TROTSKY, LEON. Writings of — (1939-40). Merit Publishers, New York 1969. 128 pp. Ill. \$ 2.45.

This volume covers the last year of Trockij's life (August 22, 1939 – August 21, 1940); it is the first of a series devoted to the years 1929-40. Excluded are materials from books (In Defense of Marxism, the Stalin biography, whose editor and translator is severely criticized); included are three slightly earlier articles on the Ukraine. It is remarkable to note how, e.g., the Stalin-Hitler Pact caused no fundamental change in outlook. Notwithstanding the view that Stalin functioned as "Hitler's quartermaster", the "defense of the USSR" is upheld. During the Soviet-Finnish War (the Finns' resistance is recognized, but the accent is on the international background) Trockij defined this conception once more as coinciding "in principle with the preparation of the world proletarian revolution".

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Clara E. Lida is Assistant Professor of History and Romance Languages in Wesleyan University, Middletown (Conn.).

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Edmund Silberner is Professor of History of Modern Social Movements in the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Bernice Martin is Lecturer in Sociology at Bedford College, The University of London. London.