

Foundations & Philosophy of Science Unit

13.4.1977

Dear Giere

Thank you for yours of the 4th. My short answer to it is this.

- 1. Some people, among them myself, felt either hurt or irritated or both for being told that they had done nothing worth while in the philosophy of technology—by someone who had done even less.
- 2. Of course your proposed classification of technologies by social function is a valid one-for sociology. But in order to be able to claim that it is also more useful philosophically you would have to redefine "philosophy" in such a way that it includes the study of society and excludes the theory of knowledge, ontology, ethics, and so on. You have not done this and, if you did, your Revolution in Philosophy might not be hailed with enthusiasm.

Cordially

Mario Bunge