

43A/33

NEW ESSAYS

153 WEST 21ST STREET - NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

3/25/50

Dear Anton Pannekoek,

thanks for your letter of March 19th. Yes, I know about Kenafick and about his Marx-Bakunin book. The book is rather bad, besides being superfluous. But Kenafick may be a good man nevertheless. I do not understand Dawson at all; why doesn't he attend to the matter himself, or at least writes about it? — Strange creatures.

Kenafick has not written as yet, but I will send him a letter today and inquire about the progress with regard to printing and the possibility of sending the sheets to New York. He, being the sender, has to make all the arrangements in Australia, and I do not know how this will work out. But I do know that some publishers here get sheets sent from England, in order to be bound in the United States, so as to escape the duties on English books. I feel confident that there be a way of getting the sheets here, and after that it will be a question of a few weeks before the book is out. Of course, one never knows all the difficulties, and as matters stand today in the United States, it is quite possible that entry will be refused because of the character of the work. Then we would be in a dilemma. The custom authorities are rather funny in this country and unable to interpret their own laws. Arbitrarily decisions are made, which it then takes years to fight and to get to be set aside. One can only hope for the best. But if, by accident, one should meet up with an idiot, the whole thing could become quite awkward. But regularly all should go well. I will keep you informed about the progress in the matter as soon as I hear from Kenafick.

If I were you, I would not ask Dawson to write a preface; he has a gift of making these things look ridiculous. He will most probably deal with his personal illness and other irrelevant issues to explain the delay. Best is, to have no preface at all. We do not need any excuses, in face of the difficulties set against any radical and objective thought. But, then, this is for you to decide.

I cannot make any promise as to the type of binding, quality, etc., before I have seen the sheets. It all depends on the size of the margin and other technical things. We can only hope that the sheets have been printed properly, so as to be pleasantly bound. I will tell you about this more as soon as I have the sheets and have spoken to the bindery. *seen*

I did not get the Guggenheim Fellowship and thus I will not be able to get to Europe this year. Maybe next year.

With all my best wishes, also to your family,

Panthea