

RUMANIA'S REASONS FOR DECLARING WAR

**Austria's Assurances as to Serbia
Have Not Been
Fulfilled.**

RUMANIANS SUFFERED

**Those Living in Hungary Have
Been Oppressed—De-
tails of Note.**

Canadian Press Despatch.

Bucharest, Aug. 28, via Petrograd and London, Aug. 29.—The causes which led Rumania to declare war on Austria-Hungary are set forth in a note presented to Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Minister to Rumania, after a meeting of the Rumanian Crown Council, at which it was decided to declare war. Summarized, the reasons given, are:

The Triple Alliance, to which Rumania was a party, was broken when Italy declared war against Austria-Hungary.

Austria-Hungary's assurances that it was not inspired by a spirit of conquest or territorial gains, in attacking Serbia, have not been fulfilled.

Rumania was confronted with territorial and political changes menacing her future.

Rumanians in Hungary suffered oppression, arousing a continual state of animosity between the two nations.

Rumania desired to hasten the end of the war, safeguard her racial interests, and realize her national unity.

Text of Rumania's Note.

The note says:

Following is the text of the note handed to Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Minister to Rumania, at the conclusion of the meeting of the Rumanian Crown Council, which preceded the Rumanian declaration of war:

"The alliance concluded between Germany, Austro-Hungary, and Italy, according to the statements of those Governments, had only a conservative and defensive character. Its principal object was to guarantee the allied countries against attack from the outside and to consolidate the state of affairs created by previous treaties. It was in accordance with these pacific tendencies that Rumania joined this alliance.

Has Worked for Peace.

"Devoted to the development of her internal affairs and faithful to her resolution to remain as an element of order and equilibrium on the Lower Danube, Rumania never has ceased in her devotion to the maintenance of peace in the Balkans. The last Balkan war, by destroying the status quo, imposed upon her a new line of conduct, but her intervention gave peace and re-established the equilibrium.

"For herself she was satisfied with the rectification of her borders, which gave her the greatest security against aggression and repaired certain injustices of the Congress of Berlin. But in pursuit of this aim, Rumania was disappointed by the failure of the Vienna Cabinet to take the attitude Rumania was entitled to expect.

"When the present war broke out, Rumania, like Italy, declined to associate herself with the declaration of war by Austro-Hungary, of which

she had not been notified by the Vienna Cabinet.

"In the spring of 1915, Italy declared war against Austro-Hungary. The Triple Alliance no longer existed, and the reasons which determined Rumania's adherence to this political system disappeared.

"Rumania remained in the peace group of states, seeking to work in agreement in order to assure peace, and to conserve the situation de facto and de jure, created by treaties. Rumania then found herself in the presence of powers making war for the sole purpose of transforming from top to bottom the old arrangements which had served as a basis for their treaty of alliance. These changes were, for Rumania, proof that the object she pursued in joining the Triple Alliance, no longer could be attained, and that she must direct her efforts in new paths, especially as the work undertaken by Austria-Hungary threatened the interests of Rumania and her national aspirations. Consequently, Rumania resumed her liberty of action.

Austria Deceived Her.

"The neutrality which Rumania imposed upon itself in consequence of a declaration of war made independently of its will, and contrary to its interests, had been adopted as the results of the assurances that Austro-Hungary, in declaring war against Serbia, was not inspired by a spirit of conquest or of territorial gains. These assurances have not been realized.

"To-day we are confronted by a situation de facto threatening great territorial transformations and political changes of a nature constituting a grave menace to the future of Rumania. The work of peace which Rumania attempted to accomplish, in a spirit of faithfulness to the Triple Alliance, thus was rendered barren by the very powers called upon to defend it.

"In adhering, in 1882, to the group of central powers, Rumania was far from forgetting the bonds of blood constituting between them a pledge for her domestic tranquillity as well as for the improvement of the lot of the Rumanians of Austria-Hungary. In fact, Germany and Italy, who recognized their States on the basic principle of nationality, could not but recognize the legitimacy of the foundation upon which their own existence reposed.

"As for Austria-Hungary she found, in the friendly relations established between her and Rumania, assurances of tranquillity both in her interior and on our common frontiers, for she was bound to know to what extent the discontent of her Rumanian population found echo amongst us threatening our good relations.

No Reforms Introduced.

"For a period of 30 years, the Rumanians of Austria-Hungary not only never saw a reform introduced but, instead, were treated as an inferior race and condemned to suffer the oppression of a foreign element which constitutes only a minority amidst the diverse nationalities constituting the Austro-Hungarian States.

"All the injustices our brothers thus were made to suffer maintained between our country and the monarchy a continual state of animosity. At the outbreak of the war, Austria-Hungary made no effort to ameliorate these conditions. After two years of the war, Austria-Hungary showed herself as prompt to sacrifice her peoples as powerless to defend them. The war in which almost the whole of Europe is partaking, raises the gravest problems affecting the national development and very existence of the States.

"Rumania, from a desire to hasten the end of the conflict and to safeguard her racial interests, sees herself forced to enter into line by the side of those who are able to assume her realization of her national unity. For these reasons, Rumania considers herself, from this moment, in a state of war with Austria-Hungary."