

misses all ministers, has the authority to issue provisional laws when the assembly is not in session, may suspend or annul all orders of the ministers that are deemed unconstitutional and exercises a suspensory veto over acts of the assembly. Once elected the "Government" cannot be recalled by the assembly. The second important organization is the council of ministers appointed by the "Government" but responsible to the assembly. The "Government" and ministers acting together constitute a body for considering general policies which corresponds roughly to the American cabinet. There are detailed provisions regarding local government, economic and financial matters; the rights of racial minorities are guaranteed; and there is a unique provision setting up popular law courts presided over in part by citizens drawn by lot. The leader in the formation of the new republic was Krasnoschekoff who spent a number of years in America under the name of Tobinson, and who holds a degree from the University of Chicago.

Sir George Buchanan, the British ambassador to Petrograd from 1910 to 1918, has written of his experiences in two volumes entitled *My Mission to Russia and Other Diplomatic Memories*. (Little, Brown & Co., pp. xvi, 253; viii, 280). The first part of the work tells of Sir George's early diplomatic career in Japan, Austria, Germany and Bulgaria, and his service as British agent to the Venezuela Arbitration Tribunal in 1899. It is the author's belief that had the Venezuela case "been tried by an impartial court of justice, that would have decided it in the light of the evidence laid before it, the whole of the territory in dispute would in all probability have been awarded" to the British. The bulk of the two volumes, however, deals with the experiences of the author in Russia in the narration of which he shows a sympathetic attitude toward Russia and her people. He affirms the fact that M. Sazonoff left no stone unturned in his efforts to avoid a rupture with Germany following the presentation of the Austrian ultimatum at Belgrade, and refutes the charges that Russia wanted war and that England egged her on by promising armed support. Czar Nicholas is appraised as a true and loyal ally who had his country's best interests at heart in spite of appearances to the contrary. The Empress is blamed, however, as instrumental in bringing about the final catastrophe. Sir George also brands as false the rumors that he had helped to promote the Russian Revolution. The book is written in a vigorous and interesting manner and ranks among the valuable

materials covering English diplomatic policy since 1900, the inner workings of Russian diplomacy, the history of Russia's participation in the Great War and her subsequent collapse.

Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons has added to his other books on international questions a new volume entitled *Europe Since 1918* (Century Company, pp. 622). Its thirty chapters deal with events from the autumn of 1918 to the autumn of 1923,—a quinquennial so thickly studded with important happenings that even six hundred pages hardly suffice to include mention of them all. The author declares that he has "no axe to grind or theories to champion." He is not "pro-anything." His "sole ambition has been to record what he has observed." Not all readers of the book, however, will agree that it is an exemplar of non-partisanship and neutrality. Dr. Gibbons has some very definite personal convictions as to what ought to have been and what ought not to have been,—and they are by no means concealed convictions. Be this as it may, the book gives a useful, informing, interesting survey of European politics during the past five years and brings out very effectively the multiplicity of the forces which have been at work.

Three volumes relating to the German Revolution and its aftermath have been published in the United States during the past few months. The first and most elaborate is Heinrich Ströbel's *The German Revolution and After* (Thomas Seltzer, pp. 320), which has been translated by J. H. Stenning. This volume gives a comprehensive and detailed account of political events in Germany from the fall of the old régime down to the early months of 1922, including such episodes as the Kapp *Putsch*. The author, of course, is one of the leaders of the Socialist party and writes from that orientation. Ralph H. Lutz' volume on *The German Revolution, 1918-1919* is published by the Stanford University Press (pp. 186). It deals only with the period intervening between the outbreak of the Revolution and the adoption of the Weimar Constitution, with a very brief chapter on the subsequent general election. The author, although a university teacher, was a member of the American military mission to Berlin in 1919 and hence had a good opportunity to gain information at first hand. His description of the whole affair is well-proportioned, unprejudiced and clearly written. An excellent bibliography is appended. The third volume in this field, Johannes Mattern's *Bavaria and the Reich* is printed by the Johns Hopkins Press (pp. 125). It is a study of the