

February 13, 1980

Thank you very much for your note (the postmark on the envelope was Jan. 30) which seemed very warm and made me wish all over again that I could meet you and your family, but time continues to be a race I lose. Perhaps in summer it may be possible.

Your article, "The Problem of the Universality of Social Relations in Classical Marxism" interested me quite a bit. I was especially glad to see your critique of Lukacs' Ontologie-Marx, even though I'm not sure that we do have the same view. What got me very angry at Lukacs' work was that, whether it was only subjectively motivated for trying to remain kosher, or objectively his ideas had by then become so integrated into the society that is -- and you know that I consider Russia a state-capitalist society -- that it came naturally to him to define the most capitalistic of all categories, socially necessary labour time, as socialism, the point remained that that's all he had to hold out for the Russian workers to keep producing more and more and more. I remember long, long ago when I first read Lukacs' "What is Orthodox Marxism?" and became so enamoured, especially of the way he grasped Marx's statement that "Time is the space for human self-development" and then became confronted with his "Ontologie", where work, far from being any sort of self-activity, was factory clock, socially necessary time labor ... well, I just couldn't take it.

What is it you are doing now on those last years of Marx, and what is called the Asiatic Mode of Production, but which I consider is the restatement of Marx by himself of everything from Alienated Labour and Man/Woman relationship needing to be totally reconstructed on genuinely new human beginnings?

Yes, I did hear from Lurie, but I did not have a record of Trotsky's voice. He certainly lives nearer to me geographically. Do you visit him, by any chance? I could come to London, Ontario, fairly easily.

15221

1/30/80

Уважаемая Рая!

1/30/80

Спасибо за статью о Р.Люксембург. Мне она очень понравилась. Надеюсь в свое время получить всю работу.

Я изучал Люксембург мало, хотя её "Введение в политическую экономию" штудировал основательно, поскольку оно наводяще в проблемах, которые меня интересуют больше всего. Я имею в виду, прежде всего, т.н. азиатский способ производства. Она, Люксембург, да, пожалуй, еще Плеханов были очень чувствительны к азиатской проблематике, тогда как Ленин вовлекался в её обсуждение под воздействием доводов своих оппонентов.

Очень редко пишу Вам последнее время. Сожалею, но, думаю, что Вы меня правильно понимаете: все-таки эмиграция связана с большими и разнообразными перегрузками.

Много занимаюсь сейчас теорией сознания у Маркса и его последними годами.

Если к Вам обратится за советом Ш.Дурин, то это с моего ведома. Я дал ему Ваш адрес. Надеюсь, вы не будете возражать.

Пишите, Рая.

*Миша*

Искренне Ваш

P.S. Не собираетесь ли подвигаться в южных краях? Я и моя семья там бы рады все увидеть.