

at Naples, with Bourée at Athens, which was his next post, or with Bourgoing at Constantinople, where he remained from 1867 till 1876. He hated the Russians fiercely and consistently, and the Russian ambassador at Constantinople, Ignatiev, in particular.

Those with whom he deeply sympathized were the Austrians and the Turks, the two peoples which represented the negation of the great principle of nationality. His prejudice in favor of Austria blinded him to the latter's deliberate design of aggrandizement and annexation during the revolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina of 1875-1877 (p. 212). And it was his well-known prejudice in favor of the Turks as against the Christians in the Near East which made him a leading figure in the scandal of withheld information upon the Bulgarian atrocities, which nearly overthrew the Beaconsfield cabinet in 1876. Elliot, charged with having misinformed his own government then, devotes to his defense several pages of the recollections, which in this part are of later date; he endeavors to throw upon Sir Philip Francis, British consul-general at Constantinople, blame for having withheld from the embassy a vice-consular despatch. But the son of Francis has impugned the truth of the recollections in this regard (*London Times Literary Supplement*, May 4, 1922), claiming that vice-consuls were accustomed to send duplicates of political despatches directly to the embassy, so that the consul-general could not have been expected to forward his copy to Elliot; in any case the latter had culpably ignored at this time a signed report containing similar information upon Bulgarian atrocities received from Drs. Long and Washburn of Robert College.

This volume was privately printed by Elliot during his lifetime (1900); the editing of the present issue is by his daughter, who has faithfully supported the writer's prejudices in introduction, appendix, and notes.

H. NELSON GAY.

Russia's Foreign Relations during the Last Half Century. By Baron S. A. KORFF, D.C.L., Professor of Political Science, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. (New York: Macmillan Company. 1922. Pp. 227. \$2.25.)

THOSE who had the privilege of hearing the lectures so ably delivered by Baron Korff before the Institute of Politics at Williamstown last year, and a much wider public besides, will be rejoiced that these lectures have now appeared in book form. Russia's foreign policy of the past half-century has seldom been presented to American readers from the Russian standpoint; and in this case the author is not only a distinguished scholar, but a prominent Liberal, and one who has had close personal contacts with the men and affairs to be described.

The Congress of Berlin forms the starting-point of this survey, and the March revolution of 1917 its terminus. Within these limits the

author reviews successively the history of Russia's relations with France, England, China, Japan, Austria-Hungary, the Balkan states, Germany, and Sweden. This method of procedure inevitably involves a considerable amount of repetition, but it makes for clarity, and was probably preferable to a strictly chronological treatment. The final chapter is devoted to a very sensible analysis of the problem of secret diplomacy.

Dealing in brief compass with so vast and difficult a subject, and made up of lectures addressed primarily to what may, with all respect, be called a popular audience, this volume contains scarcely any facts not known to professional historians, and no diplomatic "revelations". It offers a clear, comprehensive, and concise summary of Russia's foreign relations during a momentous period. It presents many interesting views and side-lights, such as, for instance, the author's explanation of the disillusioned attitude of the Russian Liberals toward the alliance with France, or his regret that President Roosevelt forced on the Peace of Portsmouth prematurely, before the Autocracy had been forced to surrender at home, or his characterization of Panslavism as "prompted much more by hatred of Germany than by love of [the] Slavs" (p. 96). The book is written with serene impartiality, moderation, and freedom from patriotic rancor or prejudice. Indeed, the author criticizes his country's statesmen and policies rather more severely than those of foreign countries.

On the other hand, a fair number of errors have crept into the volume. One is a little surprised to read that the first deposition of Alexander of Battenberg on August 21, 1886, was the work of Stambolov (p. 120); that Germany at the end of 1897 first established herself in the Kwang-Tung peninsula and later exchanged that position for Kiaochow (pp. 63-64); or that the Young Turkish revolution of 1908 was altogether the work of Germany (who "deliberately let loose the Turkish revolutionary forces and carried out her eastern plans with great precision". "And everything was accomplished exclusively through German help and German inspiration"—pp. 136-137). The reviewer has been much mystified by the alleged proposal of Aehrenthal to the Powers in July, 1908, that Austria be allowed to annex the sanjak of Novibazar (p. 107). There are obvious contradictions between the statements made on pages 85 and 176 about Russian policy toward Sweden, and between the dates given on pages 45 and 141 for the treaty by which Russia was promised Constantinople.

The author remarks that in tracing Russia's foreign relations "one must keep in mind not only the social forces that move nations to certain ends and achieve national aims, but also the rôle played by the various personalities, the statesmen at the helm of their countries" (pp. 1 and 2). One could wish that Baron Korff had found the opportunity to discuss more at length both of these two great sets of factors; to give

a more detailed and adequate characterization of the leading Russian statesmen of the period, and a more systematic and complete analysis of the needs, motives, and aims that directed their foreign policy.

R. H. L.

Diplomatische Aktenstücke zur Geschichte der Entente politik der Vorkriegsjahre. Herausgegeben von B. VON SIEBERT, ehemaliger Sekretär der Kaiserlich Russischen Botschaft in London. (Berlin and Leipzig: Vereinigung Wissenschaftlicher Verleger. 1921. Pp. vi, 827. \$2.70 bound.)

Entente Diplomacy and the World: Matrix of the History of Europe, 1909-14. Translated from the Original Texts in his Possession by B. DE SIEBERT, late Secretary of the Imperial Russian Embassy at London. Edited, arranged, and annotated by GEORGE ABEL SCHREINER, Political and War Correspondent in Europe during the War of the Associated Press of America. (New York: Harper and Brothers.¹ 1921. Pp. xxxii, 762. \$9.00.)

THIS collection includes what are presumably the most important despatches exchanged between the Foreign Offices of St. Petersburg, London, and Paris, and the reports of the Russian diplomatic representatives at all the important European capitals. It covers the greatest variety of diplomatic action: the Far East, Persia, North Africa, the Balkans, the Austro-Serb problem, Constantinople, the Bagdad Railway, and the general relations of the Entente with the Triple Alliance. It is so complete that the main lines of Russian policy before the war can be drawn with a degree of accuracy rarely possible so soon after the events in question. The political significance of this publication is greater in that the German defense to the indictment of the Versailles Treaty (and the reparation clauses rest to a large extent upon Germany's responsibility therein stated) is based chiefly upon counter-charges directed against Russia.

There is nothing that leads the reviewer to doubt the authenticity of the documents, but it seems probable that the editors have not been entirely candid as to their provenance. De Siebert (as he is called in the American edition) or von Siebert (as he appears in the German), who was formerly secretary of the Russian Embassy at London, implies that the originals came into his possession in the course of his diplomatic duties. But such officials do not ordinarily retain copies of correspondence passing through their hands. It is curious also that he should have taken the trouble to translate the originals, which he states are in Russian, French, and English, into German, the language of the

¹ The book bears the name of this firm as publishers, but we are informed by them that they do not publish it, nor does the firm of Putnam, who printed it; copies can be obtained from the office of the periodical *Issues of Today*, 132 Nassau Street, New York. Ed.