

The Biggest Family Row Of History



When the nations of Europe go to war it means a gigantic family row. Due to the fact that many crowned heads of the countries brought into the strife are bloodrelatives, a general war results in such complications as one cousin being forced to declare war against another. A brother is called upon, during the course of the war, to take and hold as prisoner, his own sister. Uncles, cousins, brothers and sisters are obliged to apply mind and muscle to bring about the downfall of each other. One might even have to go so far as to sentence another to death, should that one be found guilty of being a spy.

War of the members of the Triple Alliance, Germany, Austria and Italy, against the Triple Entente, England, Russia and France, assisted by Serbia and Montenegro, results in such complications as are set forth, however ludicrous they may seem.

When Germany takes up arms against Russia, should she make a successful conquest of the latter country, going so far as to effect the occupation of St. Petersburg, the Duke of Hesse, who will be in charge of the land forces of Germany, will be obliged to make a prisoner of war of his sister, Alexandra, Czarina of Russia. George V of England would be obliged to take up the sword against his cousin, William II, Emperor of Germany, both being grandsons of the late Queen Victoria of England. George V is also the cousin of Nicholas II, Czar of Russia, having the same grandfather as the latter monarch, the late King Christian IX of Denmark. The strange aspect of two cousins fighting side by side against another would be another of the complications that would arise in this strangest of all wars.

Although France is now a republic, there are still living within her boundaries many descendants of her former royalty, who take great pride in preserving their family trees. Many of these now hold positions of importance in the military forces of their country, and most of them would realize that they were making war on their own kin, were they brought into conflict with Austria, the royal families of these two nations having been so closely linked in former times.

Victor Emmanuel III, King of Italy, will be forced through this conflict to wage war on the Kingdom of Montenegro. In doing this, he would be obliged to bring war upon his own father-in-law, Nicholas I, King of Montenegro. Victor was married March 4, 1894, to Princess Elena, daughter of Nicholas.

VICTORIA EXACTS PEACE PACT OF RINGS.
The greatest complication of all arises when one tries to figure out the attitude of George V toward Germany.

When she realized that she was on her deathbed, Queen Victoria summoned King Edward VII and Emperor William to her side, and joining their hands exacted a promise from them that they would not bring war upon one another. The dire results that will be effected regarding relatives becoming engaged in war with each other is most plainly shown in summing up the relationships that have been made through the matrimonial connections of the descendants of Queen Victoria.

Victoria, her eldest daughter, married Emperor Frederick of Germany, the father of the present ruler. Of the descendants of this union, all of whom are members of the imperial family of Germany, one, Princess Sophia Dowager, married King Constantine of Greece. Edward VII, who succeeded his mother as ruler of Great Britain,

married Princess Alexandra of Denmark. Princess Alice, Maud Mary married Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse, and one of her daughters, Princess Alix married Czar Nicholas of Russia.

Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, a son of Victoria, married Grand Duchess Marie, a sister of the present Czar of Russia. Marie Alexandra Victoria, his daughter, married Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Roumania. The Queen of Spain is another descendant of Queen Victoria.

It is hard for an American to understand the situation in Europe. Here descendants of Russians and Germans live side by side in peace. On the farms immigrants from Europe work together and help each other with the threshing, although their brothers in Europe are fighting each other. Here they forget their racial differences while in Europe the German is being as German as he can under a Prussian Kaiser; the Englishman as insular as he can with the *Pas de Calais* reduced to a before-breakfast flying trip; the Frenchman as Gallic as he can—and he can, especially in court—and so forth all round the continent and into its most picturesque corner, where Serbia's Slavic blood inspires it to get behind rocks and wait for the Teuton quarry, and Austria, ethnologically Germany's agent as well as her political ally, is swaggering among the foothills instead of on the Kingsrass.

It is just such "vain things" that make it possible for the European nations to race together. The originating conflict in Eastern Europe is, however, a matter of racial rather than national vanities. Austria, in spite of its assimilation of Hungary and quite recently of Bosnia and Herzegovina, is an outpost of the Teuton race and is linked by every instinct with the great Teuton conglomeration under the Kaiser. Serbia and the Slav nations of the Balkans are just as intimately

related to the Czar's people. Austria is a projection of the Teuton race thrown out eastward to cut off the rock-bound remnants of the Slavic race in Southeastern Europe from the parent race of the north. The not altogether vain thing that stirred Austria to rage was the fancy that Serbia, recently much enlarged in territory, would become a Southern Slavic world power. Such an eventuality, it may be supposed, would in time bring Austria-Hungary to the tragic position of a second Poland; Hungary and all the Slav provinces would be in constant danger of absorption by the new Slav Empire and the dismemberment would be completed by a German protectorate over a much



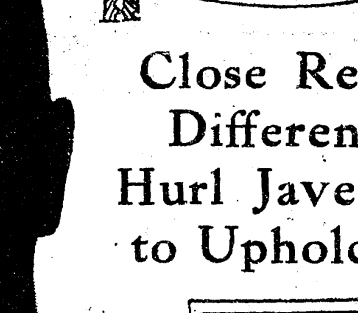
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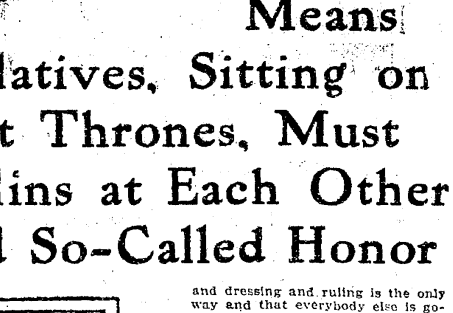
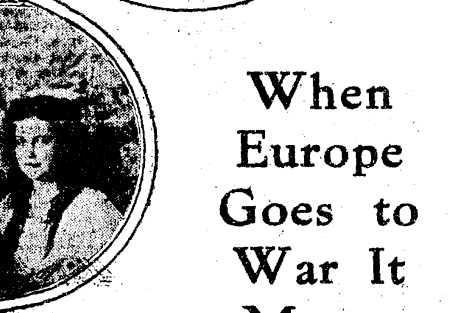
weakened Austria.
PERSONAL AMBITIONS
At the bottom of this racial discord may be found personal ambitions. Men are striving for personal power in Serbia, for personal aggrandizement, and Austrian politicians are seeking their own advancement through national aggression. But neither political nor commercial machinations could lead Serbia and Austria to the shambles unless there were racial vanities to be excited.
It would be a fine simple explanation of the whole business if it could be looked upon as a vast struggle for racial predominance such as was brought to a successful issue—at least to the successors of Lo—on this



AT TOP, from left to right—King George of England, Queen Mary, the late King Edward, Grand Duchess Sergius, and Czar Nicholas. At left, from top down—King Alfonso, Queen Victoria and King Constantine. Center right—The Czarina and her daughters. Center—Kaiser Wilhelm. Lower left—Francis Joseph.



continent. But the alignment of the powers does not carry out that generalization in a single instance; it appears to be as contradictory as possible, the only "logical" combination being Austria and Germany in the alliance, with Austria's old enemy, Italy, even now a rather cool associate. France, Italy's ally by blood, is on the other



side with England, Germany's cousin.
Thus, coming to Western Europe, where civilization has woven together the racial characteristics, making a pattern of national homogeneity on her loom, the simple explanation of Slav versus Teuton does not hold.
As is to be expected in an industrial civilization, commercial interests take the place of personal ambitions and financial, des and conflicts replace the racial instincts. But, again, these in themselves would not be sufficient to send army to face army with the enthusiasm now being demonstrated in the European capitals. The fact that the

When Europe Goes to War It Means

Close Relatives, Sitting on Different Thrones, Must Hurl Javelins at Each Other to Uphold So-Called Honor

and dressing and ruling is the only way and that everybody else is going to try to make him do it all some other and humiliating way. It is to these vanities that the lords of politics and finance make their appeal when their financial and political obligations bring them face to face with bankruptcy or—war.

Meanwhile the same kinds of people come to the United States with the same difference in mustaches and tastes and feelings and are learning to shave their differences and face the awful fate of losing all national characteristics in the hope of acquiring new ones along with the right to take a chance on having their votes counted.
AGREEMENTS BINDING. NATIONS TOGETHER.

While other factors combine to make nations fight each other, what makes a general European war possible when one nation fights another, is the two alliances, each binding three nations together.

The Triple Entente (England, France and Russia) and the Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria and Italy) form the two alignments of the six powers of Europe. Generally speaking a war between two members of opposing alliances will mean a war of the six nations. England, France and Russia are expected to back up each other in any trouble with either Germany, Austria or Italy. Such is the understanding expressed more or less loosely, but strongly enough to have maintained the peace of Europe for many years.

Never before in the history of the world has it been possible to organize armies of such enormous size. A war between such forces would, if carried on for a year, lay Europe in waste beside which that of the Napoleonic wars would be child's play.

Germany's mustache cocks up at the ends while the Englishman cultivates the "aristocratic droop" has more to do with the international antipathy than the fact that England and Russia have succeeded in keeping Germany from the Paris Bourse. There is, of course, the strongest financial tie between France and Russia, but there is also a definite sympathy between French and Russian art and literature—a sympathy that skips over Germany at a record altitude—which appeals even more strongly to the imagination of two imaginative peoples.
The point is that over there everybody fancies that his particular national way of eating and drinking