BOOK REVIEW

Where is Britain Going?

And other writings by Leon Trotsky

BY LEON TROTSKY

During the 1920s Leon Trotsky opposed his belief in permanent revolution to Joseph Stalin's conception of socialism in one country. This doctrinal debate was one aspect of the struggle for power between the two Bolshevik leaders after the death of Lenin in 1924. This book is a collection of Trotsky's views, as applied to Great Britain, written between 1925 and 1928. It consists of three parts, originally published separately. The first, "Where is Britain going?", is based on an American edition of 1925; the other two are brought together from various sources, and include some new translations from the Russian. There is a useful index, editorial notes dealing with the publishing history of the articles, and a partial listing of other works by Trotsky on Great Britain. Unfortunately, the introduction and explanatory notes (plagued by errors) are so heavily biased as to defeat their purpose: to convince the reader of the soundness of Trotsky's opinions. Nonetheless, wisely used, the book is a good antidote, for scholars as well as undergraduates, to the standard interpretations of British history, particularly of the General Strike of 1926.