

**THE
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and
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PREFACE

The Socialist Register, 1966, is the third of a series of annual volumes of socialist analysis and discussion. As in the two previous volumes, our aim has been to select contemporary events, issues and ideas which are both of topical interest and also of lasting importance. We should perhaps make it clear once again that *The Socialist Register* is not intended as a record of events of the previous year, or as a calendar or chronicle. We are well aware that we do not "cover" large and important areas and issues: no such "coverage" is intended in any single volume.

The extremely encouraging response which the first two volumes have aroused among readers in Britain and many other parts of the world has confirmed our belief that there exists a deeply felt need among socialists everywhere for the kind of strict, undogmatic but committed socialist writing which we set out to publish. We hope that this third *Register* may further contribute to meeting this need, and play a part in encouraging more such analysis and discussion.

We bring to this venture a definite point of view which shows itself in what we ourselves write and in our choice of contributors and contributions. But, as we emphasised in the Preface to the first volume, we have no wish to imprison analysis in a narrow framework. We wish to promote a genuine discussion of theoretical and practical problems and we deplore the sectarianism which too often passes for socialist thinking and which makes serious analysis impossible. As editors, we are generally in accord with the temper and tenor of the essays we publish. But we must not necessarily be held to share all the views expressed by all our contributors; nor for that matter must they be thought to agree with all that we or other contributors write.

We have once again been very fortunate in being able to enlist a wide range of authors from different countries and thus to give to this volume the same international character that we gave to the previous ones, and which we feel to be of great importance.

Finally, our warm thanks are due to our contributors for their help and co-operation, and to Martin Eve for being such an understanding publisher. We also wish to thank Ann Collins and Monique Evans for their valuable help with the translations.

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