

## current reading

### The Crisis of Confidence

Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Houghton Mifflin. 313 pp. \$5.95

To the reassessment of American institutions and values now in progress, Mr. Schlesinger offers an historian's views with this group of essays subtitled "Ideas, Power and Violence in America." (A number have appeared elsewhere in the period 1967-69, but have been revised for the present volume.) He devotes sections to "Violence as an American Way of Life," "The Intellectual and American Society," "The Origins of the Cold War," "Vietnam: Lessons of the Tragedy," "Joe College, R.I.P.," and "The Prospects for Politics."

### Church, State and Chaplaincy

A. Ray Applequist, ed. General Commission on Chaplains and Armed Forces Personnel. 130 pp. \$1.50 (paper)

The Vietnam war has activated a concern in both the Christian and Jewish communities over the constitutional and religious validity of the military chaplaincy. This book is an attempt to provide a basis for informed discussion on the subject, supplying a brief review of legal and historical influences, reports and statements by religious agencies, a few descriptive and interpretative essays, and a reading list.

### The Atlantic Alliance: Its Origin and Its Future

John J. McCloy. Distributed by Columbia University Press. 83 pp. \$4.00

The 1968 Benjamin F. Fairless Memorial Lectures at Carnegie-Mellon University were delivered last November by Mr. McCloy, former High Commissioner to Germany, an advisor on arms control and disarmament matters to President Kennedy. His talks, now available in book form, concerned economic, military and political relations between the U.S. and Europe in connection with the changing status of NATO—a valuable alliance, McCloy asserts, still in jeopardy despite the lessons to be drawn from the Russian intervention in Czechoslovakia.

### The A.B.M. and a World Without War

Robert Pickus. World Without War Council. 86 pp. \$0.95 (paper)

This report offers "Background and Resources for Citizen's Action on Today's Crucial War/Peace Issue," including a selection of policy statements which cover a range of positions in the A.B.M. controversy, a short annotated bibliography and "a set of queries for organization leaders."

### The Politics of the Gospel

Jean-Marie Paupert. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. 174 pp. \$4.95

In his plea for "an evangelical politics," the author, a French Catholic layman trained in theology and philosophy, attempts to answer three questions: "What has Christ recommended in his preaching concerning the social relations of men? How do these prescriptions find their way or become blurred in the minds of Christians in accordance with the working rules that the Church finds or adopts in the world during the course of history? Which are the key points of contemporary awareness and within which challenges and fundamental positions are they to be found?"

### The Secret Road to World War II

Paul W. Blackstock. Quadrangle. 384 pp. \$9.50

The reader is led carefully through fields mined with propaganda, disinformation, assassination, fear and suspicion as the author, a former intelligence research specialist, traces the activities of Soviet and Western intelligence agencies during the years 1921-39. Of particular interest is Mr. Blackstock's rendering of the circumstances surrounding the Stalinist purges and the dictator's bids for an accommodation with Hitler's Germany.

### The Marxian Revolutionary Idea

Robert C. Tucker. Norton. 240 pp. \$5.95

Robert Tucker, Professor of Politics and Director of Russian Studies at Princeton, deals with Marxism both as theory and as ideology—"a radical social philosophy offering a vision of the good society and directions for its attainment." He has provided essays on "Marx and Distributive Justice," "Marxism and Modernization," "Marxism and Communist Revolutions," "The Deradicalization of Marxist Movements," and on "The Political Theory of Classical Marxism."

### War and Moral Discourse

Ralph B. Potter. John Knox. 123 pp. \$2.45 (paper)

"Men of conscience are obliged to do more than declare at a given moment that their sense of propriety has now been violated," writes Dr. Potter; ". . . critical reflection upon the criteria for defining justifiable and unjustifiable applications of force will be a perennial moral obligation and political necessity in a world not purged of enmity and strife." This is the central theme of his text and of the long bibliographic essay which follows.