

KARL KORSCH: REV\_RY THEORY, ed. & altogether too much commented on  
by Douglas Kellner Univ. of Texas Press,  
1977

pp. 34-35 Q or perhaps it is better to misquotes, not by changing  
what Marx means & KK Q H, but puts it in the type of  
framework that you can't but misinterpret. Thus the KK Q of

H"rev. was lodged & expressed as if in the very form of their  
thought" is here interpreted as meaning bourgeois rev.

only, rather than dialectics of rev. which ~~created~~ created  
ground for Marxian dialectic of prol. rev. What I do think Kellner  
grasp correctly, p. 35 is "what has not been perceived is the  
extent to which Korsch believed he was merely restoring Marxist  
orthodoxy." \*\*\*\*\* plus p. 37: re KK's "transcendental underestimation  
\*\*\*\*\* of ideology" which DK makes the  
equivalent of "ideology" in general as a material  
component of general SOCIOHISTORICAL Reality... Hence a theory  
of rev. must take seriously the CR. of ideology & change of consciousness".....

p. 68, ftn. 72: "KK's orthodoxy is crystal clear in his enthusiastic  
review of Lukacs' Leninism & HIS RAPTUROUS PRAISE  
OF STALIN's book Lenin ... & we can dispense  
with studying the texts of Marx & LEARN MARXISM IN ITS 'CP, PLETED  
FORM" from Lenin. \*\*\*\*\*

1994/1/27  
11/1976  
KK's opposition

KK's "dialectics" is a matter of deriving his th. from requirements  
& possibilities of the his. situation. "Kellner is also correct  
when he says on p 74 "But it seems clear that KK the pol. theorist  
of pr. goes too far in REJECTING THE AUTONOMY OF TH. & MINIMIZING  
THE ANTICIPATORY COMPONENTS OF TH."

re 1930 addition to new print of KK's  
MP begins on p. 76.

p. 171, KK, "The Crisis of Marxism:" Marxism today  
is in the midst of an historical & th. crisis. It is  
not simply a crisis within the Marxism movement but a crisis of  
Marxism itself."

1977/5/22

RE: KM, 1938 KK defines the center of Marxism  
as 3-fold: (1) principle of his. specification  
(2) the principle of change & transition  
(3) the principle of rev-ry pr.

p. 281 THE MOST TELLING REJECTION OF MARXISM IN MCCARTHYITE  
1960 Lecture in Zurich that KK yet dares call  
10 Theses on Marxism & Kellner dares say is not such a rejection  
judged by letters esp. to Matwick.  
less than 2 p., 1st 2 points: "1) Today it is senseless to ask to  
what extent the teaching of KM & FE is still theoretically  
acceptable & practically applicable.

2) Today all attempts to restore  
the Marxist doctrine as a whole & in its original function as a  
th. of the wkgclass social rev. are reactionary utopias."

& #4 states: "The 1st step in re-establishing a rev. th. & pr. consists  
in BREAKING WITH THE MONOPOLISTIC CLAIM OF MARXISM TO REV\_RY  
LEADERSHIP."

He then mentions lists everything from Thomas  
to Froudhon & Bakunin as equal to H. & imp. also are Ref-ism,  
, syndicalism & bolshevism."

Asian society., but these & others are before 1930

The 1947 letter to Brecht does plus  
And one letter in 1956 on Polish strikes  
& his aim "to restore ideas of Marx". & then all that  
follow in Kellner's p. 105 that KK spent his "last yrs" not  
specifying how many in McLean's Psychiatric Hosp. & died  
in Belmont, Mass/10/21/1961.

Fred Halliday's Introduction to KARL KORSCH's MARXISM & PHILOSOPHY  
1970 NLB pub/ 1886-1961

WWI begins KK's active pol. life; 1917 joins USPD & joins KPD, 1920

1/1919 Spartacist uprising in Berlin & in April Munich Soviet Rep. suppressed  
bloodily but remains very active in Workers Councils which continue

3/1919 KK's sets out what he calls "industrial autonomy" in What Is Socializa-  
tion

p.9: FH: // "While other Marxists correctly stressed the absence of a rev-ry  
org. to seize power, Korsch emphasized that the th. & cultural pre-  
conditions for seizure power were also lacking." plus also lacking  
"the socio-psychological preconditions for its seizure were lacking"

cf NLR #51 p.27 .contains KK's ~~KK's~~ position & opp. to RL, defending VII

1922 KK writes introd. for new pub. of KM's Critique of Gotha Program

reproduced in this ed; indeed this ed. of M&P also contains

1930 introd. to M&P which he called an Anti-Cr. & Marxism of 1st Int. ('24)

p.13: "Since H's ~~phil~~ idealism expressed ~~th~~ this heroic epoch of  
bourgeois, it died out when the bourgeoisie ceased to be rev-ry/  
(1840s) The new rev-ry class was the prol. which found its th. expres-  
sion in dial. mat. HENCE the his. rel. bet. bourgeois phil. & Marxist  
materialism could only be understood within the basic Marxist  
outlook itself. Marxism is NOT a phil. but the HEIR of phi."

NBNBNB (rd) this neither to KK nor KK FH means men making his but continuity of ide  
"The mistake of vulgar Marxism was to fall into a 'transcendental  
underestimation' of the resilience of the intell & ideological  
apparatus of bourgeois soc."

1924 5th CI Congress Zinoviev attacks KK & GL & "professors" Deborin  
joins the cabal he himself denounced & later expelled by 1931 Stalin  
KK however continued to be member since he was MP on Ger. Till '28

"What was thereby created is a th. of prol. rev., NOT as it developed  
out of its own foundation, but on the contrary, as it emerged from  
the bourgeois rev.; given this rel., its form & content still bear the  
marks of Jacobinism as the th. of the bourgeois rev."

p.22: "By the early 50s, however, KK was evidently afflicted by  
the isolation of his position & by an increasing pessimism;  
writings at the height of Cold War fell into despair &  
reneged any connection with Marxism" But after 1953 hope  
revived & showed increasing interest in the colonial world.  
planned to write on Ch. Rev. planning introd. on Mao's essays  
"stressing their th. originality"!!!!!! oh oh oh

KK'S ANTI-CRITIQUE pp.89-126

p.101, ftn.11: "RL in an article in Vorwärts #14,3/1903, states in all seriousness  
that the th. stagnation which can now be detected in the move-  
ment has not occurred 'because our pr. struggles have  
surpassed Mxism but on the contrary because KM's th. achievements  
is in advance of us as a practical militant party. It is not  
because is no longer adequate for our needs, but because our needs  
are not yet adequate to profit from Marx's thought.' RL turned  
the rel. of th. to pr. on its head; this dictum has certainly not  
put it back on its feet."

p.123: "Trotsky's perceptive cr. analysis of 1908 showed that this was true  
of the 1st phase of its his" whereupon ftn.38

p.124-5 Concl: I now think that the abstract formulation

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