

Lengyel, Emil

"World without end - The Middle East"
5⁰⁰ NY 1953, Day, pp. 374

"barely an average work"
"borders on glibbery"
"offers opinions as facts" "misstatements"
"inaccuracies become ludicrous"
Am. Hist. Rev. 1954 Jan, P. 441

Lengyel Cites Record

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

The April 24 account in The Times of the banning of my textbook "The Subcontinent of India" by the Levittown, L. I., School Board fails to mention several highly pertinent facts which I brought out at the meeting of the board.

Far from being considered sympathetic to Communism, I am regarded as so unfriendly by the Soviet Union that it banned my book "1000 Years of Hungary" from the American National Exhibition in Moscow, arranged by our State Department. (The Times, July 25, 1959, "The Russians Screen Books at Exhibit.")

I also pointed out that the banning of my books was nothing unusual to me. The Nazis banned them too. They banned all my writings: "List of Harmful and Undesirable Publications," Dec. 31, 1938. (Official Nazi list.) While in the distant past, I also pointed out, my name appeared as a sponsor of anti-Nazi and pro-Ally organizations in very respectable company. For a good many years now my name has appeared as a sponsor of strongly anti-Communist organizations, including one which opposes the admission of Communist China to the United Nations.

EMIL LENGYEL.

Jackson Heights, N.Y., April 25, 1963,

NY Times
5/1/63

1965

In "From Prison to Power" (illus., 360 pages, Follett Publishing Co., \$6.95), Emil Lengyel, professor emeritus in history at New York University and chairman of the history department at Fairleigh Dickinson University, deals with heroes who are entirely different from Schweitzer and controversial in a radically different sense. All are national leaders who have spent some time in jails—their countrymen's or those of a colonial power—and graduated from there to high office.

The eight men studied are Kwame Nkrumah, Ahmed Ben Bella, Jomo Kenyatta, Habib Bourgiba, Sukarno, Archbishop Makarios III, Janos Kadar, and Wladyslaw Gomulka. All these political personalities exercise their power free of at least some

of the institutional restraints that limit the freedom of action of the leaders of traditional Western democracies. What motivates them as individuals is accordingly of great importance. Lengyel's book is a considerable help in some of these questions of individual psychology. Beyond that, Lengyel takes the time to go into matters of history so that it is possible, for example, to get some idea of how Cyprus got to its present condition from his biography of Makarios.

