

October 10,  
1933

Dear Mr. Fetherstonhaugh,

I have your letter of October 5th, together with the article written by Mr. John Close.

I happen to have known Mr. Close for the past three years; he is a young man who received his preliminary education in England and is one of those young English socialists who are far more common in the Old Country than they are here.

I agree with your decision that you are not prepared to accept the article by Mr. Close as it now stands, and I would reject it in its present form, not because of what it contains but because of its rather poor literary style and value. On the other hand, he must be allowed to make his criticism in some form or other, because a definite rejection would, in his mind and in the minds of others, confirm what he says. I think well of your suggestion to allow him to write a letter much briefer and more concise, which you would agree to publish.

My own suggestion would be to publish Mr. Close's letter in one issue and then have it answered in the next issue, not necessarily by Mr. Pitts but by someone who could really write well and forcibly.

You ask me to advise you if I think the plan to publish it as a letter in a somewhat abbreviated form and in conjunction with a reply from Mr. Pitts is a sound one. I approve of the plan to publish it as a letter, in some abbreviated form, but not necessarily in conjunction with a reply from Mr. Pitts. As I stated above, publish his letter