

AERIAL NAVIES OF THE TRIPLE ENTENTE AND THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE COMPARED

Table comparing aircraft of Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, Italy) and Triple Entente (France, England, Russia) as of January 1, 1914.

TWILIGHT OF KINGS GLORY OF WAR GONE

Rulers Order Prayers and Then Start Hell on Earth.

Republic Marches East in Europe and This War Probably Will Deliver the People From the Sword.

Before establishing hell on earth the pietistic kings commend their subjects to God. Seek the Lord's sanction for the devil's work, says the Chicago Tribune in an editorial captioned "The Twilight of the Kings."

Long-Distance Slaughter by Cold Calculation Now.

Batteries Do Not Dash Madly into Action, Generals Do Not Lead Their Troops—No Battle Flags and Smoke.

The glory and the romance of war is dead. It has become chiefly a matter of cold calculation, a bloody business of long-distance slaughter, with no longer any opportunity for dashing personal heroism, writes Henry M. Hyde in the Chicago Tribune.

CZAR DECIDES ON PEACE OR WAR FOR RUSSIA

Is Absolute in Such Matters Though He Advised With His Ministers.

AUTOCRACY NOT CURTAILED

He Has Been His Own Premier and the Task Has Been Beyond His Powers—Influence of Gregory Rasputin, the Lay Brother.

The czar ordered mobilization after advising with his ministers. It would have been impossible to convene the representative bodies, the duma and the imperial council, in order to hear from them and expression of opinion within the short term allowed for the decision, writes Samuel N. Harper in the Chicago Herald.

an enormous influence in the peasant villages. One could say: The czar has done to him a peasant, a man of the people, with whom he takes counsel.

Rasputin has been an important influence in Russian politics. He represents an interesting fact. The prerogative of the Russian czar has been to secure his advice from unofficial as well as official counselors.

The present czar has had a difficult reign. It started most inauspiciously with the frightful accident that attended his coronation.

Some persons seem to have the faculty of needlessly antagonizing. In many cases an extreme timidity would seem to account for what appears to be futile tactlessness.

The czar's manifestos are always carefully prepared official documents. They show the penmanship of the chancellery. And as he has been noted, the czar has seldom made a spontaneous utterance of important political content.

The czar asked the members of the conference to speak out their minds without reserve, and they did so. The most important point of discussion was how to organize the new duma in such a way as not to limit the authority of the autocratic sovereign.

At that moment it was intended that the duma have only a consultative voice in legislation. The czar listened to the various opinions expressed, as point after point was discussed, and often by a single word determined which view should prevail.

France learned well the lesson Germany taught her in 1870, when within seven months from the opening of hostilities Paris had fallen and France was a suppliant for mercy at the throne of the German emperor.

On the night of July 19, 1870, an orderly awoke General von Moltke, chief of the German imperial war staff, and told him Napoleon III had declared war on Germany.

The German ambassador at St. Petersburg at 7:30 p. m. August 1, handed to the Russian minister of foreign affairs a declaration of war.

When the council of ministers in Paris the same evening was informed that Germany had declared war on France, the council decided to open the second war against Russia.

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OLD PRIZE OF WAR POLES MENACE CZAR

Belgrade Has Been Fought Over for Many Centuries.

Scenes of Countless Devastating Conflicts Since the Celts Built the First Fortifications Seventeen Hundred Years Ago.

If the spirits of the soldiers slain in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, during the last thousand years could be reincarnated such an armed host would be represented as has not been seen since Xerxes set out from Sardis to conquer the civilized world.

The Celts gave to Belgrade the name of Singidunum, and as such it was known until the seventeenth century A. D. The Romans took it from the Celts and replaced their fort by strong fortifications, as is evidenced by bricks recently dug up bearing the inscription "Legio IV, Flavia Felix."

Toward the end of the eighth century the Franks of Charlemagne besieged and took it, and the following century it fell into the hands of Bulgarians. In the eleventh century the Byzantine emperor, Basil II, reconquered it for the Greek empire.

The Servian kings first gained its possession in the fourteenth century, and after 27 years the Servian prince, Gjorg Brankovitch, ceded it to the Hungarians. Its possession by Christian nations incensed the Turk, and twice during the fifteenth century the city was assailed by the followers of the sultans.

In the middle of the next century the Turks under the Sultan Suleiman took it from the Hungarians, and it remained a Turkish possession until the Austrians captured it in 1688. Two years later the Turks recaptured the city and held it until 1717, when, by a most brilliant campaign, Prince Eugene of Savoy retook it for the Austrians, who held it until 1739.

Then the Turks gained its possession only to lose it 50 years later when the Austrians under General Laudon carried it by assault and held the citadel for four years. One hundred and seven years ago the Servians, having gained their independence, became masters of Belgrade, but were forced to abandon it to the Turks six years later.

The dual government occasioned much friction, and in June, 1862, the Turkish commander bombarded the Servian quarter of the city. As a consequence of the assault, four years later diplomatic pressure was brought to bear and the Turkish garrison was withdrawn. Then followed the modern Balkan wars, during which Belgrade was the scene of much armament, riots and threatened sieges.

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Great Britain and Austria-Hungary have been on good terms for a hundred years. They never have clashed over colonies or trade. They have no reason for enmity, but their alliances and obligations make them foes, against the will of their governments and their people.

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Ten Million of Them in Russia Hate the Government.

Have Been Forced to Surrender Their Nationality, While in Austria and Germany They Were Decently Treated.

Russia does not present an unbroken front to Austrian or German arms. There can be little doubt that the most restless element in that vast empire is made up of the ten million or more Poles who have been forced to surrender their liberties, their language and their nationality to the government in St. Petersburg.

On the other hand, 4,000,000 Poles within the boundaries of Austria-Hungary are expected to give wholehearted support to Emperor Francis Joseph, out of gratitude for the enlightened policy pursued by his government with respect to that people.

The spectacle of the Poles rising against the St. Petersburg government and joining in sympathy with the Austrians will be a natural result of the treatment the ten million have received as subjects of the czar.

Russians and Poles, although both of the Slavic race, have nothing in common politically. Antagonism between them has been handed down through the centuries, and it did not die out but flamed higher after the smaller nation had been dismembered and absorbed in part by Russia.

Russia denies her Polish subjects everything that savors of preference in military and political life, although they come of a fierce race, ambitious to rule. She attempts to force the Russian language on the Poles. In this she has succeeded in large measure, although the Poles cling tenaciously to their ancient tongue and their traditions.

The Poles of Russia are ardent revolutionists, it is said. The conservatives belong to the National League, which is described as an organization to conserve patriotism, and the radicals are to be found in the ranks of the Socialist party.

Germany's policy toward the Poles within her gates has not been pursued with the ruthless severity of Russia. The Prussian effort to "denationalize" the Pole in the Fatherland is not calculated to make the Poles love their rules, but little blood has been shed in the last sixty years.

There appears to be no disposition on the part of the Poles in Germany to rise against the government. The Poles living in Austria—the third nation that sided in the dismemberment—have been permitted to rule themselves, to all intents and purposes. In Galicia the Poles have obtained political ascendancy over the Ruthenians, who are of Russian kinship.

Warring Royal Folk of Europe Closely Related

Kaiser Wilhelm is a grandson of Queen Victoria. His mother was the British Queen's eldest daughter and bore her mother's name.

The Czar Nicholas is married to a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. His wife's mother was the queen's second daughter and their third child, the Princess Alice Maud Mary, who married the Grand Duke of Hesse, a German state. One of the younger daughters of the Grand Duke of Hesse and his English wife was the Princess Alix. She is the empress.

The mother of the czar was the Princess Dagmar of Denmark. One of her sisters was Queen of England during the reign of Edward VII. His Queen Alexandra of Great Britain and the Dowager Empress Dagmar of Russia are sisters.

For many generations the Russian royal family has become more and more German in blood through a long series of marriages between its grand dukes and German princesses. The Romanoffs are as German now, in that respect, as their kinsmen, the Hohenzollerns, who reign in Berlin.

It is a fine family mixup which the war has caused, but in these times royal relationships have extremely little influence upon the international policies of great nations.

Have the Battling Nations of Europe Food Enough for the Noncombatants?

The great war in Europe has brought to the front the question whether noncombatants can be fed while the armies, which fight upon their bellies, are contending for victory in the field. Already a sudden demand for ration on an enormous scale has caused a sharp advance in food prices. It has become necessary to forbid exportations of wheat and other grains and of farm-stocks of all kinds.

In the best of times the continental peoples consume little meat, and now four thousandths of the population are to be starved and high. Harvests have not been gleaned yet, and for the present subsistence must be upon such stores of grain as are available.