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153 W. 21 St.
New York 11, N.Y.
12/24/47

Dear Anton Pannekoek,

I just received your letter of Dec. 17 th. Thanks for sending the quotations. In my last letter I suggested, however, to let the quotations of the first edition remain, or change to the second edition entirely. As I have not been able to find the second edition here as yet, please let me know when and where it was published, and by whom. I must admit, however, that, by comparing the quotations of the two editions, I find the first edition much better, at any rate the language is better, and as to the content I fail to see any difference. The first edition is more English. But it is up to you to decide what you want. If you feel sure that the second edition suits you better, we will use its quotations. Maybe you are right regarding the title. The proper thing would be:

Lenin as Philosopher

A Critical Examination of the Philosophical Basis of Leninism

(I would ,of course, rather sayof the Philosophical Basis of Bolshevism, in order to avoid naming Lenin twice on the same page, which is bad form. But here, too, you must make the decision.)

I feel it is not necessary to mention the fact that this work appeared in German in 1938. Or to explain to the reader why we think the English publication is important (due to the Importance of Leninism); the book must speak for itself and one must not insult the reader by telling him why it is important what he reads. But if you insist we will make such a note, though I am against an "introduction" by the English publisher. I do not think you need an introduction.

There is no word for boutade in English as there is no word for it in German. (proverb of course is wrong and I altered ^{it} to "pun", that is, wordspiel.)

I thank Mrs .Pannekoek very much for her friendly invitation.

Best wishes,

Pan Maathij