Revolution and Politics

REALLY to profit by "An Outlaw's Diary" (McBride) it would be necessary to know a great deal concerning European politics. Cécile Tormay is bitter. She reports the events which led to the crumbling of autocratic Hungary with stinging force. It is the diary not only of revolutionary events but of a woman's soul, and as the latter it interested me more. I do not think it very well written. It is graphic but jerky. Yet, while it is marked by the most complete partizanship, it has also the unmistakable accents of veracity. No page is free, however, from political discussion. On the whole, this is annoying to the ordinary reader. Granted that we are none of us in favor of red revolution — we may then proceed on that premise with events as they occurred. Miss Tormay resents and I do not wonder that she resents; but so many pages packed with resentment, while they make her character a most interesting one to study, do not make her book superlatively attractive either to the casual reader or to the student of history.

-J, F.