



TRENT UNIVERSITY PETERBOROUGH ONTARIO CANADA

K9J 7B8

Department of Sociology

Raya Dunayevskaya,
c/o News and Letters,
59 East Van Buren St., Room 707,
Chicago, Illinois 60605
U.S.A.

12 February 1985

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Toronto Collective of the Insurgent Sociologist. The Toronto Collective is responsible for soliciting and editing book reviews and review essays. You are probably familiar with the Insurgent Sociologist, which is published quarterly at the University of Oregon, with editorial collectives in Eugene, Oregon; Binghamton, New York; and Toronto.

We would like to know if you would be prepared to write a review of The Communist Ideal in Hegel and Marx by David MacGregor (University of Toronto Press, 1984).

We propose a short review of about 1000 words. Enclosed please find a copy of the Insurgent Sociologist guide lines for book reviewers. I would appreciate hearing whether or not you are interested in doing the review and an estimate of when you could submit it. Of course you might prefer to examine the book before deciding whether you will do the review. I will arrange to send a copy of the book as soon as I hear of your interest. Please reply to me at the above address.

We hope that you are able to do the review. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours fraternally,

Chris Huxley,
for the Toronto Collective,
Insurgent Sociologist.

cc. Robin Ostow (Toronto Collective)
encl.

17058

RD Not fully correct

February 23, 1985

Chris Huxley
Peterborough Ontario Canada

Dear Chris Huxley,

Thank you for your letter of 2/11/85, received in Chicago 2/20. I am indeed interested in any fairly serious work on Hegel and Marx, especially when it makes the claim (as I understand it does) that "The Communist Ideal in Hegel and Marx". The 1974 Convention of the Hegel Society of America that heard my paper, "Hegel's Absolute as New Beginning" would hardly agree with my contention that the Absolute Idea as New Beginning "is not exactly a summons to the barricades, but Hegel is asking us to have our ears as well as our categories so attuned to the 'Spirit's urgency' that we rise to the challenge of working out, through 'patience, seriousness, suffering and the labor of the negative,' a totally new relationship of philosophy to actuality and action as befits a 'birthtime of history'. This is what makes Hegel a contemporary." (Art and Logic in Hegel's Philosophy, p. 175)

Am I correct in concluding that you do not credit Professor David MacGregor with all that seriousness when you assign the review to be only 1,000 words? I am a good disciplinarian when it is myself I am disciplining and thus you will get what you asked for since that evidently was the considered view of your collective. And of course The Insurgent Sociologist's 8th guideline for book reviewers is unequivocal about "the book under review should not serve merely as a point of departure for the reviewer's argument."

Please send me a review copy to my home address, above, but I should warn you that the earliest I shall be able to turn to it is March 22, and you should have it by the end of March. The point is that I have just finished ~~working on~~ my latest work Women's Liberation and the Dialectics of Revolution: Reaching for the Future. And now I must turn to preparation for a March 21 lecture that the Wayne State University Labor and Urban Affairs are sponsoring on "Dialectics of Revolution: American Roots and World Humanist Concepts", 7-9 PM, after which we will walk over to the opening of an exhibition of a selection from my archives, Marxist-Humanism from 1941 until today.

Sincerely yours,

Raya Dunayevskaya

P.S. Under separate cover I sent you my work for the Marx Centenary, Rosa Luxemburg: Women's Liberation and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution, because I thought you might wish to review it as that is the only work that presents an heretofore unknown feminist dimension of that great spontaneist Rosa Luxemburg.

17059



TRENT UNIVERSITY PETERBOROUGH ONTARIO CANADA

K9J 7B8

Department of Sociology

6 March, 1985

Dear Raje Dunnevalky,

We are very pleased to hear
that you will be doing the review
for Immigrant Sociologist.

I have written you under separate
cover, but I want to get this in the
mail right away.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Huxley
for the Toronto Collection of Immigrant
Sociologist

17060

THE INSURGENT SOCIOLOGIST

Department of Sociology
University of Toronto
563 Spadina Avenue
Toronto M5S 1A1

3 September 1985

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

Thank you for your review of David MacGregor, which I received back in late April. We congratulate you on completing the review so promptly. I must apologise for not sending an acknowledgement sooner. Thank you also for the copy of News and Letters. I was very interested to read about the Reuther Library exhibit. I once visited the Reuther Library. I'm glad to see they are serving progressive causes.

Following our usual procedure two members of the Toronto Collective read your review. We also solicited the comments of someone not associated with the Collective who has a specialized knowledge of Hegel. A regular meeting of the Collective then considered the views of all three readers and decided that we would definitely like to publish the review subject to reaching agreement on revisions to which we hope you will agree. We would greatly appreciate your consideration of the following two main areas of concern:

First, we recommend that the first part of the review be elaborated to provide for more development of your summary of MacGregor's main argument and of the criticisms that you make of his book. This part of your review could be expanded a bit, with more transition sentences and perhaps more attention to textual references.

Having allowed for some elaboration in the first part of your review we suggest consideration be given to simplifying the exposition of Hegel's ideas on pages 3 and 4. We found your discussion to be stimulating but we also tend to agree with our reader who expressed the opinion that anyone not familiar with Hegel might have difficulty with these two pages. Our reader suggests that instead of such an in-depth analysis you could concentrate on your important critical observation that MacGregor bases much of his claim for parallelism not on the Philosophy of Right but the Logic (the last chapter of the Logic at that!).

I might add that a minor point raised was whether Marx wrote a paragraph by paragraph of the whole of the Philosophy of Right or of about one third of it. Of course, on that matter we completely defer to your authority.

17061

Apart from the last point, which might appear as a quibble, I hope we are not asking for too much in these suggestions. I am sure you could make revisions to accommodate these concerns without much work and we will be able to send off the review for publication.

E. J. ...

I might add that while we would welcome you doing any changes at your earliest convenience we are, if necessary, quite prepared to wait to suit your schedule of activities. For my part I promise to respond much more promptly to any future communication from you. Please do not hesitate to let me know if any of our observations strike you as inappropriate. We recognize, of course, that you will not want to change your opinion of the MacGregor book. We would not ask you to do that or interfere with the integrity of your review. But we look forward to receiving any changes you feel you can make which go some way to meeting our concerns. We will be honoured to have your contribution appear in the pages of the Insurgent Sociologist.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Huxley

Chris Huxley.

(for Tui Mearns)

encl. copy of review.

Sept. 11, 1985

Dear Chris Huxley:

My schedule for this year and next is so very tight that I couldn't, under any circumstances, even if I wanted to, revise my review of David MacGregor's book for the Insurgent Sociologists. My new work, Women's Liberation and the Dialectics of Liberation: Reaching for the Future, has finally come off the press, and while I'm very busy lecturing and promoting that work I am, according to my time-table, already two years late with my next work, The Dialectic of "the Party", which traces the work of all post-Marx Marxists and their separation of what Marx had kept as a unity -- philosophy of organization as well as of revolution. Since you have not published my review, I consider myself free to publish it where I please.

Under separate cover, I am having a review copy of my work sent to the Insurgent Sociologist.

Yours,



17063



TRENT UNIVERSITY PETERBOROUGH ONTARIO CANADA

K9J 7B8

Department of Sociology

19 September 1985

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

I trust you have received my letter dated 3 September 1985, and the copy of your review. This is just a short note to inform you that, should you want to get in touch with me for any reason, it would be better to write to me c/o Trent University, rather than to the University of Toronto address.

I can be reached at:

Christopher Huxley,
Otonabee College,
Trent University,
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 7B8

Mail coming to the above address will get there much faster than if you were to send things through to Toronto.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Huxley.

17064



TRENT UNIVERSITY PETERBOROUGH ONTARIO CANADA

K9J 7B8
Department of Sociology

8 November 1985

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

Thank you for your letter of September 11, 1985. I was disappointed to hear that you are unable to make any revisions to your review of David MacGregor's book, but I do appreciate that you are working to a busy schedule.

✓ The Toronto Collective has discussed your response and has instructed me to ask you to reconsider your decision to withdraw your review. We consider your review to be sufficiently important to justify publication in its present form and would like to proceed on that basis. ✓

I hope this option is still open. I look forward to hearing from you.

✓ Thank you for arranging to have a review copy of your latest work sent to us. ✓ Since I have not received it here at Trent I assume that it has been sent or is being sent to our Toronto address.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Huxley

Chris Huxley,
for the Toronto Collective.

The Insurgent Sociologist

17065

November 25, 1985

Chris Huxley
for The Insurgent Sociologist
Trent University
Peterborough, Canada

Dear Chris Huxley,

Your letter of November 8* was welcome both because it showed that the Insurgent Sociologist (despite our differences on what I submitted to them upon request) wants to retain relations with me and because I too want to keep up that relationship.

Your concept and practice of time and my concept of and practice vary, however, so sharply that I cannot possibly resubmit the review you had wanted revised since, as I wrote you on September 11, your non acceptance of my manuscript as I had written it freed me to publish it elsewhere. As a Marxist-Humanist, I try very hard to practice Marx's concept to time as the "space for human development" not just "in general", even though that means a half century of following human development in the objective situation, but as I allot my own time between daily activities in labor, in the Black movement, WLM, etc. as well as in philosophy and journalistically. It means the projection of Marxist-Humanism in speeches, letters, reviews and even books. In the specific time at issue (i.e. the review for you) my latest work Women's Liberation and the Dialectics of Revolution: Reaching for the Future had just come off the press and I was bound for New York, the national publishing center we all know, for a series of lectures, but already I was thinking and making notes for the new book I am planning, The Dialectic of the Party.

* The date of your letter differed from the post office date which was Nov. 13, and arrived at my home on the 20th where I had just returned from a very exhaustive lecture tour in New York.

** The three lectures listed in the enclosed leaflet -- at the New School, NYU, etc. do not account for all the interviews I had given from the N.Y. Times to Columbia University student paper The Spectator, and the radio interviews whether it be on the Caribbean Magazine program to the one over WBAI on WL which Dr. Blanche Cook of John Jay College at CUNY had extended to all four of my major works and indeed showed the greatest interest in what I said on the dialectics of the party. What interested me most in the present reviews of my other works -- and that became another interview for me with David Beasley who reviewed at one and the same time the Coal Miners' General Strike pamphlet I co-authored and my Rosa Luxemburg, Women's Liberation, and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution. (review enclosed) It is the fact that the latest work on women's liberation has gained all that extra interest because, since it assembles 35 years of my writing on a single subject, it actually is key to the dialectics of revolution as Marxist-Humanism sees it, from 1905 to the undeclared Civil War in South Africa. I do hope the Insurgent Sociologist will review it.

17066

Frankly, I was rather taken aback when you returned my manuscript, that a collective like the Toronto Collective, when it invites someone with different views like me, takes it upon itself to ask the writer to revise. It is not a question of disagreeing -- I always welcome commentary on my writings and enjoy the battle of ideas, no matter how sharply critical one is of my ideas. But I expect this to be expressed separately, not a revision of my views. I do not accept the concept that is prevalent in academic journals that they do not publish an invited contribution without their suggested revisions.

Because your publication is so different an audience than News & Letters I thought you may be interested in printing my review (enclosed) of Professor Dupre's Marx's Social Critique of Culture. As you know he was President of the Hegel Society of America when, though we are at polar opposites in thinking, he made it possible for me to deliver a paper at the 1974 Convention of the HSA on "Hegel's Absolute Idea as New Beginning" (Humanities Press, 1980 in Art and Logic in Hegel's Philosophy). I would like to get a more academic audience for my review of his latest work than our proletarian publication gets, but of course you will be the judge of that.

Yours,



Enclosures:
Review by David Beasley
Review of Dupré
NY lecture tour leaflet

17067