

## BOOK REVIEW

### PORTRAITS, POLITICAL AND PERSONAL

BY LEON TROTSKY

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A useful collection of Trotsky's brief biographical sketches, ranging from Marxist theoreticians (Liebknecht, Luxemburg, Kautsky, Plekhanov, Lenin, and Engels) to major Soviet politicians (Sverdlov, Stalin, Ioffe, Lunacharsky, Gorky, Zinoviev, Kamenev) to personal friends (Krupskaya, Glazman, Natalie Sedova, Leon Sedov). The major service rendered by this volume is the collection in one place of various biographical sketches published in Trotsky's *Sochineniia* [Works], *History of the Russian Revolution* (1932–33), and *Diary in exile 1935* (1958) as well as in various English periodicals, such as *Fourth International*, *The New International*, and *The Militant*.

The book can be used in conjunction with other biographical publications, such as Georges Haupt and Jean-Jacques Marie, *Makers of the Russian Revolution: biographies of Bolshevik leaders* (CHOICE, Jan. 1975), and A. V. Lunacharsky, *Revolutionary silhouettes* (CHOICE, Sept. 1969). It is highly recommended for all libraries, as is the entire series of Trotsky's writings being published by Pathfinder Press-Monad Press. The graduate student will probably prefer Trotsky's 12-volume *Sochineniia* and the impressive 12-volume *Writings of Leon Trotsky, 1929–1940*.