LENIN
COLLECTED WORKS
VOLUME 14
1908

TEN QUESTIONS TO A LECTURER *
MATERIALISM AND EMPIRIO-CRITICISM
CONTENTS

Preface .............................................. 11

1908

TEN QUESTIONS TO A LECTURER ................. 13

MATERIALISM AND EMPIRIO-CRITICISM. Critical Comments on a
Reactionary Philosophy ........................... 17

Preface to the First Edition ....................... 19

Preface to the Second Edition ..................... 21

In Lieu of an Introduction. How Certain “Marxists” in 1908 and
Certain Idealists in 1710 Refuted Materialism ........ 22

Chapter One. The Theory of Knowledge of Empirio-criticism and
of Dialectical Materialism. I ....................... 40

  1. Sensations and Complexes of Sensations ........ 40
  2. “The Discovery of the World-Elements” ........ 53
  3. The Principal Co-ordination and “Naïve Realism” . 67
  4. Did Nature Exist Prior to Man? ................. 75
  5. Does Man Think with the Help of the Brain? . 86
  6. The Solipsism of Mach and Avenarius ........... 94

Chapter Two. The Theory of Knowledge of Empirio-criticism and
of Dialectical Materialism. II ..................... 98

  1. The “Thing-in-Itself”, or V. Chernov Refutes Frederick
     Engels ........................................... 98
  2. “Transcendence”, or V. Bazarov “Revises” Engels .. 107
3. L. Feuerbach and J. Dietzgen on the Thing-in-Itself. 117
4. Does Objective Truth Exist? 122
5. Absolute and Relative Truth, or the Eclecticism of Engels as Discovered by A. Bogdanov. 131
6. The Criterion of Practice in the Theory of Knowledge 138

Chapter Three. The Theory of Knowledge of Dialectical Materialism and of Empirio-criticism. III. 144
2. Plekhanov’s Error Concerning the Concept “Experience” 151
3. Causality and Necessity in Nature. 153
4. The “Principle of Economy of Thought” and the Problem of the “Unity of the World” 169
5. Space and Time 175
6. Freedom and Necessity 187

Chapter Four. The Philosophical Idealists as Comrades-in-Arms and Successors of Empirio-criticism. 194
1. The Criticism of Kantianism from the Left and from the Right 194
2. How the “Empirio-Symbolist” Yushkevich Ridiculed the “Empirio-Criticist” Chernov. 205
3. The Immanentists as Comrades-in-Arms of Mach and Avenarius 209
5. A. Bogdanov’s “Empirio-monism” 226
6. The “Theory of Symbols” (or Hieroglyphs) and the Criticism of Helmholtz 232
7. Two Kinds of Criticism of Dühring 238
8. How Could J. Dietzgen Have Found Favour with the Reactionary Philosophers? 243

Chapter Five. The Recent Revolution in Natural Science, and Philosophical Idealism 250
1. The Crisis in Modern Physics 252
2. “Matter Has Disappeared” 258
3. Is Motion Without Matter Conceivable? 266
4. The Two Trends in Modern Physics, and English Spiritualism 274
5. The Two Trends in Modern Physics, and German Idealism 282
6. The Two Trends in Modern Physics, and French Fideism 290
7. A Russian “Idealist Physicist” .......................... 299
8. The Essence and Significance of “Physical” Idealism 302

Chapter Six. Empirio-criticism and Historical Materialism . . 314
1. The Excursions of the German Empirio-critics Into
the Field of the Social Sciences. .................. 314
2. How Bogdanov Corrects and “Develops” Marx .......... 322
4. Parties in Philosophy and Philosophical Blockheads .... 335
5. Ernst Haeckel and Ernst Mach ................... 346

Conclusion ................................................. 357

Supplement to Chapter Four, Section I. From What Angle Did
N. G. Chernyshevsky Criticise Kantianism? ........... 359

Notes ....................................................... 363

The Life and Work of V. I. Lenin (Chronology) ............. 389

Name Index ................................................. 399

ILLUSTRATION

Cover of the first edition of V. I. Lenin’s Materialism and Em-
pirio-criticism, 1909 ........................................ 16-17