark.

The thinness of the veneer of civilization in Serbia is fairly reflected by the manner in which way was made for the present King to ascend the throne.

King Alexander's marriage with Draga Maschin, a lady-in-waiting twelve years his senior, did not please the Servian ministry and the ministry resigned. The people registered no objection to what the ministry regarded as an unsuitable match and the populace lustily cheered the bridal party.

But three years after the marriage, which was celebrated in 1900, a band of conspirators, or their hirelings, entered the palace and murdered the King and Queen and several other members of the royal household. The Servian statesmen who hatched the plot had previously made an arrangement with the pretender to the throne, Prince Peter Karageorgevitch, who was residing at Geneva.

It is, of course, denied that he sanctioned the means proposed, and his adherents hold that he did not know of any specific plot to clear the throne for his coming, but was willing to harken to the call of his country should a vacancy occur.

At any rate the present King of Serbia owes his elevation to one of the most savage crimes of modern history which could have been arranged as it was arranged only in a country whose leading men have the ethics of the statesmen of ancient Persia. King Peter was an old man when he secured the throne.

His first son's dissipation and disagreeable personal qualities made him an impossible heir apparent, and he stepped aside in favor of his younger brother, who has recently been occupying the throne in the absence of his father who had been popularly believed to have abdicated under consideration because of a wish to spend his declining years in care-free private life.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, the annexation of which has been a thorn in the side of Serbia since it was accomplished a few years ago, were not parts of Serbia.

Bosnia was the extreme northwestern province of Turkey-in-Europe, comprising both Bosnia proper and Herzegovina as well as parts of Turkish Croatia and Dalmatia. It was bounded on the north by the River Save, which, with the Danube, separates Serbia from Hungary. The eastern boundary of Bosnia was Serbia, and the southern boundary Albania and Montenegro. It was occupied by Austrian troops under the terms of the Treaty of Berlin, drafted in 1878, to be administered by the Austrian Government for an indefinite time.

Bosnia proper is nearly as large as Serbia. It is inhabited chiefly by Bosniaks who are Mohammedans, and partly by Servians and Croats. Herzegovina is a mountainous section covering about 700 square miles. It contains only about 250,000 souls. Bosnia as taken by King Stephen of Serbia in the Fourteenth century, but it had experienced both independence and Turkish dominance when an Austrian military governor was placed in charge of it.

The annexation of the two Turkish "vilayets" in which Serbia had an interest followed the common course of events in world history after the Treaty of Berlin placed Austria in undisputed possession of the territory's affairs.

The capital of Bosnia is Bosnia-Seral, otherwise known as Serajevo, where Grand Duke Ferdinand and the Grand Duchess were assassinated by a Servian of anti-annexation sympathies. Aras are to a limited extent made in Serajevo, and there are iron mines near by, but the equipment for manufacture is probably too small to be of consequence in modern warfare.

The total area of Austria-Hungary is 240,000 square miles as against less than 20,000 square miles (thin Serbia's boundaries. Even in proportion to area Austria-Hungary is much richer than Serbia. Its manufactures alone run to \$600,000,000 a year as against almost nothing in Serbia. The empire has more than 20,000 miles of railway. There are less than 400 miles in Serbia. The revenue of Austria-Hungary is nearly 3,000,000,000 crowns. The expenditures are less than the income. In the unequal contest with Serbia, if the contest should remain confined to the two countries now involved, the cost of war would be a pittance to Austria where it would be ruinous to Serbia.

Austria has been described as "no more than a geographical expression," a description applied some time ago to Italy, but since proved to be false. There is no Austrian language, nationalities are bound in a political

compact. Germans, Czechs, Poles, Ruthenians, Slovenes, Italians and a few Servians and Croats inhabit Austria.

The Magyars form a powerful and compact element in the other partner in the dual empire, and are a fiercely patriotic one-third of the total population. They refuse to adopt the German language and sedulously cultivate Magyar civilization, customs and national spirit. The Magyars are regarded as the backbone of the empire and as the immovable frontier obstacle to Slav aggression in Europe, behind which stands the German Empire.

The Austro-Hungarian combination is essentially a military empire. Military service is obligatory upon all citizens between 20 and 42 who are capable of bearing arms, and the period of individual service is twelve years. This gives the empire a standing army of more than 350,000 on a peace footing and nearly 2,000,000 on a war footing. Although Austria has a very short coast line the development of the Italian navy caused the empire to enter into competition, and the fleet is made up of fast and well equipped units, manned by admirably trained officers and men.

While the battle is not always to the strong, a war between Austria and Serbia so long as it is confined to Austria and Serbia seems too one-sided to admit of much speculation as to results. Should it develop into a combat between the Teuton and the Slav the struggle will be titanic.

CAUSES AND POSSIBILITIES OF IMBROGLIO IN THE EAST.

The Causes. Serbia's dream of centuries for a port on the Adriatic was about to be accomplished in the recent Balkan war when Austria-Hungary shattered it and also forced the Montenegrins to retire from Cetinari.

This intensified the hatred of Austria that has been in the heart of Servians for 600 years and which was actively expressed in the recent assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, heir to the Austria-Hungarian throne, and his wife.

That assassination was the match to the magazine and Austria is apparently ready to fight for her desire of many centuries—control of the Balkan peninsula to the Aegean sea.

The Possibilities. Russia has proclaimed herself the protector of Servia and of Roumania. By conquering Servia, Austria and her ally, Germany, would reach the Aegean sea and thus hamper the southern Russian ports and commerce. Roumania is Russia's buffer State.

If Russia aids Servia—and already her army is mobilizing—this would call upon Germany and Italy, as parties to the Triple Alliance, to send their armies and navies against Russia in the aid of their ally, Austria-Hungary. Then, as members of the Triple Entente between Russia, France and England, France and England may be compelled to aid Russia.

Thus there would be of the six great powers of Europe, Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy on one side and Russia, England and France on the other.

France, at least its army, is apparently eager for the contest, seeking to regain lost Alsace and Lorraine and to avenge the war of 1871.

England, which has much to lose and little to gain, is bending every energy to prevent a general European war.

Bulgaria may be expected to aid the dual monarchy to avenge the wrongs which she believed she suffered just after the war with Turkey, when Servia attacked her and forced her to surrender most of what she won to aid Austria-Hungary while Greece, to prevent her annihilation by the southwest progress of Austria-Hungary will also support Servia and the Pan-Slavists.

Servia also counts on the rising tide of Pan-Slavism within the dual monarchy. And, outside of the active aid of Russia, the little kingdom is relying much on the reported indignance of the Austria-Hungary treaty.

FACTS ABOUT THE TWO BELLIGERENT NATIONS.

Servia. Serbs, a Slavic tribe, invaded the present Servia—637. Converted to Christianity—900. Went 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. Standing army—810,000 men. Capital—Vienna. Navy—114 ships. Ruler—Francis Joseph, emperor.

EVERGREEN. There will be a pie social at this place Saturday night, August the 15th everybody come girls bring the pies and the boys bring your pocket books it is for the benefit of the school.

School at this place is progressing nicely with Allen Miller teacher. Aunt Mary Thompson is very ill at this writing. Lindsey Cyrus and Miss Mae Hicks were out driving Sunday last. Jim Carter was calling on Ollive Hicks Thursday. Mrs. Lou Burton and Mrs. A. L. Burton of Louisa are at the bedside of their Mother Mrs. Thompson. Remember the pie mite. NED.

A CARD OF THANKS. We wish to express our sincere thanks to the many friends whose love, sympathy, and service were so freely given during the illness of our husband and father. Especial recognition is due Mrs. Dock Jordan, whose skilled hands and faithful nursing rendered his closing days as comfortable as loving care could make them. Mrs. James W. Shannon and family.

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