

## Greetings from the Emma Goldman Papers –

This June 27<sup>th</sup> marks Emma Goldman's 140<sup>th</sup> birthday!

At the Memorial Meeting held in 1940 in honor of Goldman – the “Outstanding Woman of Our Time” – the labor activist Rose Pesotta celebrated her life and friendship:

“...I need not tell of her many-sided activities, other speakers, Emma's comrades, are better qualified to pay tribute to her. I knew her only in exile. Our several meetings occurred in Montreal, Canada, 1934; France, during the Syndicalist Convention, 1937; in London, England, in 1938, and again in Canada in 1939 on her birthday, and the last time we met was on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the last banquet in honor of her 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in labor and the libertarian movement, in Toronto. ...

I was privileged to be one of her closest friends during the last few years of her life – an honor and joy that will never leave me and our friendship will inspire me to endeavor to carry on, as much as I can, our work for labor, for freedom from oppression for all mankind and liberty for the individual, economic, social and cultural. Time will not dim her memory. Her indomitable, militant spirit and legend will grow over the years, a mounting inspiration to all of us who knew her as one of the outstanding women leaders of our generation, and a tradition those who follow us will be happy and proud to reverence.

From the Pacific coast I came to Chicago to pay my tribute and take a last farewell of my beloved friend and comrade, Emma Goldman. She looked so beautiful to me, on her last resting place, with the SIA-FAI banner draping her coffin and floral offering from all over the country from labor, friends and organizations heaped about. Thousands of people passed her bier to pay their final tribute and bid her farewell. The speeches and services were inspiring – those present seemed to have caught some of Emma's own flaming spirit and her unmatched eloquence.” —Rose Pesotta, May 31, 1940

Pesotta was among many devoted friends who paid tribute to Goldman, and who hoped that “time [would] not dim her memory.” Only a month after Goldman's death, the Director of the New York Public Library wrote in hopes of acquiring Goldman's correspondence:

“...The Library feels it will be a privilege to develop this source material about a striking figure and will be grateful for any help you can give to this end.” —H.M. Lydenberg to A.L. Ross, June 22, 1940

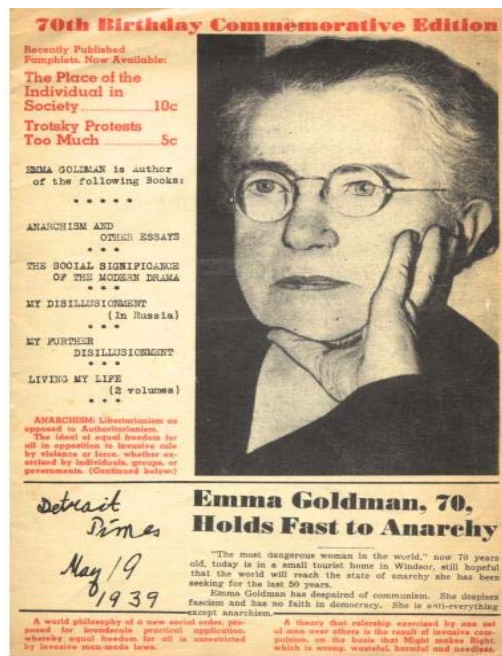
This privilege and work has since been undertaken by the Emma Goldman Papers – and even after all these years Goldman's correspondence continues to trickle in, much to our delight. Just this week, we received a package from the late Miguel Rosner's sister which included a letter dated January 27, 1906 (coincidentally Emma's

half birthday – okay, we admit we’re a little obsessed!) from Goldman to the editor of *The Open Road*, in which she inquired whether his magazine was still being published, as she was planning to name her own publication *The Open Road* after Walt Whitman’s poem ‘Song of the Open Road.’ It appears that Barrell’s publication was no longer in circulation, though Goldman decided to change the name of her forthcoming magazine to *Mother Earth*. The envelope – stamped with *The Open Road* and preserved along with the letter – clarifies how close Goldman was to publishing her magazine as *The Open Road* before changing its title. It’s amazing how a tiny detail contributes to the mosaic of a life – the letter is a wonderful addition to our collection, and an especially timely gift.

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Happy Birthday, Emma!

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It’s never too late to honor Emma’s birthday with your own contribution to the Emma Goldman Papers.

Tax-deductible donations can be made online at <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Goldman/Emmarabilia/gift.html>

or mailed to:

The Emma Goldman Papers  
University of California

2241 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704

Checks should be payable to the Regents of the University of California, earmarked for the Emma Goldman Papers.

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With much appreciation for all of you, our generous friends and supporters, whose support and belief in the continuation of our work is invaluable –

Cheers!

Candace, Barry and Tessa of the Emma Goldman Papers.