# In Pulpit and Pew

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Great War May B And Economic Come May H Taking Place

The London correspondent of the va

"The feeling is growing that the great war will be won or lost at the Dardanelles. The short waterway, centre of many of the most stupendous struggles in history, the dividing line between the West and the East, lonce again promises to decide the fate of nations. Not only nations, it may decide the political and economic course to be travelled by the world for decades to come.

course to be travelled by the world for decades to come.

Significant developments have come to pass, and if the succeeding events bears out the sanguinary promise of the days just passed the real fight for Constantinople and its gateway to the summer seas is just beginning. Begun as a secondary operation by a comparatively small Franco-British expeditionary force, it will grow to be the big, vital hub of the war, with every nation now engaged represented in the conflict except-possibly Belgium and Japan. The places of these two belligerents, if current prophecies are spendable, will be more than filled Bulgaria, Greece and Roumania. Bulgaria has issued a general order of mobilization. Greece has set in motion the wheels that will bring her army and navy to war strength. Roumania has maintained her army in readiness for eventualities since early in the war.

in the war.

Thus the three remaining Balkan States are under arms and with Serbia and Montenegro aiready in the lists the Balkan peninsula presents the appearance of a vast military encamp-Turkey's need of assistance to with-

Turkey's need of assistance to withstand the steadily increasing pressure against her has been the force that irresistably has drawn the Balkan States into the net of war. Germany and Austria, facing certain defeat if the Dardanelles should be opened, needed a direct route for communication with Constantinople. The only possible route lay across either Bulgaria or Roumania. The Quadruple Entente Powers found it to be as vital to their interests to prevent direct access to the Bosphorus. The needs of the contending groups of great Powers met in the Balkans and the fight for supremacy there began. acy there began.

Balkans Overrun by Diplomatists

Bucharest, Athens and Sofia have been filled with official and unofficial representatives of the Central Em-pires and the Entente Powers. The been waged with all the finesse or the been the court of the court of

active assistance to one or the other of the groups.

Nationally Greece inclined toward the Allies. Roumania, suspected of having a secret understanding with Italy and being denied by Austria the fulfillment of her aspirations in Transylvania and along the Danube, has been generally stamped with the Entente mark. Bulgaria, whose ruler is of Teutonic extraction, and whose court is pro-German, remained as the most likely field for German tilling.

Serbia, obligated to the Allies, was persuaded to offer to Bulgaria a large part of Macedonia if Bulgaria would

persuaded to offer to Bulgaria a large part of Macedonia if Bulgaria would maintain a neutral attitude. Bulgaria wanted more and Greece demanded that she be offered less. Roumania, holding territory the Bulgars considered rightfully to belong to them, offered to make concessions provided she was recompensed in another direction.

she was recompensed in another direction.

Trade and bargaining occupied much of the summer and "Balkan Crisis" tame almost a stock headline in the newspapers. An important fact remained that the trades were all to be effective "at the end of the war" and the value put on the concessions from either side was contingent on the turn of the war's wheel. Bulgaria for the last month has been the important factor in the negotiations. Weighing the promises from the Quadruple Entente against the promises from the Ceneral Powers, she evidently has decided the benefits to accrue to her through Austro-German success more than balance the promises made by the Allies, and her order of mobilization is taken as a notification to the world that she has decided to cast in her lot with the Teutonic empires, open her roads for a passage to Stamboul, and take in return her chance of obtaining in the end a good slice of Serbia, the territory she claims in Macedonia and much of Thrace.

Teutonic Allies Anticipated Decision That Berlin and Vienna long in ad-

