

Dear David,

8/16/1976

I miss your intellectual companionship. By golly, you're a fine fellow! You know that? Backpacking in Aug.? Next year? It's an exciting idea, a fine idea. "What about psychedelics?"

There's not much news in the way of old friends. Robert is doing alright. He is living in Encinitas.

Let's go camping! Let's have a pow-wow! Soon! Jesus, there's a lot to talk about! Hydro-electric! i.e. God-dam-it.

I've been trying to think about political and legal philosophy.

Loyalty < L. legalis < Gr. logos. Also, my hare-brained ethical scheme of 'world fair wage' has been challenged to well-reasoned justification, mostly by people who claim they have no value program of their own, and take the discussion with very little humor.

I remember your quick reflection that there is a difference between designing an ethic in the midst of a living muddle, and designing an ideal system from scratch. This puzzled me. Perhaps it still does.

Here are some questions I'm thinking about:

1. What is the relationship between free-schooling and free-working? (As ideals<sup>etc.</sup>)

A 2. Would the moral/intellectual (physical?) satisfactions of doing useful labor be enough motivation for society if incomes were equal?

B 3. Will it ever be?

Maybe there's an important difference between these 2 questions.

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The other day <sup>Mary & I</sup> we thought:

"It's good to be a pacifist in order to figure out who to fight."

"It's good to appreciate the law in order to know what laws to break."

"It's good to know the meaning of words in order to understand what you're saying."

I wonder if this idea could be formulated at an economic level.

"It's good to be an equalitarian socialist in order to figure out what work is worth doing." ?

we also thought:

"It's good to think what you'd do alone in order to figure what to do with others."

You can turn them around backwards. Maybe there are just a bunch of idiotic jokes.

Science ~~is~~ "It's good to be mathematical in order to know who to love."

Mike

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