2 Dec 72

Dear Dick,

This Independent Study continuity idea has really got me hot bananas. Oh the weather today was great! The mountains are very striking at times of the day like sunset, inparticular. Tomorrow morning I will try riding to Salt Lake.

Here anyway are some miscellaneous thoughts on what I hope can be one of our political projects: The I.S. continuity

There is perhaps a process of maturation in the learning process to where it becomes necessary to teach for the sustenance of learning. Learning perhaps too "does not live by bread alone." The bread of money, diplomas, or the requirements of teachers, or puberty rites. What kind of teaching does the maturation of Independent Studying require? Some kind of independent ~~learning~~ teaching? This would be a fair description term for hat many of us feel-- the urge to Come back, tell what we have learndd. of some subject, present ourselves as veterans of that going-out-into-the-big-wide-world, and this our only credentials. Ourselves.

I think this suggestions (the practical proposals) arevery important. Yet I also feel that strength (even this is so small a term here) rests in the barest simplicity. The articulation of a few customs and obligations. The articulation of a few practical customs. Let us present our case in the most blood and guts terms, but let our porposals be brief.

Here are some considerations of presentation. Our first presentation might be to Mr. Lorch. Could we perhaps consider him an information source and send pamphlets or letters over him? I worry about the presentation. Will there be only the common 2% reception?

What have we got now? Hopefully, an exchange of letters about some interesting practical ideas. I think the presentation (the first step- to Mr. Lorch) would be poorly served by a detailed, typed, and argued proposal, the frontal military assault, though some such well-~~written~~ constructed presentation must have its place in the wider spheres of publicity.

Our discourse is more "voice in the wilderness." Should we therefore perhaps simply appoint Mr. Lorch listener, the official listener, to the office of listener, or the scribe cum manager -- anyway, let him know what's going on now by forwarding the letters we recieve from each other to him?

I think the problems of presentation(one might even call them architectural) require some such invention in the use of space. Why do I call this "use of space"? This seems poetically correct, perhaps refering to the space of discourse. Anyway, the move is yours.

Big deal! We could send him each others' letters and thus present what? I have not even recieved a letter from you yet and I'm already floating in the clouds of poetic architecture. Is all this really about anything substantial? I.S. Continuity? Great! Bare customs ? Great! But is the flesh there? Whatever may come of our project, letters are interesting, right?

Could we ever get down to a neat specific proposal? Yes, surely this would be a very large porposition. An encyclopedia! Let us set April as our embarcation of this.project of independent collaboration.

The forwarding of a letter, of course, at least so far as I understand the etiquette involved, would involve a letter containing an introduction. I feel this could be brief.

Perhaps by such a presentation reception could be 40% or better.

When I went back to I.S. class last year I wanted to grip M.L.'s hand and say "Do you know, DNA is a superconductor." Oh well. I still owe him a chemistry book.

Enough of this blather, I have a stylistic experiment in progress beginning with the Xerox copies of the pages I last sent you. There, with that scientific tone I can give these architectural considerations, rests my real work towards

April.

#Oh science and architecture, why am I picking on you?

And Dick, what do you think of all these suggestions and whatever? I have yet to hear from you, am I a madman? Please write, of course, soon --!

your everloving brother,
Mike

P.S. I'm sending this now. I'll be working on the systematic presentation during more regular time. It is already 8:30. I am tired. Boots shining is such a bore. Please do not feel your replies must be comprehensive. I urge you to send what lettle you might throw together during a coffee break. I hope you refrain from coffee however. I hope school gives you some responsibly free time.