

POLITYKA WEWNĘTRZNA CARATU I RUCHY SPOŁECZNE W ROSJI NA POCZĄTKU XX WIEKU. By *Ludwik Bazylow*. Warsaw: Książka i Wiedza, 1966. 427 pp. 80 zł.

This book is essentially an outline of the internal history of Russia at the beginning of the twentieth century, with special emphasis on the role of the revolutionary movement. It covers from the first part of the rule of Nicholas II up to "Bloody Sunday."

After an extensive and quite skillful examination of the sources, the author devotes one chapter to each of the following topics: a general examination of Russia's domestic situation on the eve of the twentieth century, the agrarian problem, the populist movement, the working-class movement with special emphasis on the Bolshevik Party, the ferment among the students and the liberal opposition, and "police socialism" and the ministry of von Plehve. The monograph ends with a brief but vivid and dramatic survey of the opening phases of the Revolution of 1905 in the form of two chapters: "Spring in Autumn" and "Gapon."

The book is provided with an extensive bibliography in several languages, including many books and articles in English. Among the works missing is Cyril E. Black's *Dynamics of Modernization* (1966). The author is familiar with English-language monographs and quotes them quite often, a phenomenon not common in East European historical works. But the main value of the book is that it is based on source material seldom available to Western historians—the police archives and documents of various tsarist ministries.

Another positive feature is the author's attempt at objectivity toward "class enemies" as well as "bourgeois" historians. Repeatedly he praises various minor achievements not only of the "Zemstvos," or the Liberals, but even of the tsarist bureaucracy. These outbursts of generosity do not prevent the author from invoking Lenin as the ultimate source of wisdom and the supreme judge of all issues. But he does it less often than authors of most works of this kind. One could quote, in this respect, a well-known French saying: "Il est bien dans son genre, mais son genre n'est pas bien." On the whole, one should say that, under the circumstances, it is a good, fairly objective book, interesting more for a handful of unknown details than for breaking new ground.

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ISTORIJA RUSSKOI BIBLIOGRAFIJ NACHALA XX VEKA (DO OKTIABRIA 1917 GODA). By *M. V. Mashkova*. Moscow: Izdatel'stvo "Kniga," 1969. 492 pp. 1 ruble, 86 kopeks.

Russian bibliographers show a well-developed sense of the past. Indeed, their historiographical enthusiasms know no frontiers—as witness K. R. Simon's excellent and regrettably little-known history of "foreign" bibliography (1965). However, a domestic gap has remained between N. V. Zdobnov's history of Russian bibliography to 1900 (1955) and the numerous surveys of developments since 1917.

The gap from 1900 to October 1917 is short but by no means negligible: the period included important developments in political, literary, and intellectual life, and it marked the climacteric of "bourgeois" Russia; moreover, it is one which is in certain respects poorly covered by formal bibliographies. M. V. Mashkova's book is therefore devoted to a significant and virgin field. Her own bibliographical work and her previous excursions into the history of the discipline mean that she has a