

French press, public opinion and the assassination of Franz Ferdinand (28 June-3 August 1914)

How French society entered the Great war?

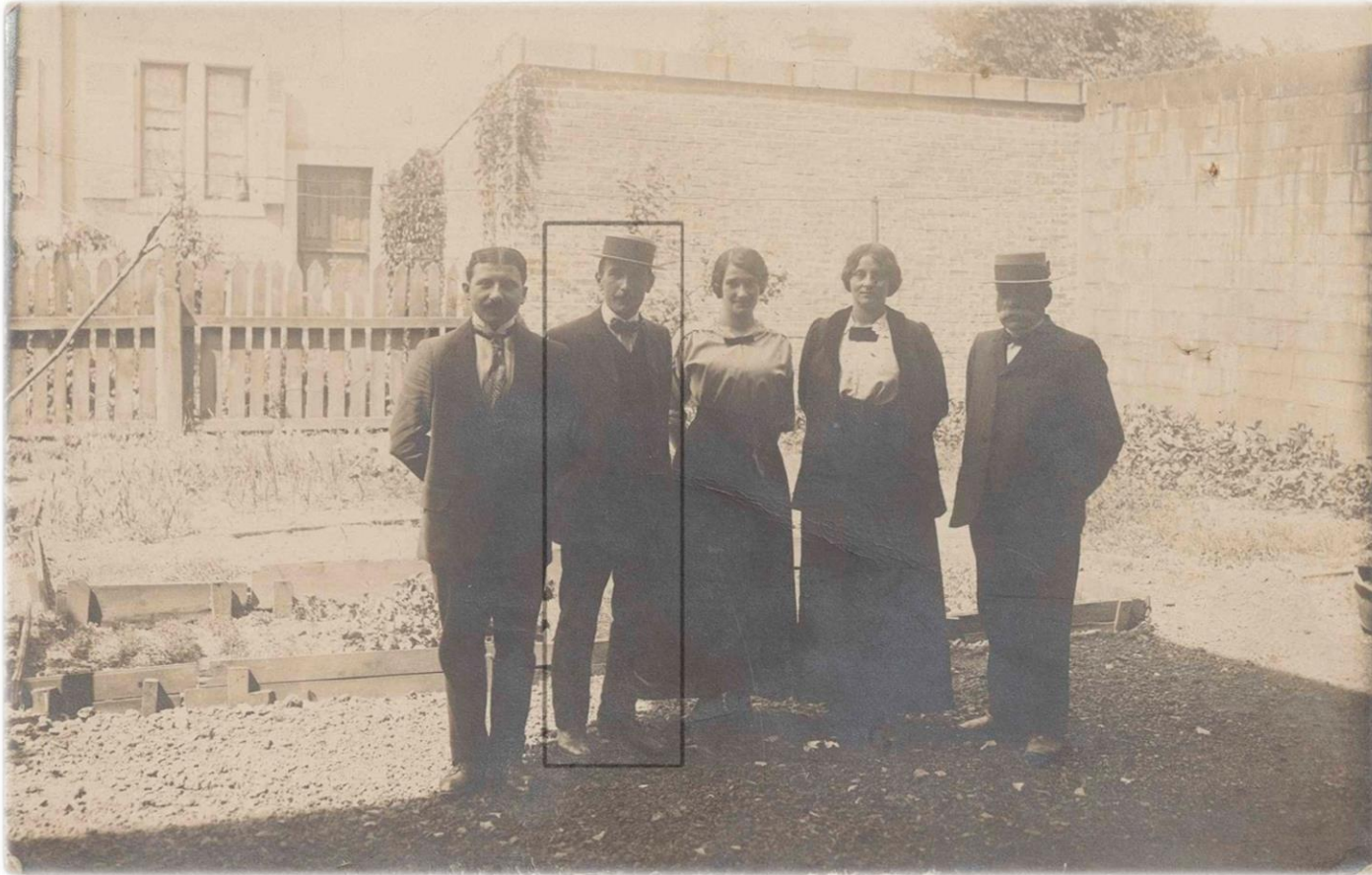
Unlocking sources

- The aim of this communication is quite simple: how new ways of getting access to digital contents (through technical process such as OCR and NER) give us the opportunity to understand how French society entered the First World War in August 1914?
- Regarding this topic, I have studied both private archives and French press issues made available through the project Europeana 14-18 (chronologically from the 29 of June, the day after the assassination of Franz-Ferdinand , heir of the austro-hungarian monarchy in Sarajevo to the 3rd of August, the day of the declaration of war of Germany on France)
- I have used two different technologies I will come back later on: the optical recognition of characters and the named entities recognition, a process we have developped thanks to another European project, Europeana Newspapers

Unlocking sources

- One of the main concern for me was also to assess the impact of the use of these automated processes applied to historical sources
- This question is quite important as I strongly believe that the use of such technical process modify deeply our access and our understanding of historical sources (in other words how automated process lead to a new way of writing history)

Starting point



Emile
Spring 1914

Lettre du petit Emile à ma grande
 pour la veille de sa déclaration de la
 guerre -
 Emile Cherville - Août 1914

Letter sent to his family in law
31st of July 1914

French historiography

- J-J Becker, *How French entered the war*, 1977)
- If we consider the succession of events from the assassination of the archduke Franz-Ferdinand the 28th of June in Sarajevo to the declaration of war on France the 3rd of August, the point of view promoted by J.J. Becker seems quite logical
- In July 1914, the European continent is in peace for 43 years (since the end of the franco-pussian war of 1870-1871)
- « The tragedy of Sarajevo will not lead to a major european crisis ». Sir Arthur Nicholson, 15th of July 1914

French historiography

- 20-23rd of July 1914. State visit of The French President (Raymond Poincaré) and the French Prime Minister (René Viviani) in Russia
- 24th of July. Declaration of war of Austria on Serbia
- 29th of July. Raymond Poincaré and René Viviani come back to France
 - Could easily explain why the French public opinion was not fully aware of the seriousness of the situation until the very last days of July

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Gratiis in Italia, l'esperienza di un'impresa che ha fatto del cliente il suo re, si è trasferita nel mondo. Il gruppo di lavoro che ha creato il successo di "L'Espresso" ha infatti deciso di trasferire in Italia il modello di lavoro che ha permesso al gruppo di raggiungere il primato del più letto dei giornali italiani. Il gruppo di lavoro, che ha creato il successo di "L'Espresso", ha infatti deciso di trasferire in Italia il modello di lavoro che ha permesso al gruppo di raggiungere il primato del più letto dei giornali italiani.

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la République et qui ont été la cause de la dégradation de la situation économique du pays. Les dirigeants de la République ont été accusés de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi. Les dirigeants de la République ont été accusés de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi. Les dirigeants de la République ont été accusés de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi.

CHARLES MATHIAS

Le Directeur du journal "Le Peuple" a été accusé de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi. Le Directeur du journal "Le Peuple" a été accusé de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi. Le Directeur du journal "Le Peuple" a été accusé de trahison et de collaboration avec l'ennemi.

Le Journal, le Progrès, le Travail. — Les Lecteurs du Journal, le Progrès, le Travail, sont informés que le présent numéro est le dernier de la collection. Les numéros suivants, qui paraîtront sous le titre de *Journal, le Progrès, le Travail*, seront publiés par le Comité de la Ligue pour la Défense des Intérêts Français, 1, rue de la République, 101, Paris. Les numéros suivants, qui paraîtront sous le titre de *Journal, le Progrès, le Travail*, seront publiés par le Comité de la Ligue pour la Défense des Intérêts Français, 1, rue de la République, 101, Paris.

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LES DISCOURS
Charles Maurras prend texte du collo-

...d'ailleurs, il n'est pas possible de faire passer des millions de personnes, en l'espace de quelques heures, d'un pays à l'autre, sans que les autorités ne soient en mesure de leur fournir les moyens de subsistance nécessaires. C'est pourquoi, si l'on veut éviter les épidémies, il faut que les autorités soient en mesure de leur fournir les moyens de subsistance nécessaires. C'est pourquoi, si l'on veut éviter les épidémies, il faut que les autorités soient en mesure de leur fournir les moyens de subsistance nécessaires.

SEANCE DE CLOTURE

Cours et Conférences

L'INSTITUT D'ACTION FRANÇAISE

donne la présentation de
PAUL ROUSSET, à l'Académie française

Conférence du R. P. dom BASSA
LA VICTOIRE DE DOUJINE

RAPPORT sur le mouvement de l'Institut aux LIGES ENRIQUE

On trouve des notices à l'action française, au Centre d'Action, à la Nouvelle Université.

**Assassinat de l'archiduc François-Ferdinand
et/ de la duchesse de Hohenberg**

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Journal of Internal Medicine 255: 105–112

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older has increased by 50 percent, and the number of people 75 years of age or older has increased by 100 percent. The number of people 85 years of age or older has increased by 200 percent. The number of people 95 years of age or older has increased by 400 percent. The number of people 100 years of age or older has increased by 1,000 percent. The number of people 105 years of age or older has increased by 2,000 percent. The number of people 110 years of age or older has increased by 4,000 percent. The number of people 115 years of age or older has increased by 8,000 percent. The number of people 120 years of age or older has increased by 16,000 percent. The number of people 125 years of age or older has increased by 32,000 percent. The number of people 130 years of age or older has increased by 64,000 percent. The number of people 135 years of age or older has increased by 128,000 percent. The number of people 140 years of age or older has increased by 256,000 percent. The number of people 145 years of age or older has increased by 512,000 percent. The number of people 150 years of age or older has increased by 1,024,000 percent. The number of people 155 years of age or older has increased by 2,048,000 percent. The number of people 160 years of age or older has increased by 4,096,000 percent. The number of people 165 years of age or older has increased by 8,192,000 percent. The number of people 170 years of age or older has increased by 16,384,000 percent. The number of people 175 years of age or older has increased by 32,768,000 percent. The number of people 180 years of age or older has increased by 65,536,000 percent. The number of people 185 years of age or older has increased by 131,072,000 percent. The number of people 190 years of age or older has increased by 262,144,000 percent. The number of people 195 years of age or older has increased by 524,288,000 percent. The number of people 200 years of age or older has increased by 1,048,576,000 percent. The number of people 205 years of age or older has increased by 2,097,152,000 percent. The number of people 210 years of age or older has increased by 4,194,304,000 percent. The number of people 215 years of age or older has increased by 8,388,608,000 percent. The number of people 220 years of age or older has increased by 16,777,216,000 percent. The number of people 225 years of age or older has increased by 33,554,432,000 percent. The number of people 230 years of age or older has increased by 67,108,864,000 percent. The number of people 235 years of age or older has increased by 134,217,728,000 percent. The number of people 240 years of age or older has increased by 268,435,456,000 percent. The number of people 245 years of age or older has increased by 536,870,912,000 percent. The number of people 250 years of age or older has increased by 1,073,741,824,000 percent. The number of people 255 years of age or older has increased by 2,147,483,648,000 percent. The number of people 260 years of age or older has increased by 4,294,967,296,000 percent. The number of people 265 years of age or older has increased by 8,589,934,592,000 percent. The number of people 270 years of age or older has increased by 17,179,869,184,000 percent. The number of people 275 years of age or older has increased by 34,359,738,368,000 percent. The number of people 280 years of age or older has increased by 68,719,476,736,000 percent. The number of people 285 years of age or older has increased by 137,438,953,472,000 percent. The number of people 290 years of age or older has increased by 274,877,906,944,000 percent. The number of people 295 years of age or older has increased by 549,755,813,888,000 percent. The number of people 300 years of age or older has increased by 1,099,511,627,776,000 percent. The number of people 305 years of age or older has increased by 2,199,023,255,552,000 percent. The number of people 310 years of age or older has increased by 4,398,046,511,104,000 percent. The number of people 315 years of age or older has increased by 8,796,093,022,208,000 percent. The number of people 320 years of age or older has increased by 17,592,186,044,416,000 percent. The number of people 325 years of age or older has increased by 35,184,372,088,832,000 percent. The number of people 330 years of age or older has increased by 70,368,744,177,664,000 percent. The number of people 335 years of age or older has increased by 140,737,488,355,328,000 percent. The number of people 340 years of age or older has increased by 281,474,976,710,656,000 percent. The number of people 345 years of age or older has increased by 562,949,953,421,312,000 percent. The number of people 350 years of age or older has increased by 1,125,899,906,842,624,000 percent. The number of people 355 years of age or older has increased by 2,251,799,813,685,248,000 percent. The number of people 360 years of age or older has increased by 4,503,599,627,370,496,000 percent. The number of people 365 years of age or older has increased by 9,007,199,254,740,992,000 percent. The number of people 370 years of age or older has increased by 18,014,398,509,481,984,000 percent. The number of people 375 years of age or older has increased by 36,028,797,018,963,968,000 percent. The number of people 380 years of age or older has increased by 72,057,594,037,927,936,000 percent. The number of people 385 years of age or older has increased by 144,115,188,075,855,872,000 percent. The number of people 390 years of age or older has increased by 288,230,376,151,711,744,000 percent. The number of people 395 years of age or older has increased by 576,460,752,303,423,488,000 percent. The number of people 400 years of age or older has increased by 1,152,921,504,606,846,976,000 percent. The number of people 405 years of age or older has increased by 2,305,843,009,213,693,952,000 percent. The number of people 410 years of age or older has increased by 4,611,686,018,427,387,904,000 percent. The number of people 415 years of age or older has increased by 9,223,372,036,854,775,808,000 percent. The number of people 420 years of age or older has increased by 18,446,744,073,709,551,616,000 percent. The number of people 425 years of age or older has increased by 36,893,488,147,419,103,232,000 percent. The number of people 430 years of age or older has increased by 73,786,976,294,838,206,464,000 percent. The number of people 435 years of age or older has increased by 147,573,952,589,676,412,928,000 percent. The number of people 440 years of age or older has increased by 295,147,905,179,352,825,856,000 percent. The number of people 445 years of age or older has increased by 590,295,810,358,705,651,712,000 percent. The number of people 450 years of age or older has increased by 1,180,591,620,717,411,303,424,000 percent. The number of people 455 years of age or older has increased by 2,361,183,241,434,822,606,848,000 percent. The number of people 460 years of age or older has increased by 4,722,366,482,869,645,213,696,000 percent. The number of people 465 years of age or older has increased by 9,444,732,965,739,290,427,392,000 percent. The number of people 470 years of age or older has increased by 18,889,465,931,478,580,854,784,000 percent. The number of people 475 years of age or older has increased by 37,778,931,862,957,161,709,568,000 percent. The number of people 480 years of age or older has increased by 75,557,863,725,914,323,419,136,000 percent. The number of people 485 years of age or older has increased by 151,115,727,451,828,646,838,272,000 percent. The number of people 490 years of age or older has increased by 302,231,454,903,657,293,676,544,000 percent. The number of people 495 years of age or older has increased by 604,462,909,807,314,587,353,088,000 percent. The number of people 500 years of age or older has increased by 1,208,925,819,614,629,174,706,176,000 percent. The number of people 505 years of age or older has increased by 2,417,851,639,229,258,349,412,352,000 percent. The number of people 510 years of age or older has increased by 4,835,703,278,458,516,698,824,704,000 percent. The number of people 515 years of age or older has increased by 9,671,406,556,917,033,397,649,408,000 percent. The number of people 520 years of age or older has increased by 19,342,813,113,834,066,795,298,816,000 percent. The number of people 525 years of age or older has increased by 38,685,626,227,668,133,590,597,632,000 percent. The number of people 530 years of age or older has increased by 77,371,252,455,336,267,181,195,264,000 percent. The number of people 535 years of age or older has increased by 154,742,504,910,672,534,362,390,528,000 percent. The number of people 540 years of age or older has increased by 309,485,009,821,345,068,724,781,056,000 percent. The number of people 545 years of age or older has increased by 618,970,019,642,690,137,449,562,112,000 percent. The number of people 550 years of age or older has increased by 1,237,940,039,285,380,274,899,124,224,000 percent. The number of people 555 years of age or older has increased by 2,475,880,078,570,760,549,798,248,448,000 percent. The number of people 560 years of age or older has increased by 4,951,760,157,141,521,099,596,496,896,000 percent. The number of people 565 years of age or older has increased by 9,903,520,314,283,042,199,193,993,792,000 percent. The number of people 570 years of age or older has increased by 19,807,040,628,566,084,398,387,



The sources

[illegible]

L' Aurore
Front page
29th of June 1914

The sources



La Croix
Front Page
30th of June 1914

Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France



Le Petit Journal
Front page
29th of June

Sources

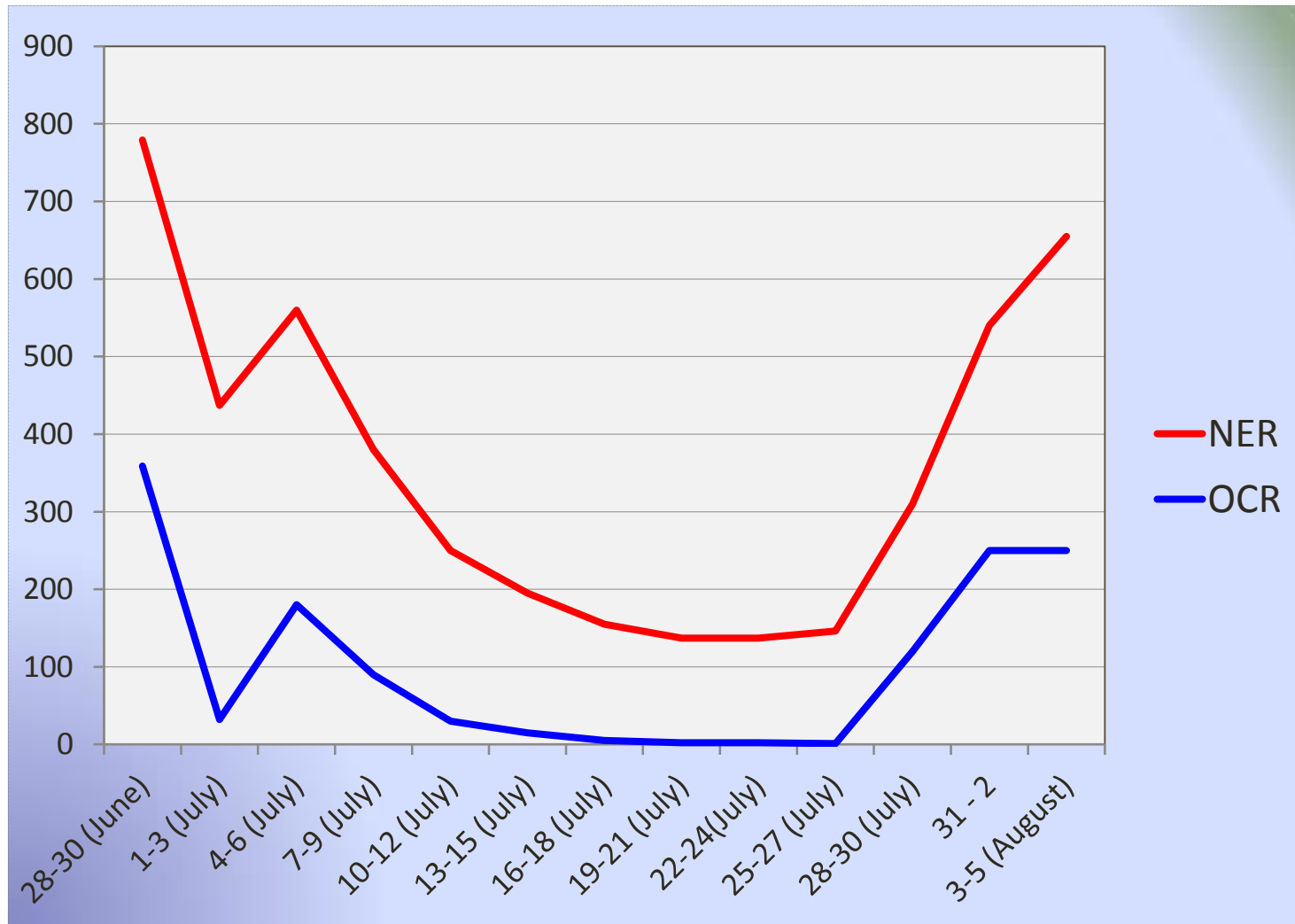


Le Temps
Front Page
29th of June

Questionning the sources

- I have applied two different methods to the processing of this corpus
 - The Optical Recognition of Characters
 - By the mean of two separate key words
 - Assassination of Franz Ferdinand
 - Sarajevo
 - The Named Entities Recognition
 - a process which allows to create words categories
 - allows semantic relationships between different words or group of words within the same paragraph
- Applying the two methods, I performed a quantitative analysis of the occurences of the words selected

Results



Results

- The first process (OCR)
 - The occurrences of the two words/ group of words selected drop one week after the event in the French press
 - Fits quite well with the point of view promoted by Jean-Jacques Becker in his study
 - French society has been totally surprised by the outbreak of the war as they had no access to reliable informations
- The second process (NER)
 - Gives very different results
 - If the occurrences of the words/group of words decrease, the number of occurrences itself remain high

Conclusion

- At least in the cities where readers were numerous and the access to the press easy
 - The seriousness of the crisis could be known long before the return of Raymond Poincaré and René Viviani to France the 29th of July
- We can consequently draw a quite different portrait of the French society during the last month before the tragedy
 - Up to some extent, as for Emile, the French population was aware that the war became almost unavoidable
 - It also explains why the pacifist movement led by Jean Jaurès, very strong in France, was unable to prevent the war