

**Lenin, V. I. Lenin's Final Fight:
Speeches and Writings (1922-23).**

Pathfinder. 1995. c.320p. ed. by George
Fyson. index. ISBN 0-87348-807-3.
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The issues raised in this collection of Lenin's final works reflect his concerns and fears during his last year of intellectual activity: the condition and prospects of his republic, party and nationality matters, and letters to and from Trotsky. Why now? one can legitimately ask. Evidently Fyson, a former editor of Pathfinder (*The Truth About Yugoslavia*, Pathfinder, 1993), wishes to reaffirm Lenin's "proletarian internationalism" (shared with Trotsky) before Stalin's "bureaucratic caste consolidated its brutal hold and carried out its political counterrevolution." Right now, however, the tide is moving so strongly in another direction that the editor's zeal seems hardly worth the effort. Proletarian internationalism has lost its appeal, except in certain academic quarters, and Stalin's brutality is no longer viewed as a deviation from the revolution Lenin wrought but as a part of it. For comprehensive subject collections.—*R.H. Johnston, McMaster Univ., Hamilton, Ont.*