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Marxism: The View from America

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Rossiter, Clinton. Marxism: The View from America. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1960. 338 p.

Clinton Rossiter has done a remarkably thorough job in presenting a clear picture of a difficult and complex political philosophy. He probes deeply behind the thinking men like Marx, Engels, Trotsky, Stalin, Khrushchev and many others, and brings forth not only the weaknesses of their views but the strengths as well. The book gives concise definitions of terms relative to Communist theory, as the important men in that field interpreted them, and continuing through with the same theme, discusses man, as Karl Marx and all the rest viewed him. These ideas are then contrasted with the American view of man. In logical sequence, the concepts of man are followed by an exploration of the classes as they exist in America. A comprehensive discussion of schools, churches and other institutions is presented through the eyes of Marx, followed by a severe lashing of capitalism in the traditional Marxist style. Comparisons of Marxist thinking and American views are made throughout, and provide the reader with a clear insight as to the inner workings of the political philosophies of both sides. Although the book requires a considerable amount of concentration, the fruits of the reader's efforts are rewarding.

Prittie, Terence C.F. Germany Divided; The Legacy of the Nazi Era. Boston: Little, Brown, 1960. 381 p.

Terence Prittie, who has been head of the German bureau of the Manchester Guardian for a number of years, addresses his efforts to a comprehensive review of postwar Germany in its struggle to regain its respectability and acceptance in world councils. With much personal knowledge, Prittie discusses such subjects as the East German refugees, rebirth of Nazi or extreme right political parties, current German attitudes on war crimes and criminals, current displays of anti-Semitism and the postwar status of cartels