August 1, 1966

Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Maryland

Dear sir:

We would appreciate receiving from you a copy of your publication, Whitewash, for review in the forthcoming issue of our magazine.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Maglin,
Book Review Editor
October 24, 1966

Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Maryland 20734

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find two copies of our notice of your publication, Whitewash, which appeared in the recent issue of our magazine.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Arthur Maglin
Book Review Editor
ating anecdotes with which he must have delighted his audiences in the pubs where he was lionized by both workers and intellectuals. He was always a class-conscious participant in life, with a gift for articulating the struggles of the poor, especially the soldiers and workers whose lives are held so cheap by the civil authorities.

He was immensely proud of his heritage—his parents who worked actively in the IRA, his uncle who wrote the Irish national anthem and the Irish revolutionary tradition of which he felt himself an integral part.

Constance Weissman

FREEDOM SUMMER by Sally Belfrage. Fawcett World Library. 256 pp. $ .75 paper.

This is a vivid account of the Southern struggle as it was in the summer of 1964. Miss Belfrage, a fine and sensitive writer, outlines the fears and motivations which lay behind her and others' reasons for volunteering to go to Mississippi to participate in a Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee summer project.

She tells of the "movement's" encounters with the federal government and of the total lack of response from the Justice Department. These experiences shed light on SNCC's subsequent evolution toward the concept of Black Power.

The debate between proponents of self-defense and philosophical pacifists continually pops up in the book. In the beginning, it occurs in a rather abstract way, in a workshop on nonviolence which the author dismisses, saying that "the meeting ended early so that a more relevant lesson could be conducted." Later on, in Greenwood, Miss., where white people were on a shooting rampage, an explosive situation creates a timely debate on the subject between several SNCC leaders, including Staughton Lynd.

Another figure referred to often is Stokely Carmichael, the present SNCC chairman. Miss Belfrage describes him as a leader, and one who has very definite ideas on self-defense. As he put it then, "We're not going to stick with this nonviolence forever. We didn't go shooting up their houses. It's not us who does that . . ."

Toby Rice

STALIN ed. by T.H. Rigby. Prentice-Hall. 182 pp. $1.95 paper.

This is a collection of materials about Stalin which provides a valuable outline of his career. It includes selections by Trotsky, Lenin, Deutscher, E. H. Carr and others. The articles by Robert H. McNeal and Robert C. Tucker are of more dubious value. They attempt to magnify Stalin's individual importance in order to point out the alleged dangers "inherent" in all socialist revolutions. And this is the viewpoint of Rigby's book as a whole. It concentrates on Stalin's personality and individual methods in such a way as to give the impression that Stalin rose to tyrannical heights on the basis of "greatness" alone.

What is omitted is an analysis of the historical conditions surrounding Stalin's rise, and above all the development of the Soviet bureaucracy itself. "Stalinism," Trotsky wrote in My Life, "is above all else the automatic work of the impersonal apparatus on the decline of the revolution."

Arthur Maglin

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE DECEMBRIST MOVEMENT by Marc Raffel. Prentice-Hall. 180pp. $2.95 paper.


PICKETS AT THE GATES by Estelle Fuchs. Free Press. 205pp. $2.95 paper.

LABOR IN A CHANGING AMERICA ed. by William Haber. Basic Books. 541pp. $5.95.

A GUIDE TO MARXISM AND ITS EFFECTS ON SOVIET DEVELOPMENT by P.H. Vigor. Humanities Press. 235pp. $6.00.


CHINESE COMMUNISM by Robert C. North. World University Library. 252pp. $4.05.

RED CHINA TODAY by Hugo Portisch. Quadrangle Books. 385pp. $6.95.


LETTERS FROM MISSISSIPPI ed. by Elizabeth Sutherland. Signet. 214pp. $.75 paper.


LATIN AMERICA by Tad Szulc. Atheneum. 185pp. $1.65 paper.


AMBIGUITIES AND CONTROVERSIES in Collision by George Balder. Pantheon Books. 276pp. $5.95.
