

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024
November 5, 1971

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

Please forgive the tardiness of this letter. I read the manuscript which Eugene Gogol sent on to me immediately upon my receipt of it, with fascination, admiration, and enlightenment. I had intended to write to you immediately thereafter, but then the agon of a new term of teaching, the difficulties of getting new classes underway, the distractions of having to deal with such problems as trying to find jobs for one's students, the writing of letters of recommendation, and the like, all this swamped me, and made it impossible to formulate, in the ways I should like to have done, my responses to your fine study of Hegel. I know of no one who covers as much of the substance of Hegel's achievement in so short a space as you have done. I would not presume to offer any criticism of it, so obviously does your learning on matters Hegelian surpass my knowledge of the subject. I had some difficulty with the syntax from time to time, but this is almost inevitable when one is trying to deal with so original a thinker as Hegel. Still, it is to be hoped that you will have the manuscript thoroughly proofread for the eliminations of certain turns of phrase that are more Russian (or German) than English in the final version. Not in such a way as to change the substance of your arguments, but only to make clearer to the English reader the distinctions which you draw so well in the interior of the Hegelian articulation of ideas. On page 8, for example, line 3, I trust that you mean "immanent" rather than "imminent." I noted a number of such lapses, but they are no doubt more of a typographical than logical nature. The discussion of the Logic is especially fine, and I am sure that the entire exegesis will be received well by those concerned to close the gap between theory and practice in a constructive and creative way. I look forward to reading your book, and especially the sections on Sartre and Mao. There are few people working today so competent to interpret these thinkers in terms consistent with their own formulations of their positions.

Cordially,
Hayden White
Hayden White

14133