

# Germany Engages 2 More Nations

BERLIN, Aug. 4.—Germany today issued a formal declaration of war against France.

Accompanying the declaration the foreign office issued a statement charging specific violations of the frontier by French troops, accusing French aviators of hurling bombs into unprotected German towns, and insisting that Germany had striven to keep the peace "despite French aggression."

It was announced that the German military authorities at Stuttgart had seized \$20,000,000 gold consigned to Russia.

The United Press' Berlin bureau was besieged by American refugees today, clamoring to know whether the Washington government intended to send transports or warships to rescue them.

Fighting was reported near Luxembourg. French aviators were sent to attack a German dirigible which appeared above Luneville, throwing several bombs into the public square near the Church of St. Jacques, knocking down one of the church walls, demolishing part of the fortifications and killing 15 French soldiers.

## Report Fleets Clash

LONDON, Aug. 4.—Heavy sea firing at dawn was reported off the Yorkshire coast today.

The French war fleet recently left Brest under sealed orders, and about the same time the German fleet was reported as having passed the Kiel canal. It is believed that they have met and fought.

## Troops Are Engaged

PARIS, Aug. 4.—Skirmishing between German and French troops occurred at Mars et Tour today.

The engagement is between the advance guard of the German army advancing on Paris from Metz. The vanguard is already across the frontier.

## Expect Riots in Italy

MONDANE, France, Aug. 4.—Serious anti-government uprisings on the Italian side of the frontier are reported imminent. Despite the government's announcement of its neutrality in the European war, it disregarded the ultimatum served on it by the labor leaders in ordering a general mobilization—as a "precautionary" measure, it was stated.

## Treasure Ship Safe

BAR HARBOR, Me., Aug. 4.—The S. S. Kronprinzessin Cecelie, of the North German Lloyd, which was supposed to be attempting to run the British war fleet's North sea blockade, and get into Hamburg, arrived here today. Captain Pollock came ashore as soon as his ship had docked and communicated with the North German Lloyd's offices in New York. He was reticent concerning the vessel's movements. The passengers, it was understood, wanted to land immediately. The Kronprinzessin Cecelie sailed from New York before the European crisis became acute. Its cabins were crowded with passengers and included in its cargo was between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000 in gold and silver consigned to English and French financial houses. According to schedule, the liner should have touched at Plymouth, Eng. It evidently was reached by wireless on the voyage, however, and warned that it would risk seizure by the British naval authorities if it touched there.

## Paris on Guard

PARIS, Aug. 4.—Every precaution has been taken to protect Paris from a night aerial attack. Searchlights of the highest power are kept flashing constantly, from dusk to dawn above the city, sweeping the sky in all directions. Aviators, too, are kept continuously on duty ready to meet and fight invading air men. If possible, they are to be shot, but in case of necessity, their craft will be rammed in midair, though to do so will cost the lives of the Frenchmen as well as the Germans. Military men did not believe the four German aviators who crossed the border Monday, flying toward Rheims, planned to attack the French capital, their view being that the risks of so long a flight over a hostile country in a heavy machine would be too great to take, and that any such attempt as may be made will be undertaken with a dirigible. The quartet, they thought, were simply scouting.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—President Wilson has signed a proclamation of American neutrality in the European war. This means that hereafter no volunteers can be organized on United States territory for service abroad, and that no arms or ammunition may be shipped from this nation's ports.

## Escaped Convict Pays Visit to The Star; Lays 'Cannon' on Desk and Gossips With a Reporter

"Good morning. I am an escaped convict." A young man with black hair, brown eyes and dressed in a neat suit stood at the city editor's desk. He looked like an ordinary young business man. But his introduction—that was different. We of The Star looked up as he spoke. We have had visits with many strange men in the course of a newspaper's existence. We are accustomed to having "ex-cons" drop in at times to pass the time of day. We have even talked with members of the nobility who have come up to see how we are coming on. But never before an escaped convict!



John Burns

The city editor called the "crime reporter" to one side and said: "This guy must be a nut. He says he's an escaped convict. Find out if he is real." John Burns—that's the young man's name—didn't talk nor act like a "nut." He knows the life inside the penitentiary at Walla Walla, or the "big house," as he calls it. During his talk he mentioned the names of several men the crime reporter has seen sentenced during the last five years.

He denied responsibility for the crime. The details are immaterial.

He served three years and three months at Walla Walla and was, on June 1, transferred to the Meskill stone quarry, 14 miles south of Chehalis. Rotten food, brutal treatment, impure water and abuses, he says, made him determine to escape. He did so with another prisoner, Jack O'Brien, on the night of June 30. They unscrewed bars from a window and crawled out. Since then he has enjoyed his life in the open, going from town to town to escape detection. "Excuse me while I shift my gun to a handy place," he remarked. "One can never tell when some fly cop will have a run of luck. It pays to be ready when a fellow's in my fix. The man who takes me back will have a life-sized job on his hands. 'Cannon' had a dyseppelet look. A long range barrel protruded noisily from a hip pocket. The reporter readily excused the slight interruption. "I've just beat it away from a section of hell, and I want to tell you about it," said Burns. "I've had a lot of fun since I've been out. The outside looks good to me. I'm not hankering to go back. The bulls and the dicks (detectives) interest me greatly these days. I am playing tag with them. I may get nabbed. Then again I may not. You see, I have a sort of a scientific theory—I went to Valparaiso university for

three years—that a man can get by the average policeman any day, no matter how big a crook he is, if he dresses like other men, mingles with the crowd, and does not act suspiciously. "I'VE GOTTEN BY O. K. SO FAR. I'VE BEEN IN TOWN A WEEK AND AM STAYING AT A HOTEL ONE BLOCK FROM THE POLICE STATION. On the Fourth, O'Brien and I were in South Bend. The sheriff came into a saloon and invited all hands to the bar. We had a drink with him. In a dozen other places I've seen 'bulls' I know, but they didn't recognize me. "I am continually on the move. Stool pigeons. That's the reason. Men who have been in prison and turned out rats instead of humans; thieves on whom the coppers have the dope, and the workings of the underworld are always ready to tip off a man wanted inside. "AS LONG AS POLITICS IS CONNECTED WITH THE CONTROL OF PENITENTIARIES, OUR PENAL INSTITUTIONS WILL BE BADLY MANAGED. GREED AND GRAFT AND ROTTENNESS WILL ALWAYS EXIST TO SOME DEGREE NO MATTER HOW CONSCIENTIOUSLY ONE OR TWO MEN TRY TO KEEP THEM OUT. "The peace of Europe can yet be conserved by thee if Russia decides to discontinue her military measures, which threaten Germany and Austria-Hungary." According to the German statement, even before the kaiser's message was delivered, general mobilization of the Russian troops directed at Germany was ordered, and as a necessary countermeasure, Germany, in self-protection, declared war.

get it off. I know a lot of men knock after they get out of prison. Maybe folks don't believe them. But what they say is true, as a rule. "I AM A HUNTED MAN. IF I AM CAUGHT I KNOW WHAT I'LL SUFFER WHEN I GO BACK. PERHAPS PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE ME QUICKER THAN A MAN WHO RISKS NOTHING BY HIS TALK. "The governor himself is a bit inconsistent. He was down to give us a talk at the funeral of Chaplain Edward Barber last spring. Among other things he said: 'It seems a queer turn of fate that this noble man should have been suddenly taken away in the high tide of his usefulness, while you men, who never did and never will be of any good in life, are left with us.' "Later he said he hoped we'd all be good citizens when we got out." "I hope," he said as he was leaving, "that I pass through Seattle's line of bulls in safety. They're nice men to keep away from, and oh, so clever." John Burns smiled back at us as he went out the door. You could notice the bulge in his hip pocket where he keeps his "cannon." "That's what I've had on my chest for a long time, and I want to

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## Kaiser and Czar Put Blame on Each Other

BERLIN, Aug. 4.—Responsibility for general hostilities in Europe is flatly placed on the shoulders of the czar of Russia, both in a message to the czar from Emperor Wilhelm of Germany, and in a government publication just issued by Germany recounting the events leading up to the declaration of war by Germany. In a manifesto issued by the czar, the scolding of the benevolent intervention in the differences between Serbia and Austria-Hungary by the latter country, and the attitude of the German government in declaring war when Russia refused to cease her mobilization of her army with a view to having it in readiness to protect Serbia, are held directly responsible for the present European imbroglio. Before strife broke out, on July 31, the czar sent a message to Emperor Wilhelm, signed, "Thy Devoted Nicholas," in which he said it was technically impossible to discontinue Russian mobilization made necessary by a similar movement of the Austrian army. The message ended: "I give thee my word upon it, and I trust with my strength in the success of thy mediation at Vienna and for our countries and the peace of Europe. (Signed): 'THY DEVOTED NICHOLAS.'" To this the kaiser answered: "In my answers for the maintenance of the peace of the world, I have gone to the extreme limit of the possible. It is not that I shall bear the responsibility for the peril which now threatens the civilized world, and I lay it to the hand to avert it, even at this moment. "The peace of Europe can yet be conserved by thee if Russia decides to discontinue her military measures, which threaten Germany and Austria-Hungary." According to the German statement, even before the kaiser's message was delivered, general mobilization of the Russian troops directed at Germany was ordered, and as a necessary countermeasure, Germany, in self-protection, declared war.

## Bombard French Port

LONDON, Aug. 4.—A German cruiser was bombarding the French naval station at Bona, Algeria, today, it was stated at the French embassy here. From Belgium came a report that the kaiser's troops at Verviers had seized the railroad and were rushing armored trains toward the French frontier.

## Ministers Ask Peace

Seattle's cabinet of ministers decided yesterday at the Y. W. C. A. cafeteria that a grave discrepancy existed in European countries professed to be Christian, who are now in the throes of what promises to be a horrible war. Civilization, they declared, seems to be only skin deep with many of the Europeans. A resolution carried unanimously deprecating the state of conflict now existing across the Atlantic, and calling on the city, county, state and nation to lend their strongest endeavors towards putting a stop to it. The ministers also voted to offer up prayers, supplicating the Deity to intercede in behalf of peace.

## Battle on Pacific?

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 4.—Following reports that the German cruiser Leipzig had captured the British tramp steamer Queen Maud, with 3,000 tons of coal, in the Gulf of California, the British sloop of war Shearwater, with her decks cleared for action, is on the way south from San Diego today to join the sloop Algerine and the auxiliary cruiser Rainbow, of the British navy, and the Japanese cruiser Idzuma. Commander Trousdale of the Shearwater said before leaving San Diego yesterday, that England is prepared to protect her commerce along the west coast at any cost.

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**TOURISTS MUST STAY ABROAD**  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Secretary of State Bryan was informed by the German embassy here today that until mobilization is completed all foreigners, including American tourists, must remain in Germany.

**300 AUSTRIANS DIE IN BATTLE**  
PARIS, Aug. 4.—An Austrian defeat by Servians, in which 300 Austrians soldiers were killed, was reported to the foreign office here today by the French minister to Servia.

Moonlight Excursion and Dancing on Steamer Issaquah on Lake Washington tonight, leaving Leach at 8:15 and Madison park at 8:30.—Adv.

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<b>Weber</b> Pianola Piano \$572	<b>Armstrong</b> Player Piano \$468	<b>Deeket</b> Player Piano \$620	<b>Smith &amp; Barnes</b> Player Piano \$425
<b>Autopiano</b> Player Piano \$432	<b>Stuyvesant</b> Pianola Piano \$335	<b>Jacob Doll</b> Player Piano \$370	<b>Ellsworth</b> Player Piano \$335
<b>Auto-Player</b> Player Piano \$390	<b>Eilers</b> Player Piano \$480	<b>Pian-Auto</b> Player Piano \$428	<b>Thomas</b> Player Piano \$485
<b>Weber</b> Player Piano \$650	<b>Kruff</b> Player Piano \$365	<b>Autopiano</b> Player Piano \$635	<b>Jacob Doll</b> Player Piano \$370

## What I think about it

BEING JUST ONE MAN'S OPINION  
By *The Spectator*

If Prof. Langdon, that Oxford scientist who is translating the Babylonian tablets excavated at Nippur, doesn't let up, I'm going to call for the keeper, and give myself up without any commitment of papers signed by Judge Frater, over his latest is that the Fall of Man came about through the eating of the fruit of the bitter cassia plant, and not an apple; but it was Noah, not Adam, who did eat thereof. That at once scrambles what I learned in my youth. In the first place, a delicious fruit like an apple offered some excuse of Adam. When, for that fine apple story, you substitute one about Eve's tempting Adam with bitter cassia medicine, you simply kill the artistic appeal, and you can't help writing Adam down as an all around imbecile. Again, if it was Noah who took that medicine, it was not Noah who sailed the ark, and Prof. Langdon has simply got to translate and trot out a commander for that important craft. And, if Adam didn't gain his standing in history by eating that apple, what did Adam do? I'm not disputing that the Babylonian tablets tell Prof. Langdon just what he says they do. The Babylonian reporters assigned to write up the apple tragedy and the flood may have had it in for Adam and Noah. It wouldn't be the only instance wherein blaming it on the reporter was the only refuge for folks whose scrapes got into the public prints.