

August 24, 1955

Dear Hunt:

This is limited to one point only and that is the tour and that is to assure you that nothing is being changed insofar as West Virginia is concerned. Not only did the FEB feel that we proceed with our work as scheduled, and especially so of the book, but I felt that no place could take the place of West Virginia for the type of audience that is a necessity for the book. In working through automation at one pole and the absolute at the other—the two poles of the book on Marxism—I first realized that although we did not have the word, automation, in 1950, actually the continuous miner and the strike then had all the elements of the wildcats and the feelings on automation here, and that therefore they feel and grasp clearest the problem of what I am talking about when I say our age has matured so that the movement now is from theory to practice. (Incidentally do you have my letters on the Absolute Idea and are letting Fairbanks try to bite into them?)

So it is definite and irrevocable: I come to W.Va.: Sept. 16–Oct. 3.

Are you in touch with Pittsburgh and will they come?

There is a professor in Bethany College, Bethany, W.Va., who has just written a book (very superficial) on "The Permanent Rev. in Science"—was once a Trotskyite—who is interested in meeting me. He is willing to come to Pittsburgh, pick me up and drive me to W.Va. That is one possibility of getting there and I will write ~~xxxx~~ him the dates and find out whether he can meet me then.

Is the other that Pittsburgh (Walt) would drive me? Or would I just go to W.Va. from there on my own (meaning by tra'n or bus).

You will get all other matters from Rorty. Do tell Andy I am looking forward to seeing and talking with him in particular and really cracking both Hegel's Absolute Idea, Marx's freedom and the Working Day, and the West Virginia coal miners being right in on it all from the ground floor and making their contribution.

Yours,
Weaver

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