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Paddy Quick’s “Capitalism and Household Production” opens our last issue of 2023. It offers, as per its subtitle, a cogent “Marxist-Feminist Critique of Social Reproduction Theory,” arguing that this novel theory clashes with a Marxist understanding of household production under capitalism. In addition, it makes pointed remarks on Karl Marx’s neglect of this type of activity in his economic works.

Kei Ehara’s “Marx’s Ideas on Work Organization” critically traces out Marx’s analysis of cooperation, the division of labor, and industrial mechanization in *Capital*, in light of recent studies in the English and Japanese languages, to identify conflicting tendencies in the modern capitalist organization of labor toward concentration and dispersion, calling for a
reexamination of capital accumulation overall and the prospects of the workers’ struggle.

Supported on a rich survey of the working conditions of digital-platform workers in China, Wei Zhang, Hao Qi, and Zhongjin Li’s “Control of the Platform Reserve Army” conceptualize this category of workers as the “stagnant reserve army” of China’s modern labor force, documenting the complementary and contradictory roles that private capital and the State play in shaping the dynamics of this segment of China’s working class.

Debarshi Das’ “Marxist Rent Theory and Its Applications in Developing Countries” attempts to rationalize the still unresolved agrarian question in large parts of the developing world and today’s conditions in the urban real-estate markets relying on the conceptual machinery of the Marxist theory of land rent. In turn, Christos Balomenos’ “Did Marx Have Second Thoughts about the Law of the Falling” seeks to refute Michael Heinrich’s theses on Marx’s dubitation on the plausibility of his “law of the tendency of the profit rate to fall” utilizing the MECW and MEGA collections.

Four book reviews close our October issue. Bon appétit!

J. H.