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Finer: AMERICA'S DESTINY

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RECENT BOOKS

This department undertakes to note or review briefly current books on law and matters closely related thereto. Periodicals, court reports, and other publications that appear at frequent intervals are not included. The information given in the notes is derived from inspection of the books, publisher's literature, and the ordinary library sources.

BRIEF REVIEWS

AMERICA'S DESTINY. By *Herman Finer*. New York: MacMillan. 1947. Pp. 407. \$5.

Herman Finer, born in Roumania, lived most of his life in England where he served for many years on the staff of the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is at present professor of political science at the University of Chicago. His varied background and experience as well as his long intimacy with European problems peculiarly qualify him to write on the subject of international relationships. In this present book he endeavors to evaluate realistically the international forces at work, the problems of international scope and the efforts to secure world peace. He does not think that peace will be achieved through a world state, nor will education, though necessary, achieve the desired result in time. The only possible way to secure peace, he maintains, is through force, and the United States must exert it, at least until the United Nations is able. He insists that only when democracy is given world-wide acceptance will there be peace, and there cannot be such acceptance so long as the Russian Communist Party with its present policies exists. Thus he concludes that it is up to the United States to lead the world into democracy, rehabilitate the war-damaged economy of Europe, and ultimately force peace upon the world. Economic assistance must be given by the United States regardless of its cost. The expenditures must be made if another devastating war is to be averted. Thus the author propounds his thesis, writing in anticipation of the Truman Doctrine. While all may not agree with his conclusions, the frankness and realism of approach must be commended. This book certainly brings out the fundamental issues and subjects them to minute scrutiny.