

April 2, 1984

To the Philosophic-Technical Committee:

Dear Colleagues:

Yesterday, when I heard Mary Joan's supplementary report which focused on the Marxist-Humanist Body of Ideas as traced through the four bound volumes of N&L in terms of one specific force of revolution, the Black Dimension, I decided that it was no accident at all that it was part of our very last Class on Marx's Marxism for our age. This becomes especially urgent at a moment when the Center is moving to a new locale and the tasks of the new PTC will be to plan each issue never for a moment forgetting the universality of what we are. Mary Joan's report was excellent and would certainly make the newest member of the PTC feel that they really have gone through the whole history of our existence and, in that framework, project the immediate concrete as universal. May I suggest that the PTC, in its own name, ~~publish~~ issue its own bulletin for pre-convention discussion in which Mary Joan's report is included, along with a report of the PTC Chairman, Eugene, and whatever other articles are submitted.

The whole question of a "technical" committee that is truly philosophic characterizes no other newspaper committee concerned with space, length, column and page relationships, headlines, endings, subheads that, at the same time, maintains content of the original ~~has~~ article as well as those related to the same subject or those so different that nevertheless present the whole not as merely lying side by side but projecting dialectic relations. Since Chicago will be new to all this and, like any local, is concerned with its contribution and not the country's or the international contributions it can learn a lot before ever it becomes its responsibility to become the home of NEWS & LETTERS. Of course, no matter where the home of N&L is, the REB remains the one to decide the general direction of each monthly issue but the PTC is the one that concretizes its appearance that is not mere "show" but the way ~~expressing~~ manifests itself. Hence the reason I am suggesting Detroit as home tells its experience to Chicago as new home.

Yours,

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