

*Society of Friends
of Hegelian
Atheism*
SOVIET MARXISM & NATURAL SCIENCE, 1917-1932 by David Joravsky

Rev. Heritage, Ch. D. Prodox
1932, "Dial. of Nature" *Prodox's occupation of teaching atheism.*

Prodox
Karl Kautsky to Plekhanov: "I have never been strong in phil.,
altho I stand entirely on the point of view of dial.
mat., still I think that the *Geo. & His.* point of M&E is in the last
report compatible with neo-Kantianism. Bernstein was *only*
in this respect it would not disturb *the least.*"

Prodox
"Marx proclaimed no phil., but the end of all phil." Furthermore, continued

Prodox
"The decisive thing is that social consciousness is determined by social
being and not whether Mx is Machism or d.m. It is a ques. that is entirely
inconsequential for the clarity & the unity of our party. Indiv. coms. may
study this as pvt. people, as they may the ques. of electrons or Weismann's
law of heredity; the party should be spared this."

Prodox
Lenin & the Party'sness of Phil.

Prodox
(1903) split had no effect on incipient div.
in phil. 1905 Rev. again buried them. Only in 1908 dispute with Machists
& even then it was not to disrupt factional unity with Machists against Men-
delstev. The sources show that he (VIL) had a pol. aim in writing the book,
but it was not to join the phil. & pol. issues that Rus. Marxists were arguing
about; it was to separate them... as he wrote to Gorky "the Men. will
be reduced to politics & that is death for them." (Col. Wks. No. 34, p. 339)

Prodox
(A.M. Deborin, then a 27 yr. old, disciple of Plekhanov attacked VIL in 1908)

Acad not is review of Lenin bk - JSE XIV pp 329-333

Buchin
Alaska
c. 11/19/1918

of ab. Ch...
C...
C...
Red...
2/2/26

SOVIET MARXISM & NATURAL SCIENCE by David Joravsky, Columbia U. Press, 1961

Part I--The Prev. Rev. Heritage

I. Orthodox Marxism & Natural Science

p.6 "the groundlessness of the notion that Marx did not share Engels' view on phil. of natural science...."

p.8 re Mr's notes against vulgar materialism of (Vogt, 1873). Engels in Dial. of Nature pp.152-3 "not unpraiseworthy if narrow occupation of teaching atheism ot, to the Ger. Philistines"

p.10 : since in ~~the~~ Dialectics of Nature enemy was not Duhring's "ultimate truths" but "narrow-minded empiricism", "mechanistic materialism" "vulgar-evolutionism", etc. Hegel continued to be ~~the~~ here, so D. of N. p.155: "in whose... the synthesis of the sciences of nature and their rational grouping are a greater achievement than all the materialistic stupidities put together."

p.16 re Karl Kautsky "Marx proclaimed no phil., but the end of all phil" (RD: use this to show SD has long known how to misuse that statement but remember VII had high regard for KK & Mehring as philosopher, of M&E; pp.206-7, 255, 269)

p.18 re Plekhanovites like Aksel'rod the Orthodox accusing I for not expounding materialism but only 'naive realism' by ~~describing~~ objects & our perceptions of them, and thus being akin to Machism/Both Lenin

p.19 & Plekhanov were chary of involvement in epistemological problem raised by their commitment to mat.

**** p.20 re Plekhanov's interest in phil. taking him back to materialists of 17th & 18th c. "WHILE LSS STUDIES CONCENTRATED IN THE END ON HEGEL" "L's Notebooks are tantalizingly suggestive of a new turn in his thought" re M&E, p.257 on Engels' "method vs. letter" Q the correct Engels "with each epoch-making discovery even in the sphere of natural science! (not to speak of the his. of mankind), MATERIALISM INEVITABLY MUST CHANGE ITS FORM..." saying discovery of atom's divisibility does not invalidate materialism since "the sole property of matter is bound up with being an obj. reality existing outside our mind" (M & E Cp, 287_vg)

#2. LENIN & THE PARTYNESS OF PHIL.

pp.24-25 are good for showing that even when Lenin used the word, partyness in 1894 it was in sense of ~~work~~ class.

Cf. VII, Coll. Wks. 24, p.2 for statement by VII "I am very conscious of my phil. ignorance and do not intend to write on these themes until I study up." (1899) In Siberia he studied up. "HE WAS INITIALLY TAKEN IN BY A NEW TREND IN PHIL. REVISIONISM THAT DID NOT OPENLY CRITICIZE M&E" -- Bogdanov. Wks. XIII, p.412 "Plekhanov explained to me the erroneousness of Bogdanov's views." 1903 made no difference since PL & VII were at 1st on same side but in 1904 Plekhanov moved to Menshevism while Bogdanov wanted to join Bolsheviks, VII thereupon declared phil. to be "neutral" or party to be philosophically neutral. Since 3 of the eds of Bol. newspaper -- Bogdanov, Bazarov & Lunacharsky were revisionists in phil. Men went at it hammer and tongs.

pp.31-33 1908 -- with rev. defeated & fever of abstract discussion on Coll. Wks. XIII, p.415 has 1st attack against the Machists esp. Lunacharsky for "religious atheism" "deification" of human powers -- I would rather be quartered than agree to participate in an organ or a group preaching such things/"I then plunged into study of phil. from which he emerged, fall of 1908, with MAT&E C pp.33-34 criticizes Bertand Wolfe for aiding the myth of partyness as explained in 1930 to bt. that of Lenin. "The sources show that he had a real aim in write bk (Mat&EK) but it was NOT to join the phil. pol. issues ~~...~~.... IT WAS TO SEPARATE THEM."

VB
1/14/72
H.M.'s for...
in same category
also
for
Bogdanov
this
interpretation
in
Marx
Wks.

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Q VII, Vol 134, p. 339 to Gorky: "The Mensheviks will be reduced to politics & that is death of them."

pp. 36-37 DJ is again excellent in showing that even in M&EC there was no "partyness" in phil. but only parties of idealism vs. mat. & v. defended both Plekhanov & Akal'rod against Bolshheviks Bogdanov & Bazarov--his was a supra-factional understanding of the partyness in phil.

p. 40--gd on phil. "tendencies" even after Bogdanov left & Zinoviev's Res. that Bol. are not after all neutral

Part II--The Sov. Setting, 1917-29 who was a Deborinite himself PP. 47-49 (V.G. AT EXPOSING BOTH Mitin & Stalinists, on one hand, and Westerners like Wetter on the other, relying on emigres.

15. The Cultural Rev; Marxist Philosophers, p. 76ff

p. 80: cf. VIII COLL. WKS. Vol. 38 pp. 206-08 on letter to PZM "The group of eds. & contributors of the magazine Under the Banner of Marxism should, in my opinion, be a kind of 'Society of Materialist Friends of the Hegelian Dialectics.'" (FRIENDS OF THE HEGELIAN DIALECTICS such a society was actually formed; PZM #12/1928 says it fused with Societ. of Militant Materialists to become Society of Militant Materialist Dialecticians

p. 84 Riazanov not censured till 1931 for views that he was not a Leninist.

p. 86--Bogdanov's prog.--Proletkult--VII declared hostility to it in May 1919 when he discovered its great influence at a conf. of Sov. educators.

Part III The Anomalous Rejection of Positivism ch. 6--Mechanism as a tendency

Mitin p. 96 in prol. needs neither religion nor phil. but only science: "SCIENCE TO THE BRIDGE, PHIL. OVERBOARD"

pp. 96-98 aftn. 27-39 on pp. 338-9 are v.g. about LT & NB, cf also on LT's reductionism both Mendeleev article, 3rd Int. after VII, p/84; esp. reducing VII's Bol. conceit to "chemical conceit"

p. 102--v.g. on Bukh's "search for a purely mechanical world view in the laws of thermodynamics--& that is the essence of the notorious principle of equilibrium." And then DJ g (I think of Hmp. 6, of) NE: "theory of equilibrium cleansed of idealist elements." :: M&E emancipated dialectics from its mystical husk in action, i.e. by applying the dial. method materialistically in the investigation of various field of nature & society."

Ch. 7--1st Challenges to Mechanism, 1922-24 p. 111 on Adoratsky plus fnp. 342

Ch. 8--The Formation of Factions 1924-26

Ch. 13--Social Theorists in the Deborinite Factions contains info on L's Phil.

Ntbks. p. 200, 1st fragment pub'd in 1925 by Deborin, but in 1926

Adoratsky who is mechanist became ed. of Notes & kept them from publication; finally 1st vol. appeared in 1929 with Deborin writing

Preface--April 1929--Adoratsky gives main speech at conf. on L's Phil. works

Again speaks of purging Hegel's dialectics of "idealism" while p. 201 Deborinites stressed neither the purging NOR THE USE OF L's Notebooks

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Call him a line

Wetter

Correct

Friends of Hegelian Dialectics

New in his death in 1928

of M&E ex. Review of M&E in 1922

1925 ably... 1926... 1929...

Deborin

Adoratsky

Adoratsky kept NB from pub

Part IV--The Great Break, 1929-32

of Almon
"Spinner - Sov. Phil"
entirely under Borly SW
Luzhkov

p.250 For philosophers this was 12/29 Stalin's address to 'Conf. of Agrarian Economists.

p.253 re 1st defector from Deborin's entourage of M.B. Mitin who had graduated from Inst. of Red Professorship the yr. before to become, at 29, asst. dir. of Krupskaja Academy of C-ist Educ & the 1st creates partyness (p.254) as the only doctrine, etc. etc. p/262 PZM ceased to appear

My Party
M. Deborin

since Deborin had been its ed' then to remove D.B. Riazanov who had been head of Institute of M&E. V.V. Adoratsky took place as he joined Bolshevizers in 1930. Inst. of Phil. absorbed by Academy of Sciences

1929, M. Deborin's ed. book Stalin will read in archive part 1/20
PZM Com. P. Valosian

Part V--Physics & Biology in 1st phase, 1917-32

Ch. 20--Conclusion p. 311ff

of adv pp 263-7
1929
reoffered

Ch. XIII pp 198-204 plus
publ. inst. Deborin
PZM 1925, 1927-28
1929, 1930-32

362-3
1929
1929/10-11
1929-30

Adoratsky's work was approved
Some Deborin's work
fully approved in 1929

approved by Adoratsky
fully was his Deborin
write Preface
Jan 19 p 302
Adoratsky did report
at City of April 1929

1941 R. A. Deborin
that Marx was a
variety of Stalinism!!

"until" - writes as a
Deborin's electees, until
then, this book
with the guidance of Deborin's
is the most important
in the Deborin's electees.