THE PROBLEMS OF PEACE CONFERENCE

Western Powers Divided On The Sort of Consideration She Should Have

RAPIDLY SHIFTING **CHANGES OF THE PAST**

Nothing Stable in Near East Except Ambition of Each of Various Nationalities To Achieve An Imperial Destiny; Simonds Says Rumania Will Have To Be Reckoned With

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. (Copyright, 1919, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

New York, Aug. 16 .- The arrival of Rumanian troops in Buda Pest has produced one more of those kaleidoscopie changes in Southeastern Europe of which there have been so many in the years that separate the first Balkan war from the latest incidents along the

Before discussing this new development it is perhaps instructive to review for a moment the several shifts which have taken place in seven years. In the summer of 1912 Germany, Austria and Italy were, as they had been for almost a generation, united in that association which, under the title of the Triple Alliance, had dominated continental affairs from the morrow of the Cougress

To this alliance Rumania was bound by treaty, and with it Turkey was associated by something approximating an the colonist Trajan settled the Dacian informal engagement. Already, however, an Italian attack upon Turkey, the ally of Italy's German and Austrian al-on that map of Europe which existed at lies, had provoked bitterness in Ber-the moment when the World War began first step in the general dissolution of greater than Italy, with a population of the alliances.

Thus in 1912 we have the Tripolitan war between Italy and Turkey, Toward the close of the same year, while the Tripelitan war was being liquidated by the treaty of Lausanne, Bulgaria, Serbin and Greece, hereditary enemies since the coming of the Slavs to the Bulkan peninsula, joined hands and crushed Turkey.

A few months later, early in 1913 Rumania, whose last war-had been fought with Turkey in support of Bulgarin, joins hands with the Greeks and the Serbians and with the Turk in depriving the Bulgars of most of their conquests in the first Balkan war. Thus the Greeks and Serbs in a few short months found themselves the allies first of the Bulgarians against the Turks, and then the associates of the Turks against the Bulgarians, while Rumania, the ally of Germany and Austria, sent her armies against Bulgaria, which was both a secret ally of Austria Hungary and had an Austrian sovereign.

Then two years later, Bulgaria, in alliance with Turkey as well as Austria and Germany, assailed Serbia, and the Greeks of King Constantine, while officially neutral, surrendered to the Turks the province and the fortress won by the king in the war of 1913 to enable the Bulgarians to complete the destruction of Serbia.

In the fall of the next year Rumania followed the example of Italy and the Western Allies in an attack upon Austria Hungary with a consequent war with Bulgaria. In this conby Hungarian, Bulgarian and German troops, and a year later by the second Treaty of Bucharest, Rumania had to currender not only the territory she had taken from Bulgaria in the first treaty, that of 1913, but also her entire seacoust in the Dobrudia.

Invades Hungary.

Less than a year later, when Italian troops had crushed the Austrians in the north and the Salonika army had overcome Bulgarian, Austrian and Turkish troops in the south, Rumania cutered the war, took from the Bulgarians the territory seized by them and again inof Hungary.

In the brief span of seven years then se have seen the Bulgarians the allies of the Greeks and the Serbs and the enemies of the Turks in one war, the Poland, is a force with which the Westopponents of the Greeks, the Serbs and the Turks in a second; the allies of the Turks, with Greece as a silent partner East, controlling the Danube, rich in in an attack upon Serbia in a third; natural resources, capable of an enerthe allies of the Turks and the oppoments of the Rumanians, the Serbs and In the old world of practical politics the Greeks in a fourth; and at this at the Congress of Vienna or of Berlin present hour Sona despatches forecast a new Bulgarian attack upon Serbia and

In this same time, Rumania, starting as an ally of the Germans and the Austrians, has attacked Bulgaria in conjunction with the Serbs, the Greeks and the Turks, has attacked Austria Hungary and been attacked by the Bulgars, the Turks and the Germans; as an ally of Russia and in a war of liberation, has invaded and occupied a great province belonging to her recent Russian ally, and now at last appears in Buda Pest, returning the visit of the Hungarian troops to Bucharest less than

Hopeless Confusion in the Near East. One could indefinitely multiply these circomstances which thus revealed the utter, and to the Western mind, the hopeless confusion in the Near East. The Rumanian episodes of recent days is only one more of a series which extends backward into the night of time to that hour when Rome was no longer able to hold the Danube frontier and the latter time when the Byzantine Empire anceumbed to the double attack from the north and from the south. In that period the Byzantine Greeks, and after their great sacrifices and suffer-berbs, the Bulgars, the Turks, the Ru-ings in the war, forbidden by the na-manians and the Hungarians have in tions in alliance with whom they have man's land which extends from Buda Pest to the Golden Horn. Each in turn has aspired to great empire, possessed immense power for a brief period, and then yielded place to an ambitious

And underlying all else in this Balkan ad Hangarian complications is the to use their armies against Bolshevista macionsness in the minds of each of alike in Russia and in Hungary who se many nationalities that it was once were seeking to undermine Rumanian great nation and the belief that it security.

When The Greak turns backward to the By-



Rumanians, Jugo Slavs and Czecho-Sloraks realize their aspirations. The Jugo Slavs and the Rumanian claims conflict in the Banat, where their sectors, as shown in this map, meet. as a

to the Danube in Europe and the Cilician Gate in Asia. The Bulgar recalls the glories of Simeon, the Serb, the conquests of Dushan. The Rumanian goes back to that Rumanian period when country between the Theiss and the Dniester. The Hungarian fixes his eye and Vienna, and was, in fact, the and shows Hungary a state in area more than twenty-two millions of people.

Now at this precise moment all feuds a thousand years old and several brand new ones confront the statesmen or the student who would seek to find a reasonable and lasting settlement in the Near East. The Italians and the Jugo Slavs are in conflict from Gorizia to Scutari, the Greek and the Italian from Valona to Smyrna; the Greek and the Bulgarian from Salonika to the outskirts of Constantinople; the Rumanian and the Bulgarian in the Dobrudja; the Rumaian and the Ukrain ian in Bessarabia and the Bukovina; the Rumanian and the Hungarian from the headwater of the Theiss to Szgedin; the Bumanian the Serbian and the Hungarian in the Banat; the Serbs, the Croats and the Slovenes on the one hand, and first the Hungarian and then the Austrian along the Drave, and finally the Czecho Slovaks and the Hungarians in the Carpathian highlands of the old Hungaran State.

At the present moment the Conferthe Piume question, the dispute as to Northern Epurus and the Aegean Islands, the problem of Thrace, to fix the title to the Dobrudja and to Bessarabia, the rights of the several claims in the Banat, the just and right frontiera in Transylvania.

The Adventure to Buda Pest.

Now it is necessary to see the Rumanian adventure to Buda Pest in the light of recent and past history. For something like a thousand years the fliet Rumania, betrayed by Russia, was Magyars have held, in a servitude beswiftly crushed, Bucharest was occupied youd endurance, a quarter of the Rumanian speaking population of the world. They have deprived these people of every right and every liberty. They have oppressed them in every conceivable way. Rumania entered the world war to redeem these lost children. She was defeated and her country ravaged terribly, in part, at least, by Hungari a troops. She re-entered the war, when Austria Hungary was falling, to regain territory taken from her in 1918 and territory hers justly, but never yet redeemed.

Rumania and Poland will unquestionably be the two great new states to vaded, and this time held vast regions emerge from this conflict. Both will have an area greater than modern Italy and a population capable in no long time of exceeding that of the Savoy Monarchy. Therefore Rumania, like ern nations must reckon. She will be the most powerful state in the Near mous industrial expansion.

> a state of Rumania's potentialities would therefore have won a ready hearing for their demands. Moreover, this hearing would have been granted the more readily since Rumania had been a faithful and, on the whole, an invaluable ally in a war in which she had suffered terri le losses alike in men and in money. But the Conference of Paris, alike in the case of Poland and in the case of Rumania, has found itself forever vacillating between new and idealistic conceptions and old-fashioned and material considerations. Largely through American influence there has been a constant tendency to seek ideal solutions repugnant to friendly nations and on the whole pleasing to peoples recently in arms against the victors of the present war.

> Thus the Paris Conference has so far refused to recognize Rumania's just claims to the old Russian province of Bessarabia. It has championed Hungarian claims in Transylvania and in the Banat, and in addition supported Bulgarian demands in the Dobrudja. Rumanians Bitter.

The result has been that the Rumanian people have found themselves minated all or much of that no-land which extends from Buda they brought invaluable assistance, not alone to occupy the territories to which their claim was at least as good as the French to Alsace Lorraine or the Italians to Triaste and the Trentino, but also to establish their title to lands which they had already occupied, and

When I left Paris a little more than two months ago, the Rumanians were

contine period when the frontier of the prepared to shandon the Peace Confer- invasion. After a thousand years the Eastern Empire, still inviolate, extended ence, to fall back upon their own resources, which are not inconsiderable and vindicate their title to the lands which are for them what the French lost provinces were to France, and Italian Irredenta for Italy. They were prepared to send their armies into the Banat against the Serbians and to Buda Pest against the Magyars, whether the Paris Conference wished it or not.

Now what has happened is simple. In ny last article I pointed out how the Paris Conference, lacking the troops, had been obliged to renounce a military expedition against Bela Kun, with a onsequent loss of authority and emphasized how illustrative this incident was of the whole world situation.

Within a few days there was, then an important change. The allies had no force sufficient to dispose of Bela Kun, against whom they continued to issue proclamations as they had been doing ever since the outbreak of the Hungarian revolution. But Rumania and armies. She had claims to enforce ngsinst Hungary, and when the allies had neither the troops nor the will to intervene in Hungary, Rumanian troops were ret in motion.

A Change of Front.

We had then the ridiculous change of ircumstances which must go far to explaining to the world the ultimate weakness of the present authority of the Paris Conference. One day the allies demanded that Bela Kun should quit. The next day Bela Kun was ousted not because of allied proclamation, ence of Paris is vainly trying to solve but because Rumanian armies were apday, on Hungary's appeal, the allies, were ordering the Rumanians to retrain from entering the Hungarian capital, and twenty-four hours later were commanding that the Rumanians leave the city they had occupied.

What Rumanian occupation of Buda Pesth really means must be clear. Rumania does not arrive as the mandatory of the Western powers. She arrives as the contestant with Hungary over a thousand years for the possession of certain provinces until yesterday Hungary's, with the memory of recent Hungarian optrages in Rumanian territory and the age-long record of Magyar oppression against Rumanian peoples in Hungarian capital into the bargain. Who is going to oust her? Who is going to oust her? Who is going to prevent her from fixing those frontiers which correspond with her view of her just right, but have been challenged by the map-makers of Paris? Who is going to prevent Rumanian soldiers from exacting some little compensation from the Hungarian people.

Seven thousand persons each year are laid away—the burial certificate being marked away—the burial certificate burial certificate burial certificate burial certificate buri Pesth really means must be clear. Rumania does not arrive as the mandatory pensation from the Hungarian people for the destruction and the extortion of Hungarian troops in Rumania?

Yesterday the Peace Conference was trying to get rid of a Bolshevist leader in Hungary as a preliminary to recognizing Hungarians and all their neighbors. But today the Bolshevist regime has fallen, not to proclamation but to

Rumanian people have at least achieved a unity long sought. The allies had no troops and they had no unity of purpose adequate to supply military force to drive the Bolshevist government and army out of control in Hungary. Will it be easier for them to find troops to attack Rumania, their recent ally, in order to take from her territories to which her claim is at least as good as the Hungarian? Moreover, and this is capital, what

will be the effect upon the Czecho-Slovaks and the Serbs of seeing Rumanian armies, in defiance of the Paris Conference, occupying Buda Pesth, and Ru-

proaching Buda Pesth, and the next this failure of her old allies to sup-

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Her pathway is clear. She is now a nation of 16,000,000, occupying an area greater than Italy, with a potential wealth incomparably superior. Against the Jugo Slavs, who contest her claims in the Banat, she has the proffered assistance of the Italians, who are at odds with the Jugo Slavs along the Adriatic. Against the Bulgarians who still cling to their rights in the Dobrudja, which would deprive Rumania of her single scaport, she has the assured support of the Greeks, who contest with the Bulgars the possession of Thrace. Moreover, like Italy, she can set her face again towards a German alliance because she can bring strength sufficient to ensure a forgetting of recent events,

The Paris Conference may now demand that the Rumanians submit to its decrees and surrender territories Rumania holds its own, but nobody who knows the temper of the government and the people of Rumania now believes this demand will be honored. It may accept under protest the Rumanian frontiers fixed by Rumania herself, but in either case it finds itself brought squarely face to face with a new condition. To imagine that French, British or American troops could be sent to the Danube to drive Rumania out of the Banat and Transylvania is to but by next year the whole of Europe may be clamoring for Rumania's wheat supplies, and European allied populations eager for bread will find little to defend the policy of their governments which have excluded Rumanian foodstuffs from their own countries because they were dissatisfied with the allocation of Debrezin or Ozernowitz.

Victors Draw Their Own Map. Recall that in 1912 the Concert of

Europe, which then occupied the posi-

tion now held by the Conference of Paris, solemnly forbade the Balkan States to attack Turkey and equally solemnly asserted that whatever the out come of the war there would be no change in the frontiers of the Balkans. After Luleburgas and Kumanova the same concert of Europe had to recog-nize that the victors would draw their

own map. To me the Rumanian occupation of Buda Pesth seems the most considerable to political events since the armistice. In Paris I had Rumanian acquaintances and fairly good sources of information, and I came away convinced that Rumania would never, under any circumstances, permit Western Europe to deprive her of what every Rumanian regarded as his patrimony. The Rumanians were willing to allow the Paris Conference to draw their frontiers, but only on condition that those frontiers corresponded with Rumanian conceptions. Above all, they were determined to liberate Rumanian populations in

Hungary and to establish their natural frontiers of the Danube, the Theiss, the Maros and the Duiester. They have seized upon the present break between the Paris Conference and the Bolshevist government of Hungary as an opportunity to occupy all of the Hungarian territory which they claim, save only the portion held by Serb troops in the Banat. They have occupied the Hungarian capital and can impose any terms they choose upon the Hunga rians, who will have to comply with imagine merest nonsense. Certainly conomic weapons might be used ing to send armies to support the Magngainst Rumania, such as the blockade, yars and fight Rumania. In other words, while the Paris Conference is still wrestling with the ethnographic map, the Rumanian sword has drawn new frontiers, and unless I am very much mistaken. Rumania will now apply the same method to Jugo-Slavia she has used in the case of Hungary. In any event Balkan affairs are now resuming that violent course which is their disorderly routine.

Egotism is one of the substantial

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armies, in defiance of the Paris Conference, occupying Buda Pesth, and Rumania acquiring possession of the Hungarian provinces which she claims? Patently it will be an invitation to Jugo Slav and Czecho-Slovak armies and statesmen to follow the same example. They have claims to establish in the Carpathians and on either side of the Drave. Moreover, will the Rumanians now, having broken with the Paris Conference, fulfill the threat so often heard before, and send their troops into the Banat to sweep out the Serbs and complete the expansion of Rumania to her natural frontiers?

Western Powers Not United.

And in face of all this, the Western powers are by no means united. The Euglish and the Americans sympathiz with the Hungarians, the Italians and the French with the Bumanians. All the Hungarians, the Italians and the French with the Bumanians and the French with the Bumanians sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old allies to sup-sently restored. But Rumania sees in this failure of her old

TROY SUMMER SCHOOL IS **VOTED GREAT SUCCESS**

Troy, Aug. 16.-The Summer School which has been in programs here for the past four weeks under the direction of Prof. R. C. Cox, of Mt. Gilead, who was ably assisted by Misses Nena DeBerry and Virginia Jenkias, both of the Salisbury hig school, came to a close last night. It is the opinion of all who have been in touch with the work that the Summer School at Troy has been the best ever held here and that there has been a great deal of most done in the been a great deal of good done in the way of instructing the teachers in Mont-

gomery county.

At the closing exercises a patriotic play was rendered by the teachers attending the Summer School "The Coming of Liberty," written by T. Wingate Andrews, superintendent of Salisbury

Hon. R. N. Page, of Biscos, made a strong speech in favor of the compul-sory school law and caused the parents to see that education made not only an elucated man, but a strong citizenship as well. He said the day has come when we are not too poor to co any-thing we want to do, and that investing today in child education is investing in men and women of tomorrow.

Real widows and grass widows sympathize with one another, but why they



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