

May 17, 1983

Dear Friends:

The REB last night heard two reports -- Raya on a 1983 view of the proposed pamphlet on 1949-50, and Anne on her visit with the British Marxist-Humanists and outside meetings there -- under a single subheading. In one respect, Mike, in his report on the ongoing activities and N&L, summed up why the REB was so impressed with the single title: "I think it was fascinating to put these two reports under the heading of 'Ramifications, National and International, of Have Thumb Will Travel, in this Year of the Marx Centenary and the New Book.' It gave us a new perspective, and that is true both for the older and the newer members, on what we discussed at the last REB -- that RD's tour was not 'for the record' but for the American revolution. But because Marx's Marxism is what we are spelling out, it is not just the American Revolution but the global dimension that gives us the new direction."

The ongoing international trips, now in Mexico and Spain, Portugal and Italy, and soon in France and Germany, will bring fresh insights into the global dimension, which, in fact, we are experiencing even where we do not have someone abroad, as witness the order this week for the Archives received from Australia and our meeting with the Black Consciousness Movement as well as with Iranians no matter where it is we go. In a word, philosophy as action has such global dimensions that we have experienced it here, at Third World Conferences, at Afro-American study groups, and both with anthropologists and American Indians. It especially delighted me to read in the last issue of N&L the story by Shainape Shcapwe on Wounded Knee, not only for itself but because the very latest book off the press on Indian women, specifically the Plains women, written by a close contact -- The Hidden Half -- was given to me as a gift on my tour and will be reviewed by Mike for N&L.

Whether the locals decide to have a special meeting on Anne's report on Great Britain or decide to wait until they receive the other international reports is naturally up to the locals. The point is that in two weeks you will receive the Convention Call -- and there will be no division between national and international reports.

Dave Park, who was assigned to write the lead for the June issue on Latin America, was able to include quotes from Latino high school youth and exiles from Central America directly in that lead. The Chicago local, which is working up a meeting for Eugene at a Latin American center in Chicago when he returns, will be able to put this issue to special use almost immediately. The Black/Red page will have the advantage of having excerpts from an Eritrean speaking on his country. Denby was hoping to have his Worker's Journal column focus on the UAW Convention now ongoing. The copy from all the locals for this issue is no doubt already in the mail, since deadline is this week, May 19.

Yours,

Raya

F.S. The REB minutes are now being typed up and will be sent out tomorrow.

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