

does not suggest that his subsequent disowning of 'Morthor' arose merely from its military failure. He believes Hammerskjold retreated under British pressure. This is, however, to let the American administration off scot free. What seems to show through is that O'Brien, the Irishman who saw the resemblance of Katanga to Northern Ireland, was drawn into applying a purely 'Afro-Asian' interpretation of the February resolution, but it was the British who forced the re-incorporation of the 'American' element. The conclusion? Afro-Asian alone will not suffice, much less Americo-Afro-Asian. The world contains socialist states also. To attempt to solve the international aspects of the Congo question without them is the parallel to tackling the internal aspects without Lumumba, that is, without the Congolese people.

Many people believe Irish neutrality died in the Congo. When O'Brien went there British papers were declaring that Irish neutrality could be a useful façade for rallying the Afro-Asians behind imperialist policies. Whether it is yet dead is a matter of opinion. Mercifully it refuses to lie down. Mr. O'Brien's courageous stand won universal support among the Irish people and his frank 'case history' perhaps also serves to warn that no matter how assiduously the rulers of small

countries curry favour with imperialism, the facts of life, through the agency of ordinary people, will inevitably force them back into conflict with it—or send them away down the river of history.

C. DESMOND GREAVES.

### Goering

Roger Manvell & Heinrich Fraenkel  
*Heinemann*. 430 pp. 35s.

THIS BIOGRAPHY is somewhat uneven. A minor fault is that it falls a little between two stools over the difficulty of writing a life of a man, who was as actively and prominently involved as Goering was in the running of Nazism throughout its existence, without at the same time writing the history of Nazism itself; and a more serious defect is that it gives an almost favourable and friendly picture of the truly abominable blackguard of whom the Nuremberg tribunal so rightly wrote: 'His guilt is unique in its enormity . . . The record discloses no excuse for this man'. It is not easy to understand how the writers, who carried out very full research, can have found it possible to say so much in the man's favour; they may have been caught by his superficial charm, or they have been 'leaning over backwards' in an effort to be objective. Whatever their reasons, the fault—as I see it—is there; it can be said in mitigation that they record faithfully and fully the innumerable matters and events which go to establish how vile Goering really was.

The book has two clear merits; firstly, it gives one more correct overall picture of Nazi rottenness and of the practice and technique of its leading figures in stabbing each other in the back for their own advantage; and secondly, it quotes some

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examples of the apparent gullibility of Chamberlain and his ministers, particularly Halifax, in swallowing any story the Nazis told them. (I say 'apparent' gullibility, for they were only too willing to swallow anything that would enable them to avoid action and favour the Nazis).

The book is curiously defective in dealing with the responsibility for the burning of the Reichstag. The writers deal with this at some length, but ignore a substantial part of the cogent evidence now available, to an extent which tends to shake faith in the thoroughness of the rest of their research. One particular failure is in respect of the Reichstag Fire Enquiry Commission, consisting of seven lawyers from seven different countries, which sat in London in September, 1933, heard a large body of evidence, and arrived at important conclusions which were well received

by the Press and the public. The writers totally ignore these conclusions, and one might suspect that they had never even heard of the Commission, if they had not mentioned that one of them attended its sittings. The degree of attention he paid to it may be judged by his statement that Sir Stafford Cripps 'played a prominent part' in it; the truth is that Cripps took no part whatever in its work, but merely attended on the opening day and made a five-minute speech of introduction and welcome. The statement in the book that the Enquiry was taking place when Goering was giving evidence at Leipzig is also curiously inaccurate; the Commission finished its work and published its conclusions before the Leipzig trial began.

D. N. PRITT, Q.C.

[Mr. Pritt was, of course, the President of the famous Reichstag Fire Enquiry Commission.—Ed., L.M.]

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

### BOOKS

- Congo My Country. Patrice Lumumba. Pall Mall Press with Barrie and Rockliff. 196 pp. 22s. 6d.  
 Collected Works. Vol. 5. V. I. Lenin. Lawrence and Wishart. 568 pp. 7s. 6d.  
 Destination: Amaltheia. Edited by Richard Dixon. Central Books and F.L.P.H. 420 pp. 5s.  
 A Key to Soviet Politics. Roger Pethybridge. Allen and Unwin. 208 pp. 21s.  
 The Road to Sharpeville. Bernard Sachs. Dennis Dobson. 190 pp. 25s.  
 Boys Will be Boys. E. S. Turner. Background Books, Daimon Press. 210 pp. 10s. 6d.  
 Genghis Khan. Ralph Fox. Background Books, Daimon Press. 178 pp. 10s. 6d.  
 The God of the Witches. Margaret A. Murray. Background Books, Daimon Press. 168 pp. 9s. 6s.  
 The Conservative Enemy. C. A. R. Crosland. Jonathan Cape. 252 pp. 30s.  
 My Old Man. Max Cohen. Hargreaves. 182 pp. 16s.  
 The Land of Foam. Ivan Yefremov. Central Books. 340 pp. 6s.  
 Let the Blood of Man Not Flow. M. Stelmalch. Central Books. 326 pp. 6s.  
 The Shop Stewards. G. W. Target. Gerald Duckworth. 304 pp. 18s.  
 John Brown. W. E. B. Du Bois. International Publishers (N.Y.). 414 pp. \$2.25.  
 Militarism and Industry. Victor Perlo. International Publishers (N.Y.). 208 pp. \$1.65.  
 Outside the Right. Fenner Brockway. Allen & Unwin. 232 pp. 25s.

### BOOKLETS

- Towns for Our Times. Labour Party. 40 pp. 2s.  
 Congo—Prelude to Independence. African Research & Publications. 120 pp. 2s. 6d.  
 General Strike in the North-East. History Group of the Communist Party. 20 pp. 1s. 6d.  
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 Diary of Ernest Jones, 1839-47. History Group of Communist Party. 22 pp. 1s. 6d.

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