

CU Russian Institute
3/3/82

KG
P93
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US CC
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P87
Wcho -
Centralism

RL 1905, 1919

Handwritten: RL 1905, 1919
Handwritten: RL 1905, 1919
Introduction: Were 2 days early, and 11 years late, to witness the birth of RL. The nearly daily headlines from Aug. 1980 to Dec. 12, 1981, however, ~~has~~ opened so many new pages of spontaneity and organization, creativity and its freedom struggles -- the very touchstone, action, heart-beat, soul, theory of all that RL stood for, lived for, and died for -- shows how very much alive she is today. As she put it, when she returned to Poland in 1905: "The revolution is magnificent, all else is bilge."

Let's meet her. (Show portrait). I'm showing this, not to display her multidimensionality, but to show how very far removed is individuality, in her case, from the "narrowness" implied in the Quote... Precisely because the revolutionary work must all be done under the whip of the counter-revolution, the challenge again is to our age. *Handwritten: Am. both in her case & ours*

I. ACTION AND THOUGHT : the 1905 -07 REVOLUTION AND THE PIVOTAL CONGRESS

She no sooner entered the German scene, 1899, than it was clear that revolution -- and that both theoretically, practically, and the ideological fight against the first appearance of revisionism from within, became the pivotal question of her life.

Description of 1905, especially with printers; General Strike; 1907 Congress in London and in Stuttgart, and Party School.

Handwritten: Because male chauvinism at the very moment when she...

Handwritten: It also happened in the year of the world...

II. FLASH OF GENIUS ON IMPERIALISM AND BREAK WITH KK -- AS PATHS TO REVOLUTION

Male-chauvinism rears its ugly head.

Q pp. 40-42

Nettl's "The Lost Years", 1906-09. *Handwritten: Break with Zogiches*

RL alone saw the opportunism in the GSD, and broke with KK before outbreak of WW I.

Handwritten notes:
leads
break
1910-11
when to
Prestholdt
and for 1910-09
The
He who was
a male chauvinist
Could have been better

1905-06 ↓ + (Rev. to RL)

Handwritten: Done only once in the face of Rev.

ORG.
No. 1/14

14701

III. ORGANIZATION, NATIONAL Q. AND ANTY-WAR

I have delayed until now the question of form of organization (which I'm sure many of you have waited for impatiently, as if I was going to skip the question of her so-called "anti-Leninism"), not because I wish to step gingerly on the matter of her debate with Lenin in 1904, but because it was in 1914 and 1917 that it became both concrete as against the abstractions of 1904, and all the contradictions are clearly seen then. Now, 1904. Q pp. 88, 91, 93

If Lenin didn't make his point then, and certainly was wrong both on elitism and "factory discipline", once WWI broke out, and RL continued in her stubbornness on the NQ, Lenin certainly was right when he called it "half-way dialectics."

On the other hand, she was right again once the 1917 revolution broke out, and she warned against making a virtue out of necessity. Q pp. 97-98.

And, and, and...Here is the original greatness and meaning far beyond the moment. PENTHESILEA + Q.

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IV. REVOLUTIONS, RUSSIAN, GERMAN, 1917, 1919

Q. "Order reigns in Berlin..."

Since I must follow this up with her brutal murder it may seem flighty rhetoric to use the quote, whether that be for her day or for ours. The truth, however, is -- and that is the greatness of Marx's Marxism, which was her way of life, even when she disagreed and was so wrong in her disagreement on the NQ -- precisely in the TUNING of Marx's theory of permanent revolution. It was after the defeat of the 1848-49 revolutions, And it reappeared in an entirely new form -- the prediction of a revolution in Russia, his nemesis until that day, ahead of those in the West.

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