

moment she will be attacked by Turkey. In the presence of such a situation, which it looks upon as calculated to bring about a collision between Turkey and Bulgaria, the Bulgarian government asserts its inability longer to remain indifferent. It therefore declares that—

If the great Powers do not take measures to give the Sublime Porte counsels of wisdom and of moderation, the Bulgarian government will be obliged to take the necessary steps to be ready for every eventuality and not be taken by surprise.

In explanation of this Bulgarian note, the Premier of the Bulgarian ministry made the following statement on the 15th:

It has been from the first plainly evident that the policy of Turkey is to hinder the development of the Bulgarian race in Macedonia, the strongest national element there. With this end in view the Turks proceeded to devastate the country and kill the Bulgarian Christians, driving the survivors into the mountains and forests, where they would either perish of hunger or else cross the Bulgarian frontier and become a burden to the Bulgarian nation. The Bulgarian government is now compelled to protect not only Bulgaria itself but also the Bulgarian element in Macedonia. Turkey has concentrated 300,000 troops in Macedonia, only about 25,000 of whom are engaged in the suppression of the revolt. There is no attempt to fight the insurgents, but the troops attack innocent women and children. The Bulgarian government is forced to perceive in this excessive mobilization a clear sign of Turkey's desire, after she succeeds in suppressing the outbreak in Macedonia, to attack Bulgaria and exterminate the Bulgarian race. All our latest information from Macedonia and Constantinople confirms this view. Confronted by such conditions, Bulgaria is forced to the conviction that Turkey intends to attack her, and the Sofia government has taken this last step of asking the Powers to intervene. Otherwise Bulgaria must take measures for her own protection.

Although there is as yet no authentic news of action by any of the Powers in response to the Bulgarian note, it was reported from Sofia on the 16th that three of them (none of them named), had that day notified Bulgaria that if she goes to war with Turkey she will receive no aid from the Powers.

The sessions of the Socialist congress at Dresden, Germany, which began on the 13th, are at-

tracting general attention on account both of the number of voters represented and of the questions under debate. There are 3,000,000 voters of Germany represented at the congress, being more than 25 per cent of all the voters of the Empire. The first business meeting of the congress began on the 14th, and the question which has distracted the party—whether it shall claim representation among the three vice presidents of the German reichstag (p. 328)—was the principal subject of debate.

This question gives concreteness to the issue between the opportunist socialists, whose leader is Bernstein, and the programme socialists, whose leader is Bebel. By virtue of their large representation in the Reichstag—over 80—the Socialists are entitled to a vice-president of that body. Bernstein advocates claiming the first vice-presidency, because the party is second in party strength in the Reichstag. In support of this position he argues that the Socialists should assume government responsibilities as fast as opportunity offers. Bebel objects to any Socialist's taking such an office as vice-president of the Reichstag under the existing capitalistic regime. Out of this contest has grown a bitterness of feeling among programme Socialists toward opportunists who make their living by writing for capitalistic publications; and one of the resolutions debated at Dresden proposed that members of the Socialist party be prohibited from writing for papers that are not socialistic. A vote was taken on the 16th upon resolutions condemning the proposition that the Socialists accept a vice presidency in the Reichstag, and the resolutions were adopted, thus giving the victory to Bebel.

Further hostility to the Socialist party of Germany was shown on the 16th by the German government. The minister of war issued a decree forbidding noncommissioned officers and privates from having in their possession or distributing any Socialistic writings without the permission of higher authority, or singing songs, uttering cries, giving expression to any Socialistic senti-

ments, and from attending any meeting, contributing money to or belonging to any society, without the permission of their officers.

The British outlook in politics is still undefined, although a meeting of the ministry, understood to have been called to consider the ministerial policy with especial reference to Mr. Chamberlain's protection programme (pp. 129, 147, 163, 200, 313, 338, 347, 360), came off on the 14th. No disclosure has yet been made of the proceedings at that meeting. It is surmised, however, that an irreconcilable difference of opinion developed, and that a reorganization of the cabinet is probable.

Immediately after the meeting the Premier issued a pamphlet in advocacy of a moderation of the free trade policy of Great Britain. Its title is "Insular Free Trade," and in it the Premier describes himself as—

a free trader, but not of the pattern which holds that the doctrine of free trade is so universal in its application and so capable of an exact expression that every conclusion to which it logically leads must be accepted without hesitation and without reserve.

American political interests are kept alive by the Democratic campaign in Ohio (p. 359), which Mayor Johnson is leading. The Akron meeting of the 9th in the Republican county of Summit, of which we had no trustworthy details last week, proves to have numbered fully 7,000. The only speakers were Johnson and Clarke. The chairman, Judge C. R. Grant, dispensed entirely with an opening speech. On the 10th both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Clarke spoke in the county court house at Wadsworth, a town of 2,000 inhabitants in the Republican county of Medina. Owing to a heavy storm two meetings on the way from Akron to Wadsworth were abandoned and only 1,000 people attended the Wadsworth meeting. The meeting on the 11th also was small—only 800 attending—the explanation being that it had not been advertised in advance of the arrival of the speakers. It was at Ravenna, in the Republican county of Portage, a town of 4,000. At Youngstown on the 12th, the audi-