

Leist (Holland) Jan 6. 1950
Regentesselaan 8

Dear Comrade Mathick.

Thanks for your letter of Oct 29th, thanks also for the ten copies of Lenin. I had expected to find therein a list of corrections. Shortly after the appearance I sent a list to your address in New York with the request to have them printed on a small sheet and laid into the copies. But it was, I believe, just when you went on your trips to Europe; so it may have remained outside your attention. I now again add such a list with the same request; there are some sentences that by small errors have got the opposite meaning, e.g. at p 50, or are entirely ununderstandable (as p. 73). Others are somewhat less stringent, but when a list of corrections is added, ~~the~~ some more may be easily included. When in the booklet is tried to clarify the ideas it must be avoided that the reader by incomprehensible expressions is confused. I am rather astonished that you succeeded in selling one thousand copies already in America; it surpasses my expectations. The small sale in England is disappointing; I know nobody there who has any theoretical or philosophical interest. A notice or discussion or announcement in some review seems to be necessary to awaken interest. With half the number of printed copies sold I suppose that the costs spent may have been repaid and perhaps somewhat more.

You ask how it is with Dawson's publication of the Workers' Councils. I fear he is in a financial plight; now that the larger part is ready printed it seems to be very difficult for him to ~~and~~ finish the last sheets. I had in the last years the possibility of sending him 200 dollars, by means of an American detour (we in Holland cannot send money abroad) but this way is now closed for me. Is it not possible to collect some contributions for him in the States? If you could make big profits out of the selling of Lenin, there would be some topics in making available part of it for another publication; but such a thing is excluded. So we must hope he will find some way out himself; but I feel much worried by it.

I received the invitation of the Guggenheim fund, and I have immediately sent a strong recommendation. Because they asked not only an opinion on the candidate but also on the proposed subject, I wrote in the second part of my statement: "Germany at this moment is certainly one of the most enigmatical factors in world politics. For the other parts of the world, for Western Europe, for China, for Russia we more or less know the factors that will play a rôle in future developments; for Germany we do not know them; the reports on what people there

are thinking and doing are often directly contradictory. Germany appears to us a silent colossus able to play again a rôle in Europe and therefore in the world; in what direction, however, we are quite uncertain because we do not know the hidden forces in all the different layers and classes. So I think it to be a matter of high importance that a man with such knowledge of the object and such capabilities to judge and discuss in a scientific way his experiences should be enabled to make the proposed study. Now we will hope that your application meets with success; it would be a most interesting research to find out the different forces at work and build up a well-founded opinion, or at least show in a clear way the different trends. But it may be that the Committee for Selection by its own class-consciousness ~~has~~ senses something opposed to their capitalist feelings, and possibly they may have been informed about "Living Marxism". I hope very much, however, that you may succeed and I am very desirous to hear about it, when the decision has fallen.

With my brother-in-law, Dr Brauns, it is remaining the same or perhaps slightly worsening; but with drugs he is kept up and can be kept in condition for an undetermined time. We all send you our best greetings

Yours very truly

And Pannekoek