

# Toward A Capitalist-Marxist Alliance For Industrial Growth

Luxemburg, Rosa. *The Industrial Development of Poland*. The first English translation, translated by Tessa DeCarlo, with an introduction by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Campaigner Publications, University Editions, New York, 1977.

It was Rosa Luxemburg, the Polish leader of the International Social Democracy, who first pointed out in her *Accumulation of Capital* (1913) that only a scientific Marxist could competently understand the development of a capitalist economy. Often quoted with amusement by bourgeois scholars and with unknowing pomposity by members of the so-called Marxist movement, Rosa Luxemburg's observation today takes on the quality of a directive for collaboration upon whose consummation depends the very existence of the human race.

It is the criminal incompetence of political science and popular "horse sense" that has prevented the political alliance of the Marxist-led workers' movement with industrial capital for technological progress — up to the point where every sector of the world economy *but* that controlled by socialist governments is being deindustrialized toward the grave — which has prompted Campaigner Publications to issue the first English translation of Rosa Luxemburg's doctoral thesis *The Industrial Development of Poland* (1898) as its first book.

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., chairman of the U.S. Labor Party and the only political economist to have both predicted and proposed the programmatic solution for the current world economy breakdown crisis, identifies the crucial issue in his introduction, and publisher's note:

"Political science is currently seized by a devastating crisis...the prevailing, almost-axiomatic presumptions of political science concerning the gradations of political "right" to "left" have been irreparably discredited.

"A new principled conception of the *primary* basis for political factional alignments and differentiations has surfaced under present conditions of an aggravated general monetary crisis. The primary division is clearly not between "right" and "left." The forces sharing commitment to technological progress through industrial and agricultural expansion, and, on the other side, those who propose or tolerate neo-Malthusian and kindred rationalizations for a form of monetarists' austerity involving general deindustrialization. Consequently, the old forms of political science doctrines have lost the capability of providing even a credible description of the main issues in current affairs."

Luxemburg's *The Industrial Development of Poland* and LaRouche's introduction, *Rosa Luxemburg and the Crisis in Political Science*, both document with utmost

clarity that the socialist movement which traces itself from Marx and Luxemburg, understood clearly that the workers' movement found its first, and most essential, task *in expanding capitalist development*. LaRouche cites the critical inflection point in Marx's own development of the working class' role in this struggle to the 1848 revolution in Germany, when the nascent bourgeoisie behaved like gutless, blithering idiots before their opportunity to make a nationalist, capitalist revolution. At that time Marx discovered that the political "class for itself" — a "collection" of working-class forces organized and self-conscious of their common interest as a class-as-a-whole — "represented a consciously world-historical force for realizing the economic objectives of capitalist industrial development." "At the point that the capitalist political forces failed to continue capitalist forms of economic development at some critical juncture, the political class-for-itself must take over the capitalists' former such leading-role."

Marx's intensive role in fostering the victory of the Northern industrial capitalists over the South in the American Civil War demonstrated that such a *capitalist* mobilization, with support from international working-class forces, could triumph.

Luxemburg's concluding chapters to her thesis describe the lawfulness of the same transition *through working-class support for capitalist development* to the necessary establishment of socialist internationalist political forms, a transition she worked tirelessly to create until her death under the hand of British Intelligence in 1919:

"We believe that the Russian government, the Polish bourgeoisie, and the Polish nationalists have all equally been struck with blindness, and that the capitalist fusion process between Poland and Russia also has an important dialectical side that they have completely overlooked. This process is bringing to fruition in its own womb the moment when the development of capitalism in Russia will be thrown into contradiction with the absolute form of government, and when Czarist rule will be brought down by its own works. Sooner or later, the hour will strike when the same Polish and Russian bourgeoisie which is today pampered by the Czarist government will become weary of their political attorney — Absolutism — and will checkmate the king. Moreover, this capitalist process is moving with impetuous haste toward the moment when the development of the productive forces in the Russian Empire becomes irreconcilable with the rule of capital and when, in the place of private commodity economy, a new social order based on planned, co-operative production will appear. The Polish and

Russian bourgeoisies are hastening this moment with their combined forces: they cannot make one step forward without increasing and pushing forward the Polish and Russian working classes. The capitalist fusion of Poland and Russia is engendering as its end result that which has been overlooked to the same degree by the Russian government, the Polish bourgeoisie, and the Polish nationalists; the union of Polish and Russian proletariats as the future receiver in the bankruptcy of first the rule of Russian Czarism, and then the rule of Polish-Russian capital."

DeCarlo's *Translator's Preface* lays out how Luxemburg, like all humanists, a *voluntarist*, organized against overwhelming odds and ridicule within the Social Democracy for the victory of such industrial progress.

#### *Defining Capitalist Expanded Reproduction*

In tearing apart the pseudo-boundaries erected by the socialists and capitalists of her day, in particular the so-called conflict of interest between Russian capital ("Moscow Calico kings") and Polish capital ("Lodz Fustian Barons"), Luxemburg defines the crucial qualities which characterize capitalist advancement. More important to us today than her conclusion that it was "poor oppressed" Poland that outstripped central Russian industry in essential productive qualities, are the criteria which Luxemburg lays out for judging the *process* of capitalist expanded reproduction. These are the criteria which join the interests of *scientific* currents in the workers' and capitalist circles against the "individual greed" quackery of socialist or monetarist "utopians."

*Energy Source.* Luxemburg begins her comparison between the Russian and Polish economies by describing the superior *efficiency* and cheapness per unit of output of the coal which fueled Polish industry, over Moscow's nominally cheaper fuel source, wood.

*Labor Power.* Polish capitalists get more from their labor than the Russians because they invest more in the quality of their labor force, concludes Luxemburg. Higher wages, shorter work days, private lodgings, and more education allow Polish labor to work more intensively and productively, Luxemburg demonstrates. In other words, sufficient investment in increasing labor

power is the indispensable mediation for higher total social product.

*Composition of Capital.* Here Luxemburg rips apart those economists who would take the dollar, or any other currency, figure as representation of the value of capital investment. So-called capitalization in primitive or over-priced plant and equipment does not increase the productivity of labor, but drags it down.

*Turnover of Capital, Concentration of Production, and Technology of Production.* Under these three categories, Luxemburg locates the progressive quality of capitalist reproduction in the maximum realization (reinvestment) of surplus production in new industrial production at higher technological levels. Linking these concepts with her previous discussion, Luxemburg comes to a unified notion of *social productivity*, the potential for social advance as defined by per capita capital investment and the level of household incomes.

#### *No Time To Lose*

Luxemburg's and Marx's criteria for social progress have been ignored by the bulk of the so-called socialist movement — not to mention the industrialists — for more than half a century now. Indeed it is not without reason that agents of British Intelligence placed in the German Social Democracy and the Comintern perpetrated a determined campaign to extirpate the "virus of Luxemburgism." The consequence of the assured avoidance of Luxemburg has been the crippling of capitalist development itself, to the point where the socialist sector now represents the most healthy approximation of industrial capitalism, and the sole hope for the establishment of a new, expanding world monetary system. The seeds planted by the Renaissance humanists, and turned toward the fostering of political economy first by Thomas Gresham in Tudor England, have blossomed in the West, only to be threatened with extinction by modern-day looters like the Rockefellers.

Now, before the Rockefellers impose their choice for the world to be dead rather than "red," the working class-industrialist alliance for industrial progress must be revived in the U.S., as it already has been in Italy under the Andreotti government. DeCarlo's translation of Luxemburg's *The Industrial Development of Poland* is indispensable reading for those who would lead, join, or even fully understand that historic step.

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