

# BRITAIN HAS DECLARED WAR WITH GERMANY

**BRITISH BOTTLED GERMAN FLEET IN NORTH SEA—FRANCE WON  
NAVAL BATTLE—ACTIVE PREPARATIONS IN CANADA—ALL  
EUROPE AT ARMS—JAPAN READY**

London, Wednesday, Aug. 5.—At 7 o'clock last night the German Ambassador handed to Premier Asquith a declaration of war by Germany against Great Britain, and Great Britain at about the same time declared war on Germany.

The announcement of the war declaration was withheld until midnight by order of the King and Privy Council in order to observe the terms of the formal ultimatum.

The official text of the British Government's declaration of war is as follows:

"Owing to the summary rejection by the German Government of the request made by his Britannic Majesty's Government that the neutrality of Belgium be respected, His Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin has received his passports, and His Majesty's Government has declared to the German Government that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Germany from 11 o'clock p.m., August 4."

The Admiralty immediately after the declarations of war were made flashed this order to the British fleet:

"Great Britain declares war on Germany. Capture or destroy the enemy."

Following this order King George sent this personal message to the fleet:

"I have confidence that the British fleet will revive the old glories of the navy, I am sure that the navy will again shield Britain in this hour of trial. It will prove the Bulwarks of the Empire."

It is learned on highest authority that the Admiralty had received a wireless despatch stating that the German fleet had been bottled up by the British fleet north of Denmark.

## Preparations in Canada

The Government was notified by the British War Department last night that war had been declared on Germany after an extra session of Parliament was called for August 18th. Portions of the militia have been called out for actual service to protect the coast. All measures prescribed by the scheme of defence have been put into effect.

The members of the Government are constantly in council and parliament will be called to open on the 18th of August.

The Government during the past four or five days has put into operation several branches of the scheme of defence, under the direction of the War Office, and with the outbreak of hostilities practically the whole scheme becomes effective. Under the provisions of the Telegraphs Act the Government has taken over all cable stations in Canada. This makes possible a rigid censorship of outgoing messages. The cable stations, under the law, become the property of the Dominion for the time being and are operated by the same staffs as formerly.

It is understood here that the Canadian Government will act for the Imperial authorities in the purchasing of large supplies in Canada. If the war lasts long there will be an almost limitless demand for army remounts, of which there are some thousands available in Canada. The principal work, however, will be in providing food supplies, wheat, flour, and meats of all kinds. There are already approximately nine million bushels of wheat stored in the Dominion without taking into account the new crop soon to be harvested.

Although the sending of a Canadian force to the front is almost certain to follow the calling of Parliament, much depends upon the possibility of being able to defend her own territory against Austrian and German attacks from the sea. It is believed here that the next few days will find practically the whole of the militia under arms in the east and west of Canada.

## French Win Naval Battle

Paris, Aug. 4.—Two German cruisers have been sunk and one captured by a French fleet returning from Trieste, according to a despatch from Algiers. The vessels are the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau, according to an unofficial report.

French Socialists have given their support to the Government.

Raymond Garros, a French army aviator rammed the German war dirigible balloon Zeppelin dashing it to the earth. Garros lost his life but he wrought the death of 25 occupants of the balloon.

## Servia Fighting Hard

The Servians defeated the Austrian invaders at Semendria, according to Nish despatches.

The Austrian army which is attacking Servia along the Drina has been trying for six days to force a crossing of the river, aided by river monitors, according to Nish despatches but has not yet succeeded in crossing.

## Europe in Arms

All Europe is now in arms. On the one hand, Austria-Hungary and Germany are opposed by Russia, France and Great Britain, Servia and Montenegro. Italy has declared her neutrality, but is mobilizing. Belgium, Holland and Switzerland have mobilized. The German demand that the Belgian Government should permit the free passage of German troops through Belgium was answered by hasty preparations to resist an advance across Belgian territory.

Sweden has made no answers to enquiries from Russia and Germany regarding her attitude, but is preparing to defend her neutrality. Spain is reported to be preparing a proclamation of neutrality.

Austria-Hungary for the moment has retired from her campaign against Servia for the purpose of holding back Russia, and Servia has mobilized with the reported intention of invading Bosnia.

## Belgium Will Resist

Belgium will resist Germany to her utmost in resentment to the transgressions of her more powerful neighbor.

The Belgian Government has definitely refused the German army access to her territories which is desired in order that German attacks on France may be facilitated. As a result the Germans have declared that if Belgium hampered German troops passing through her territory, she would be regarded as an enemy and dealt with accordingly.

## Japan Is Ready

Japan is ready to enter the fray should the Anglo-Japanese alliance be threatened. Already their navy has been mobilized.

The Germans have captured a Russian cattle steamer in far Eastern waters. A Japanese cruiser has been ordered to proceed dexterously to south Chinese waters. Kiau-Chau a province bordering the Yellow Sea a leased German possession will probably be occupied by the Japanese in order that Russia, British and French warships may proceed to Europe unmolested should they desire.

## Japanese Warships May Protect Canadian Pacific Coast

Ottawa, July 4th.—The Japanese Consul-General, Mr. Yada, called upon the Prime Minister to-day and discussed the general war situation. The attitude of Japan as an ally of Great Britain is of some moment to Canada, as it is not improbable that a Japanese fleet may be found on guard over British interests in the Pacific and over the coast of British Columbia. This would be a curious development from the British Columbia standpoint, but still more extraordinary, it is possible. If Great Britain and Japan are fighting together in the same cause there is nothing to prevent the enlistment of Japanese in Canadian coast regiments.