

July 14, 1955

Dear Com. Chaulieu:

Now that NEWS & LETTERS has gotten a certain momentum of its own, I am thinking of returning to work on my book on Marx and Lenin which I haven't been able to touch for over two years, although I had put in a decade of work on it prior to that.

I do not know whether you know that I have been working quite steadily on the philosophic aspects rather than the economic. It began in 1948 when I translated Lenin's Philosophic Notebooks but then it was not only the practical work that kept me tied down but the fact that Johnson's predominant interest was literature and my work on the Absolute Idea seemed to go by the wayside. It has dawned on me now that you might be interested and could participate in the actual work on the book. In any case I enclose two of my letters on it and I would greatly appreciate your comments. (Incidentally I would like to have these letters returned to me.)

I wondered whether you could get me a Chronique of Marx's Life. I would prefer the Russian edition (*Хроника*) but will accept the French edition. It was issued by the M-E-L Institute and I didn't used to pay much attention to it since it is reconstructed by them not a diary of Marx. But I find it is very useful and there is no way I can obtain a copy here. I would be glad to reciprocate by sending you material from here that you may want. I was wondering, for instance, whether you have a copy of Reason and Revolution (Hegel and Marx) by Herbert Marcuse which is quite a good book and on the American scene is the only one that dealt with the subject seriously. Marcuse happens to be very interested in my work now and if you enter the correspondence on it, I will send you his letters as well. He is a scholar, not a practitioner, and is acting as a bystander on the question of a movement not alone from theory to practice but from practice to theory, but is very worthwhile to talk to in any case.

Thanks for the latest copy of Socialisme ou Barbarie. I note you are having a discussion on the production of a workers' paper. I thought I would write a Two Worlds column on the same question and, if you are interested, send it to you ahead of its actual appearance in NEWS & LETTERS so that it could be published simultaneously here and in your magazine as a contribution to the discussion and lectures you are carrying on now. I assume you are reading NEWS & LETTERS and await your comments.

Yours,

I do not want coverage the European press is giving the wildcats here but you no doubt have followed it in NEWS & LETTERS. In the issue just coming off the press (No. 3) I devote TWO WORLDS to it. We consider it important and would appreciate its being translated into French for which I herewith enclose it.

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