

From The Accumulation of Capital by Rosa Luxemburg, translated by Agnes Schwarzschild, with Introduction by Jean Robinson (Modern Reader Paperbacks, NY & London, 1968) First published in 1951 by Routledge & Kegan Paul, Ltd.

Capitalism arises and develops historically amidst a non-capitalist society. In Western Europe it is found at first in a feudal environment from which it in fact sprang -- the system of bondage in rural areas and the guild system in the towns -- and later, after having swallowed up the feudal system, it exists mainly in an environment of peasants and artisans, that is to say in a system of simple commodity production both in agriculture and trade. European capitalism is further surrounded by vast territories of non-European civilization ranging over all levels of development, from the primitive communist hordes of nomad herdsmen, hunters and gatherers to commodity production by peasants and artisans. This is the setting for the accumulation of capital.

(p. 368)

In Europe, force assumed revolutionary forms in the fight against feudalism (this is the ultimate explanation of the bourgeois revolutions in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries); in the non-European countries, where it fights more primitive social organizations, it assumes the forms of colonial policy.

(p. 369)

The women would take turns for household duties; a matriarch, again elected by the family, being in complete charge of the clan's domestic affairs, or else the women taking turns of duty. This organization of the Kabyle clans on the fringe of the African desert bears a startling resemblance to that of the famous Southern Slavonic Zadruga...

(p. 377-378)

P348 / K. Sauter 08/17/98 P. 2. H. H. - p. 378
P 371 / C. P.

14736

Militarism fulfils a quite definite function in the history of capital, accompanying as it does every historical phase of accumulation. It plays a decisive part in the first stages of European capitalism, in the period of the so-called "primitive accumulation", as a means of conquering the New World and the spice-producing countries of India.... Finally, militarism is a weapon in the competitive struggle between capitalist countries for areas of non-capitalist civilization.

" Do you know that I wrote the entire 30 galleys in one go in four months -- incredible performance -- and sent it off to the printer without so much as a further glance." (Letter to Hans Diefenbach, 5/12/1917)

In her letter to Zetkin at the end of 1911, ^{what} she described as ~~XXXXXXXX~~ a "wholly new and strictly scientific analysis of imperialism and its contradictions" she now described as the "happiest" period in her life. She now also applied that to her answer to the critics, whom she called epigones, and that irrespective of whether they were revolutionaires or reformists. Clearly, what had been a brief introductory note to Accumulation, that the ~~XXXXXXXX~~ "scientific" work "is at the same time tied to the practical contemporary imperialist politics" and the work itself, dated Dec. 1912, carried a sub-title: "a contribution to the economic explanation of imperialism", was now an Anti-Critique, developed ^{final} more fully in an eloquent chapter entitled "Imperialism".*

at 1/2
1/2/1917

RL to Han Diefenbach, Wronke i.P. Fortress, 3/8/1917

"As a matter of fact, this is a work which I am pretty proud of, & which will certainly outlive me. It is much more mature than the Acc. itself; its form is extremely simple, without any accessories, without coquetry or optical illusions, straightforward & reduced to the barest essentials; I would even say 'naked', like a block of marble. This is, in fact, where today my taste lies. In theoretical wk, as in art, I value only the simple, the tranquil and the bold. This is why, for ex. the famous 1st vol. of Mx's Cap. with its profuse cococo ornamentation in the Hegelian style, now seems an abomination to me for which, from the Party standpoint, I must get 5 yrs. hard labor & 10 yrs. loss of civil rights...)

anonymously, 2° classifier 3

not one of you is an Achilles

3/8/1917 RL to

Hans Diefenbach

Anti-C2

[Mehring & 4]

genius, a truly

4/16/1917 magnificent, ravishing achievement

in which appears - Dr. Morgenthau's 'Shakespeare'

As you know, CR me - Sister

on 7/12/1917 against the... France - with the whole

100 pages 4 mos. in one sitting - It was the same Anti-C2 -