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British Government and British Nation Presents Undivided Front to Whole World-- If Necessary a Coalition Government Will Be Formed to Deal With Present Crisis

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY TELLS GERMANS THAT IF THEY WANT WAR THEY CAN HAVE IT IN FULL MEASURE

Great Britain Will Not Permit the German Fleet to Attack the Coasts of France and Has Given the French Assurances to This Effect—Presence of the German Fleet in English Channel Will Elicit a Declaration of War From Great Britain.

FRANCE WAS INVOLVED IN STRUGGLE
VERY MUCH AGAINST HER WILL

And Great Britain Will Fulfill Her Treaty Obligations to the French to the Very Letter—Britain is Fully Prepared to Engage in the Struggle Either on Land or on Sea—All Parties Back up the Government.

GERMANS VIOLATE NEUTRALITY OF BELGIUM

And Unless They Give Satisfactory Explanation Great Britain Will be Involved—British Would Lose More Than They Would Gain by Evading Treaty Agreements and Remaining Out of the Struggle.

London, Aug. 4.—In other parts of his speech, Sir Edward Grey said: "Intervention with Germany with regard to the independence of Belgium was carried out by England last night. If the independence of Belgium should be destroyed the independence of Holland also would be gone."

The Foreign Secretary then asked the House to consider what British interests were at stake. "If in a crisis like this we were to run away," and this was greeted with loud cheers.

Can't Stand Aside. Sir Edward continued: "Do not imagine that if a great power stands aside in a war like this it is going to be in a position to exert its influence, and I am not quite sure whether the facts regarding Belgium are as they reached this Government, but there is an obligation on this country to do its utmost to prevent the consequences to which these facts

BRITAIN GIVES ASSURANCES TO FRANCE

That Germany Will Not Be Permitted to Attack French Coast

GREAT BRITAIN STILL HOLDING ALOOF

But is Very Resentful Over the German Meantime of Belgium

London, Aug. 4.—Great Britain has mobilized her forces and awaits events. Today she is not a belligerent power nor is she a neutral one.

The Government has given France assurance that the British fleet will not permit the German fleet to attack the French coast. It has not yet pledged itself to contribute an army to the Continental war.

The British Government regards with the deepest distrust Germany's violation of Belgium's neutrality, but makes no declaration as to whether it considers that measure a provocation for war.

The British Admiralty has issued an order prohibiting the use of wireless within the waters of the United Kingdom by merchantmen which must dismantle their apparatus when ordered.

would lead if they were not opposed. "We have as yet made no engagements for sending an expeditionary force out of this country, but we have mobilized our fleet and the mobilization of our arms is taking place. We must be prepared for consequences, using all our strength, for at any moment, we know not how soon, we may have to defend ourselves.

Everything Ready. "So far as the forces of the Crown are concerned, the Premier and the First Lord of the Admiralty have no doubt whatever of their readiness and their efficiency. They never were at a higher mark of readiness. There never was a time when confidence was more justified in their ability to protect our shores and our commerce. If the situation develops as it seems probable it will develop we shall face it.

"I believe that when the country realizes what is at stake it will support the Government with determination and with endurance."

From all parts of the House there came roars of cheering.

In Honour Bound.

In the preceding part of his discourse, while discussing the question of Belgium, Sir Edward Grey had said: "It is said we might stand aside and husband our resources in order to intervene at the end and put things right. If, in a crisis of this kind we run away from our obligations to honor and interest with regard to the Belgian Treaty, I doubt whether whatever material force we might have at the end would be of much value in face of the respect we should have lost."

At this Sir Edward was interrupted by loud cheering, and then continued: "If we engaged in war we should suffer but little more than if we stood aside. We are going to suffer terribly in this war, whether this country is peace or war, for foreign trade is going to stop."

Sir Edward gave an explanation of what occurred during the Moroccan crisis in 1911.

Definite Understanding. He said he took precisely the same view in 1912. He continued: "It was decided we ought to have a definite understanding in writing, that the conversations which had passed between the military and naval forces of France and England were not binding on either side."

He then continued: "That is our starting point that statement clears the ground as to the settlement of our obligations. The present crisis has not originated in a matter which principally concerns France. No Government and no country had less desire to be involved in the Austro-Serbian dispute than France. France was involved because of its obligations of honor.

"We have had a long-standing friendship with France; as to how

GERMAN CRUISER BOMBARDS NAVAL PORT OF RUSSIA.

Berlin, Aug. 4.—The cruiser Augsburg sends the following by wireless: "Am bombarding the naval harbor at Libau and am engaging the enemy's cruiser."

far that friendship entails obligations let every man look into his own heart and feelings and construct the extent of our obligations. At last the suspense is at an end, and we believe every Briton with any sort of manhood in him will hear the news with relief.

"Since Germany will have it, she shall have it in full measure," said Sir Edward Grey. "No nation ever went into war with a better heart or a clearer conscience than Britain does now."

Are Fully Prepared.

Toward the close of his speech Sir Edward said: "We must be prepared, and we are prepared to face consequences."

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ATTACK ON FRANCE WILL BE TAKEN AS ATTACK ON BRITAIN.

London, Aug. 4.—Sir Ed. Grey in making a statement to the Commons today on the war situation, said he understood the German parliament would be prepared "if we can pledge our neutrality," to agree for its fleet not to attack the northern coast of France.

He declared that this was far too narrow a compromise for consideration. The maintenance of Belgium's neutrality was becoming a more serious question every hour. The cabinet felt strongly that France was entitled to know immediately whether in the event of an attack on her unprotected northern and western coasts she could depend on British support.

The Foreign Secretary said England did not construe anything in its previous diplomatic relations with other powers in this matter as restricting its freedom to decide what her attitude should be now.

"If a foreign fleet," he said, "comes down the Channel and bombards the French coast England could not stand aside."

CAUSES LEADING UP TO THE CLASH BETWEEN THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE AND TRIPLE ENTENTE IN EUROPE

NO PARTISANS WHERE ALL ARE SONS OF BRITAIN.

London, Aug. 4.—The Standard says there is every possibility of the formation of a coalition Government in the British Isles to tide over the present crisis.

Andrew Bonar Law, Lord Lansdowne, and Mr. Balfour, Opposition Leaders, were in consultation with Cabinet Ministers today.

LONDON QUIET AND ORDERLY

London, Aug. 3.—To-day being Bank holiday, when all business, except in a few small shops, is suspended, London wore a Sabbath air. The streets and parks were crowded by people in their best clothes, congregating around parliament and other government buildings and at the newspaper offices, awaiting news.

Save for the display of a few small flags, there were no patriotic demonstrations, but Ministers attending Cabinet meetings, were cheered as they entered or departed from Downing Street.

To a Great Extent the Present War is Due to German Aspirations, German Unscrupulousness and German Resentment at the Way Great Britain and her Allies Have Blocked the Fatherland's Scheme For Her Own Aggrandisement

THIS IS THE THIRD TIME THE TWO GREAT ALLIANCES HAVE CLASHED IN 5 YEARS

First Time Trouble Arose Was in 1909, When Austria, Defying the Triple Entente, Violated the Provisions of the Congress of Berlin by Annexing the Two Provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina—Germany Then Supported the Austro-Hungarian Empire

GERMANS CAN'T FORGET MOROCCO AFFAIR

When Great Britain, Backed by Russia, Prevented Her From Checkmating French Plans in that African Country—Germany Believed Struggle Had to Come and That Present Time Suits Her Best

FOR the third time in the last five years the two great groups of European Powers, the Triple Entente and the Triple Alliance, 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 and religiously related to Russia.

At the critical moment in 1909 Germany appeared "in shining armor," declared for Austrian purposes and threw her sword in 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 intrigue in the Balkans to promote that unity which was presently to destroy Turkey.

The Agadir Affair. 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 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 war in 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.

The Balkan Alliance. 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, Kumanova and Jenidje-Vardar, Turkish power in Europe collapsed and the small Balkan States, increased by great territorial gain, stood in 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 Osmanli 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 dissension 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 in prestige, but Austrian support for Bulgaria

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GERMANS SAID TO HAVE TAKEN BALTIC PORT

Reports Say They Have Destroyed the Russian Naval Station of Liabu

AND HAVE CAPTURED THE ALAND ISLES

Which Would Provide Them With an Excellent Naval Base

London, Aug. 4.—In some quarters a report of a German-Russian naval engagement at Liabu which is regarded as conveying news of a great German victory, probably bottling up, perhaps crippling the Russian fleet with the occupation of the Alland Islands in the Baltic.

Germany thus possesses a safe high road in Finland and a naval and military base to operate against Petersburg itself.

Within the shelter of these islands a fleet might lie in perfect security. It would command the entrance to the Gulf of Finland by the sea route to St. Petersburg and the Russian naval stations of Revel and Cronstadt.

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