

THE MEANING OF MARXISM

by

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BY THE SAME AUTHOR
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PREFACE

THIS BOOK IS LARGELY based on *What Marx Really Meant*, which I published in 1934. That work contained a good deal that was topical, especially in relation to the then recent conquest of power in Germany by the Nazis. So much has occurred since that, instead of merely revising the original text, I have thought better to use it as the basis for what is largely a new book. I have also altered the title, not only in order to mark this change, but also because what was said by reviewers and others at the time of the original publication convinced me that my title was liable to be misunderstood. What I was attempting then—and am attempting now—was not a summary of Marx's doctrines or merely an essay in interpretation of Marx's thought, but rather a revaluation of Marx's essential ideas and methods in relation to contemporary social structures and developments. Especially I was trying to consider the bearing of Marx's theories on the structure of social classes, which have altered greatly since he formulated his account of them. I think the new title better expresses what I had, and have, in mind.

I should like to thank Dr. D. B. Halpern for a very useful discussion of Marx's ideas, but I have of course no wish to saddle him with any of my conclusions.

G. D. H. C.

OXFORD.

May, 1948.

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