

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACKAWANNA 4-1000

May 1, 1944

Dear Rae:

I want to thank you very much for letting me see your study. I thought it was a brilliant job. Some of the data you presented was wholly new to me. Unlike you, I do not consider that the viewpoint determines the value of such a work. If it did, of what value would be the tradition of Socrates, who defended slavery? I found no difficulty whatever (save in connection with the "law of motion" of the economy, which you must explain to me in words of a few syllables) in extracting your information from your pious beliefs. Our Journal has pious beliefs, too, only we try always to be aware of them.

With your conclusions I agreed thoroughly. One can argue, perhaps, whether the Russian economy is State capitalism or a managerial economy, that is, that the dictatorship of the proletariat, by a managerial revolution, has become a dictatorship of the functionaries. I think the latter arises from Marxist hair-splitting rather than economic analysis. For its objection to the State capitalism label seems to lie in its belief that capitalism is a system based on the exclusive ownership of the means of production, etc., when the fact is that under all systems the vital relationship is control; whether secured by ownership, political position, legal position, etc.

I meant to send you a letter pointing out a few technical deficiencies in your statistical work in places, but I'll go over it with you some time. I do think you should be more careful about style, and you should leave the political wisecracks to the editorial writers.

My eyes are bleary from reading proof, and the end is not yet: the April-July issue of The Journal, which will be published in honor of Franz Oppenheimer, will run 230 pages. In addition, we are publishing a book of his which I must prepare for the printer. I had hoped that I might run over for lunch tomorrow, but it is out of the question. I have to get this issue off. Many thanks for pushing the quarterly in Mount Vernon. I am now taking a week off, so I can get this work done. When I am back I hope you will let me see your study in value theory. As for my German, I regret to say that although I studied it for five years, I have forgotten it from disuse. To get Oppenheimer's work done (after he had roughed out the English himself) I must have constant recourse to a dictionary. Can't you get a French, Spanish or Italian translation? I could help you with them; the Spanish I could read to you readily. Certainly it must be in French, at least. But the German--pshah! I should waste your time. All good wishes,

Sincerely, *Will*

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"

8962

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACEAWANNA 4-1000

May 12, 1944

Dear Rae:

I hope you don't construe my failure to call you up and arrange a meeting to get your study in the theory of *value* to mean that I am not interested in it. The fact is I am keenly interested, and grateful to you for your willingness to let me see it.

The office has me working until 6 in the morning on account of the possible invasion, and that has me all thrown off schedule. I can't phone you in the morning, for I see little prospect of my having any mornings for the rest of the year.

However, some weeks ago I made a lunch date with the editor of a philosophical quarterly for noon next Monday. (I kicked at noon, but he couldn't make it later, as he has to teach a class). I can't get hold of him to call it off, so I shall stay at a hotel in the neighborhood Monday morning, to get a few hours sleep, and then I'll lunch with him. Now if you happen to be free that afternoon, I'll drop over to your place at 2:30 and have tea with you. If you have some other engagement, don't break it. I shall merely find you out, or otherwise engaged, and I'll scam to the Journal office, where I have some work waiting for me.

So, if you should be free on Monday, May 15, around 2:30, I'll be barging in on you; if not, we'll make another date as soon as I get adjusted to working until 6 or 6 in the morning. I don't suppose you'll get this note until Monday.

Sincerely,

Will

Will Lissner

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"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"

The AMERICAN JOURNAL of ECONOMICS and SOCIOLOGY

Published QUARTERLY under grant from the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation
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32 EAST TWENTY-NINTH STREET, NEW YORK

Will Lissner
Editor

May 15, 1944

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Dear Rae:

During the evening I've given very careful thought to the matter of selling the translation. It seemed to me, on second thought, that if I leave a memo to James telling him the original Russian is available from the Public Library, he would very likely decide to save translation costs by having a staff member translate it.

A better course of action seems to me to be the following: Write him (Mr. Edwin L. James, managing editor) a letter, telling him you have obtained photostatic copies of the complete original article from the issue used by Mr. Mins, which you believe is the only copy of this magazine to be available here. Tell him you consider the article even more significant than was indicated by The Times news stories or editorials; this is the constitution for Soviet Russia's post-war economy, in the nature of which American business men and serious leaders of opinion have a profound interest. Tell him the original runs 10,000 or 12,000 words. Offer to provide him with ~~the original~~ a photostatic copy of the original and a complete translation for the sum on which you have decided, on one condition: that if, because of its length, The Times decides to print only an abridged version, you be permitted later to make the complete ~~summary~~ text available to some scholarly journal like The American Economic Review, so the full text will be available to students of the subject. Tell him you think it is quite clear from the context that this article was meant for home consumption and is not intended to be circulated abroad, and therefore you doubt whether the Russian censorship will allow any other copies of the magazine to reach this country.

Now, besure that neither in the letter nor in any subsequent conversation you do not mention me, for I don't want him to get any idea that I would try to "job" him; I am only anxious that you get paid for your work (as I do) and, like you, that the full text be available for those who want to see for themselves.

This won't necessarily mean that he will accept; he may prefer to wait and hope that we will

get a copy from some other source. On the other hand, he may assign a sharp reporter (not me: I'm not a reporter, you know) to dicker with you to see what your lowest price would be. You'll have to handle that yourself. In any event, try to reserve the book rights of your manuscript.

Now, besides Fortune and The Commercial and Financial Chronicle, and "Quote", the only publication I can find that I think might be interested is the following: "Asia and the Americas," 40 East 49th St., New York 17, Richard J. Walsh, editor; Elsie Weil, managing editor (pays \$15 a page). Is this a party line paper? I don't know anything about it.

Now, probably none of these outlets will want to print 12,000 words of that stuff. So in the end you probably will have to fall back on a book publisher. Here our task will be to find a commercial publisher willing to chance the wrath of Stalin's American well-wishers. I am not sanguine about that; remember Dallin had to resort to the Yale University Press. On that account I should be very pleased if The Times agreed to buy the translation from you, giving you permission to publish the full text in The American Economic Review, Chamberlin's Russian Review, The Journal of Political Economy, The Quarterly Journal of Economics, or some such paper.

I very much enjoyed having tea with you today. But I am most annoyed that I talked so much and let you talk so little; I guess that historian and philosopher had me wound up, to no good purpose. Ordinarily I am much less loquacious. I shall count on seeing you later in the week, when I will have read your studies. All good wishes,

Sincerely,

Will

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACKAWANNA 4-1000

May 21, 1944

Dear Rae:

I wrote tonight to the manufacturer of the mimeograph I told you about to see if another was still available. I assume I shall hear in a week.

You'll have to tell me more about that inspector. It's a long time since I've read Dostoevsky.

Did you notice my Russian oil story on page 32 of this morning's paper, and the editorial, "Changing Russia", on the editorial page in section 4? In the story I used a few of your hints in interpreting the report. I suppose the Stalinists will be frothing at the mouth again.

I'll expect to hear from you Thursday on your success with the translation. It seems to me you ought to hear from James on it once he makes up his mind. If the newspapers and magazines reject it, then I'll take it to the agent.

Sincerely,

Will

Will Lissner

8966

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"

EDITORS:
N. S. BUCHANAN
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MABEL NEWCOMER
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DALE YODER

P. T. HUMAN, MANAGING EDITOR

American Economic Review

(Published by the American Economic Association)

McGraw-Hall, Ithaca, New York

TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

May 24, 1944

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
Care of Mrs. B. W. Adams
405 East 55th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Miss Dunayevskaya:

I was very much interested to learn from your letter of May 15 of your translation of the article, "Some Questions Relating to the Teaching of Political Economy." I should appreciate your sending it to me with the prospect of publication in September or in December. Since reading the original article and comments in the New York Times and the partial translation in Science and Society, I felt that this is a document that would be of interest to economists and have had it in my mind to see whether a full translation could not be made available.

Will you please let me know whether there is any copyright question involved or whether it is necessary to secure permission for publication from any source. I shall also appreciate it if you will let me know whether in the task of translation you felt that the meaning at all points was perfectly so that the translation at all points expresses the exact meaning intended by the authors without ambiguity.

The document is one which I judge deserves some interpretive comment along the lines suggested in the fourth paragraph of your letter. Would you be interested in expanding that comment somewhat? Also could you suggest the names of any persons in the United States whom you would regard as especially competent to comment upon the significance of the article?

I shall appreciate it if, when you send your translation, you will also send a few details about yourself and about your professional career of a sort which would satisfy our general editorial policy of being assured of the technical competency of persons whose work is accepted for publication.

Sincerely yours,

Paul T. Human

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RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA=C/O DR PAUL NESSON

321 SECOND AVE NYK

12 24

DEFINITELY PLAN TO PUBLISH TRANSLATION STOP ASSUME YOU HAVE NO
 OBJECTIONS TO INDEPENDENT CHECK OF TRANSLATION WITH UNDERSTANDING
 ANY SUGGESTED CHANGES WILL BE CLEARED WITH YOU STOP WILL WRITE
 WITHIN A DAY OR TWO
 PAUL T HOLMAN AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW

CRA-5-0531
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 8968

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS IN IMPROVING ITS SERVICE

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American Economic Review

(Published by the American Economic Association)

McGraw Hall, Ithaca, New York

TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

June 14, 1944

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
Care of Dr. Paul Nesson
321 Second Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Miss Dunayevskaya:

This will confirm my telegram of yesterday, stating the intention of the Review to publish your translation of the article on the teaching of political economy in Russia. I have your reply of yesterday and wish to thank you for enclosing the photostat of the original article.

Some days ago I wrote to an acquaintance of mine who I thought would be a very competent person to check the translation and perhaps to write one of the commentaries upon it. I was interested to discover that he also had been very much interested in the piece and had already prepared a translation of it. He said that he would be willing to check your translation and it has already gone forward to him without any identification.

If he should raise any serious question concerning any part of your translation there would arise the problem of making a final settlement of the matter. My suggestion to him was that he submit to me any comments upon the translation which I would then send to you. If there are any serious disagreements probably the best procedure would be to have a conference between the three of us. Would your desire for anonymity preclude such an arrangement? In view of what appeared to me to be the high level of competency displayed in your translation I am led to hope that no serious questions will arise.

In his letter to me, the economist who is checking the translation included the following paragraph:

"Your idea of accompanying the article with an explanatory note is a very good one. It may not be quite clear from the text that the article is a set of instructions to teachers issued in anticipation of the publication of a new standard Soviet text on political economy, (long in preparation, but held up on account of the war. In other words, the explanatory note should, I believe, first of all clarify briefly the nature and background of the document. Were one to attempt an analysis in detail of the various theoretical points made by the document, the scope of the comment might easily become unwieldy. In addition, I believe it would be unwise to indulge in extensive comments on the basis of a partial condensation or extracts from a book that is ready, but not as yet published. When the book appears, then it should be reviewed at length in English."

Since he is thoroughly conversant with the circumstances surrounding

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Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
Page 2
June 14, 1944

the publication of the article I am inclined to suggest that he prepare the explanatory note. I judge from our correspondence that you also would like to make some comment upon the article. Would it be satisfactory to you to confine your remarks primarily to a statement of your judgment concerning its significance in relation to the development of economic ideas and institutions in Russia, leaving the purely explanatory background to the other note? If this were the general plan it would probably be desirable that you see the other note in advance of publication so that if in your opinion the explanatory section was not adequate you could either suggest changes in it or make some further reference to the matter in your own note.

I hope that the various suggestions made above will be satisfactory to you.

Sincerely yours,

Paul J. Homan

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June 18, 1944

Mr. Paul T. Homan
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Homan:

I have your letter of the 14th. As I have stated previously, I have no objection to having my translation checked by a competent person. I am confident that it has been rendered accurately so far as the literal translation is concerned. More particularly, I am convinced in my own mind that it has been rendered in such a way as to retain the full significance of the article. If, however, differences of opinion arise between your friend's rendition and mine, I shall be glad to participate in any conference that you arrange.

I was pleased with your suggestion that I write the commentary and leave the explanatory note to your acquaintance. Is it permissible to inquire who this economist is?

I shall proceed to write the commentary within the general concepts stated in paragraph 4 of my first letter to you and the further suggestions you make in your last letter. These concepts cannot be developed in too brief a space. I observe that you are non-committal as to your acquaintance's remark that no lengthy comment be made prior to the publication of the complete text which he states is in preparation. Neither did you respond to my request concerning the length. I shall set about writing what I would consider an adequate analysis and shall submit it to you when it is ready.

Sincerely yours,

Raya Dunayevskaya,
c/o Dr. Paul Nesson
331 Second Avenue
New York 3, N. Y.

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EDITORS:
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P. T. HOBAN, MANAGING EDITOR

American Economic Review

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722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

June 27, 1944

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
C/o Dr. Paul Nesson
321 Second Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Miss Dunayevskaya:

Please pardon me for not replying more promptly to your letter of June 18. The reason for the delay is that we ran into some complications with respect to the checking of your translation which we hoped to ~~take~~ ^{work} out. Unfortunately, the arrangements which I reported to you in an earlier letter have had to be cancelled. The nature of the difficulty was that the person whom we were consulting at the end of the position that he would not cooperate unless he were assured that the translator was a person of the correct political principles with respect to Russian affairs. This was not a basis on which we found it possible to do business with him and we were therefore under the necessity of finding someone else to take his place. As soon as arrangements have been made, we shall inform you of them and arrange for a satisfactory basis of cooperation between you and the person selected. It is still our intention to run the article in the September number of the Review.

Since I am leaving for London very shortly your future correspondence will be with Dr. Fritz Machlup who is taking charge of the editing of the Review during my absence.

The preliminary report on your translation indicated the belief on the part of the checker that there were some points at which somewhat more care needed to be taken to give the exact turn of thought, and at the same time, that the translation as a whole was rendered into excellent English. No doubt any points needing attention can be easily agreed upon between you and the person chosen to do the checking.

I am very sorry for the turn of affairs which necessitates the further trouble and delay. It all seems very foolish to me since, as you know, and as the review knew, our interest is an entirely scientific one of rendering to the English-speaking public an accurate translation of an important Russian statement. It seemed to me a rather strange position for anyone to take as a condition to participation in the project that the political views of the translator must be satisfactory to him.

You will no doubt hear from Dr. Machlup in the early future.

Sincerely yours,

Paul T. Homan
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EDITORS:
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P. T. HODAN, MANAGING EDITOR

American Economic Review

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TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 4, 1944

Miss Raya Daneyevskaya
c/o Dr. Paul Nassan
221 Second Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Miss Daneyevskaya:

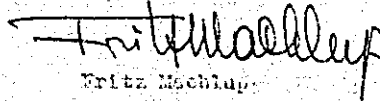
Thank you for your kind letter of July 2. I found two Russian economists here in Washington who have taken over the work of checking your translation. They are working together and will, I hope, make good progress. If things go as they expect, the checking should be about done by July 9 or 10, the days when you expect to be here in Washington. The four of us could then have a conference if there is anything to be straightened out.

I was glad to learn that you have confined your statement on the article to approximately 3,000 words. The September issue would be too crowded for a longer statement. I would appreciate if you would let me read the statement before you come, so that we could talk over any questions that may arise. It is understood that your comments should be non-political but should explain the probable purpose of the article.

I was glad to get your story about the version which the "New York Times" had according to their articles on Sunday and Monday. I was concerned lest anybody else would get a jump on us with an authoritative translation.

I am looking forward to making your acquaintance.

Sincerely yours,


Fritz Mochlap

P.S. Since I visit the Review office only occasionally, I am listing the places where I can be reached more quickly:

Office of Alien Property Custodian
14th & F Streets, N.W.
Tel. - District 3315
Ext. 330

Residence:
3051 Idaho Ave., N.W.
Tel. - Ordway 1438

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The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACEAWANNA 4-1000

Aug. 7, 1944

Dear Ras:

You did a swell job in this. I'll be able to go to town on it when The Review is out or lets me. My only regret is that you didn't write a couple of thousand words more.

As you will see from the article I've sent you, I've made several points with which, I think, you will agree. Your article supplies the important points that I carefully avoided attacking on my own responsibility, because I would not pretend to be able to answer them authoritatively: is the new theory marxism; why have the Russians abandoned Marx? This not only provides new grist for the Times mill; but will make good quotable material for the short article America wants. I am returning this at once, so there will be no possibility of a hitch in The Review's publication of it. (I assume Mr. Adams ~~---sig---~~^c has caught the few grammatical lapses. Sometime you must introduce me to your censor librorum.) All good wishes,

Sincerely,

Will

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACRAWANNA 4-1000

Aug. 26, 1944

Dear Rae:

Just a hasty note. I sent international publishers an order for seven copies of that pamphlet, enclosing my personal check for \$1.05. (I made it seven, since I thought you might like one, and I can use a couple, and you can't write a check for less than a buck--or can you?) Anyhow, under date of Aug. 25, they sent me a sales receipt on which they have typed: "will be ready in about a week, at which time we shall fill your order." If The American Economic Review is not going to be out until the end of September, then Intl Pubs is going to beat you to the street. If there were only some way we could get a release on your stuff from the Review, I could review both translations in one article that would be devoted principally to your critique. Don't let this spoil your vacation; I write only to let you know. All good wishes,

Sincerely,

Will

P.S. Have a good time. Summer won't last long.

8975

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"

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WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

September 13, 1944

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
c/o Dr. Paul Nessen
321 Second Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Miss Dunayevskaya:

The September number of the Review will probably be out in the last third of the month. We expect to receive page proof within a few days and shall send the proofs on both the article and your comments to Mr. Lissner of the New York Times. If you wish to show him the galley proofs which you possess we have no objection. I may add that there is no complicated job of timing involved because the Review is not available on newsstands or in book stores except at Brentano's and there will be little harm done if Lissner's report should come out ahead of the actual mailing of the September issue.

Very truly yours,

Fritz Machlup
Acting Managing Editor

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1/15/45

Dr. Fritz Machlup
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Machlup:

I have just read the December issue of the REVIEW, which includes a communication from Mr. Paul Baran regarding the Russian article I translated as well as my commentary upon it. Mr. Baran's article contains many errors of approach or logic and, in some sense, even of fact, which I would like to answer. However, I feel there is insufficient critical or theoretical merit in that article to justify individual attention, particularly if other discussion will be published.

You had announced that the September issue would include a symposium on the Russian article. Perhaps because the Fall issue was late coming off the press, these discussions were deferred for the Spring issue. I understand, in fact, that Prof. Lange and Prof. Rogin have submitted, or intend to prepare statements, on the entire controversy. I should like to have the opportunity of reading the articles and writing a rejoinder for simultaneous publication.

If you can grant me this privilege, I should be glad to come to Washington to review them there, should it be impossible to send me copies here. Please let me know if this can be done.

Very sincerely yours,

c/o Dr. Paul Nasson
321 Second Avenue
New York 3, New York

8977

EDITORS:
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P. T. HOGAN, MANAGING EDITOR

American Economic Review
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TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

January 31, 1945

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
c/o Dr. Paul Nesson
321 Second Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Miss Dunayevskaya:

We received several Communications on the Russian article and your commentary, but they reached us too late for publication in the December issue. Three manuscripts—by Professors Oscar Lange, Brooke Otis and Leo Rogin—have been accepted and have gone to the printer. Three other manuscripts were returned to the authors. The March number is now completely filled and we could not possibly accept new material for it. My present inclination is not to extend the discussion of the subject any further. You will realize that many other problems in economics are more timely and pressing and that we can select only a small portion of the material submitted. Anything which is accepted is necessarily at the expense of some other author or subject.

However, if you feel an irresistible urge to have a second word in the discussion, we shall carefully consider anything you submit. But with our predisposition against extending the discussion, the manuscript will have to be very important and extremely interesting to gain acceptance. I hope that you will not feel that this disposition is unfair to you. I am convinced that it is justified from an editorial point of view.

Yours very truly,
Fritz Machlup
Acting Managing Editor

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACKAWANNA 4-1000

Feb. 22, 1945

Dear Rae:

I am having inquiries made about the situation of Under the Banner of Marxism. I'll let you know if we hear anything. Doesn't the Slavonic Division of the New York Public Library get it directly?

What do you know about the history of the paper? How long has it been published? Who have been the editors? Who have been the most important contributors? How many issues were printed after nos. 7 and 8, 1943? Is there anything of any moment in the last issue to be circulated?

Not a thing new otherwise, except that the January issue of my journal still isn't out yet. Printshop trouble is driving me nuts. Oh yes, a quarterly magazine has invited me to review the discussion of the revision of Soviet economic theory after the Spring issue of AER is out, and I shall probably write it. In the article I will criticize your viewpoint--on the ground that it is simon-pure Marxism, of course--as well as all the others. However, I imagine my final result will be the same as yours, without the ideological trappings.

I'll let you know the moment AER comes out. Now, could you send me the letter you received from Machlup? I'd like to see it to make a note about what he says about the response.

Also, before I write the article for The Review of Politics, I'd like to have in hand a copy of your reply, whether or not Machlup uses it. All good wishes,

Sincerely,

W. W.

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"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"

April 18, 1945

Dr. Fritz Machlup
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
Washington, 3, D. C.

Dear Dr. Machlup:

I have just seen the March issue of the AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW and the "irresistible urge" can be resisted no longer. I can assure you that my request for a second word in the Russian discussion does not arise out of a feeling of any unfairness to be attacked by four economists and not have a chance for a rejoinder. I have too keen a sense of the importance of economic problems to be moved by any personal considerations. I myself am more involved at the present time in American post-war economic problems than in Russian political economy. It is precisely for that reason, however, that a further analysis of the Russian article is imperative for we live in "One World" and no country can tear itself out of the vortex of world economy. The type of economy the Russians intend to have profoundly affects ours and vice versa.

I shall try to draft my statement this week. Naturally, your editorial point of view must prevail as to the suitability of any one author's contribution, but I hope you will agree with me as to the importance, not so much as to my having a second say, but as to the statement I shall make.

I expect to be in Washington on Saturday, April 28. Should my statement be completed by then I shall bring in to you "in person"; otherwise, I shall mail it as promptly as it is completed so that it can, should you accept it, be included in the Fall issue of the Review.

Sincerely yours,

Please note address:
c/o B. W. Adams
405 E. 55th St.
New York 22, N. Y.

8980

April 30, 1945

Dr. Fritz Machlup
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Machlup:

In accordance with our discussion on Saturday I am enclosing the original and two copies of my rejoinder in the Russian discussion. I was very glad to have had the opportunity of discussing it with you. I have cut out the last sentence in order not to open new avenues of discussion and instead ended with my answer to Mr. Egan. I have inserted the missing footnote 15. You will note also that I recast the structure of page 2 and added an additional footnote on the last page since while in Washington I had a chance to see the latest issue of the Russian Propagandist which verified my interpretation of the original seemingly casual Russian statement as the new line in Soviet political economy.

I assume you will ~~please~~ know the verdict of the Editorial Board.

Sincerely

c/o B. W. Adams
405 E. 55th St.
New York 22, N.Y.

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