

## Revolutionary Outlook in Germany

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The social scoundrels, the Eberts, Scheidemanns and Bauers nominally in power, are in reality miserable pawns in the hands of reactionary militarism.

The reader certainly remembers the incident concerning Captain Reinhard, commander of the Berlin detachments of the volunteer army. This fellow is an avowed monarchist and openly says so to everyone. To the respectful question put to him by "Vorwärts", relative to his demonstrative manifestation of monarchist sympathies, Reinhard declared squarely: "That the time for restoration of the Hohenzollern has not come; the Allies at this juncture will not praise us for that, but"—it is this but which is significant—"when the time does come, the Reinhardts will know what to do."

We will now touch upon the strike of farm hands in Pomerania which took place last July. The Pomeranian farm hands decided to form a Union and declare war upon the junkers. This movement was not of a revolutionary character, but it was nevertheless dangerous by reason that it might become revolutionary. The Berlin and Pomeranian junkers sensed that should the agricultural workers unite with the city workers their power would be at an end. That is why, by the order of the "Socialist" government in Berlin, martial law was declared in Pomerania and the Reinhard detachments ordered there. The strike was broken by the united efforts of the volunteer army, Pomeranian junkers and the government "Socialists". Is there need of a better illustration to reveal the real character of the pack of hounds ruling Germany at present?

"How is demobilization progressing?" asks "Freedom", the daily of the Independents, pointing out further, that millions upon millions of the people's money is being spent for the support of the army and in order to keep it on a war footing. Demobilization has been completely forgotten. On the contrary more and more new recruits are being taken into the army.

The politically blind from the Menshevik camp, who always whimpered about Bolshevism "creating reaction", would benefit greatly by looking facts squarely in the face. They would see the truth, evident to all politically literate people; that social-patriotism is the midwife of the boldest and blackest reaction.

The Baltic adventure is being talked about everywhere. There is no doubt that the German counter-revolution has built a strong nest there and is putting its shoulders to the wheel of the Russian and German reaction. The daily of the Berlin Independents, "Freedom", is hardly mistaken when it asserts confidently that the day is near when the "iron divisions" of Von der Goltz, united with Reinhard volunteers, will put an end to the republican form of government and reestablish the monarchy. The Berlin correspondent of the British "Daily Herald" is of the same opinion. He claims that such is the conviction of the general public and that the social-patriots are absolutely powerless in the face of the reactionary generals. Von der Goltz is attracting into the Baltic province a great number of reactionary charlatans and adventurers, promising them land—the land of the Lettish peasants.

Up to a very short time ago all over Germany, and particularly in the southern

provinces recruiting for the "iron division" continued. And the social-patriotic government did not even lift a finger to stop it, though it understood perfectly well the purpose of the mobilization of the reactionaries. It knew that the reactionaries were gathering their forces for use against revolutionary Russia.

About the present attitude of the Berlin government towards the adventure in the Baltic, Price writes the following: "The events in the Baltic provinces throw light on the situation in Germany. The government of Ebert and Bauer has ordered the military commanders to evacuate Courland. The latter not only do not pay any attention to these orders but act contrary to them."

We are inclined to think that the orders are written for appearance only.

So the government of Ebert and Scheidemann is playing the role of traitor not only to its own people. It is selling out the Russian revolution by actively opposing it on the Baltic front.

The strike wave in Germany has not subsided. Without the aid of martial law and other extraordinary measures the government cannot take a step. Not only the volunteer army but the police also are on a real war footing. White Terror is raging all over the country.

What is the attitude of the great masses that actively participate in political life? We shall not talk about the Spartacans who have not laid down their arms even in the darkest hour of counter-revolutionary madness. We do not doubt for a moment that this influence is growing in depth and width. A sudden turn towards the left is manifest among those workers who belonged to the Independent Socialists. This was evidenced at their conference last September. The party membership is openly leaning towards Bolshevism. The leaders take the position of the centre. The renegade Kautsky, formerly considered the leader of the Independents, does in reality represent no one but himself. He is sinking deeper and deeper into the quagmire of Scheidemannism and in his dastardly attack on Soviet Russia he goes beyond even Bernstein. But Kautsky is harmless at present. The masses have come to understand his "Marxism." After the September conference great numbers of large and small branches of the Independent Socialist party voted in favor of joining the Third International. This move towards the Third International is still continuing. Sooner or later it will result in a split in the Independent Party. The masses and some leaders will join the Communists; the "Kautskianists" will go with the government party of the social skunks. That will be a great gain in the interests of the revolution.

There are certain workers in Germany who go hand in hand with the Scheidemann party. They are the so-called "labor aristocracy". But even these semi-bourgeois elements are manifesting their dissatisfaction with the present government policy. At the convention of the social-patriots at Weimar, many speeches of protest were made against Noske & Co. The convention passed a resolution against the volunteer army. And there were cases of whole branches leaving the party.

This growing dissatisfaction certainly does not strengthen the position of the Ebert government.

Taking all this into consideration we may draw the conclusion that the revolution of the German laboring classes has not yet

said its last word. The German proletariat will yet measure its strength against the bourgeoisie.

## Where Do You Stand?

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sider it an insult if the world today should call him a "successful and influential minister" just because he had been wise and shrewd enough to keep things smooth while accomplishing nothing. He would scorn to ask men to lead a "devotional" life without having them devoted to his cause. He would have no hesitancy in condemning those who cry aloud the housing problem and then make their pile by holding land out of use for speculating purposes. He would not associate with a man who made his mark in the world by paying such wages in his store that only girls "who live at home" could work there. He would laugh at our "dynamic" Detroit and our inhuman civilization. And do you imagine that he would rise in the world, that he would be a successful minister or enterprising business man? No! While there was a lower class he would be one of them; while there was a struggling group who wanted not only a chance to exist, but an opportunity to live the "more abundant life" he would struggle with them. He would gather them together as a hen would gather her chickens; he might weep over Jerusalem, but he would then go down into the city, even if it meant the taking up of the cross and carrying it on lonely shoulders to Calvary.

Where do you stand? There is no middle ground—"he that is not for me is against me." I am sorry that it so, but today we must decide whether we are to be loyal to a church which bears its cross for the people who are in need of deliverance from bondage. I am comparatively a young man, but I want the strength of my youth to go into the great struggle for the toiling masses whom I love, rather than the doubtful and very discouraging task of Christianizing the Church.

When the Church calls me to be loyal to the institution and He calls me to be true to the Kingdom, I must follow His train. I entered the ministry to promote the Brotherhood of Man and now I am leaving it for the same purpose.

## LETTRES DE CACHET

MEMBERS of Communist Party in Chicago—Comrades Kowalski, Preis, Faulkner, Krispens, and others—are being condemned to prison on warrant.

On formal deportation charges, based merely on membership in the party, bail is fixed at \$10,000, an absolutely prohibitive figure.

The American bureaucracy makes no pretense of observing the traditional principles of Anglo-Saxon criminal practice in its political inquisitions.

Imprisonment on a bare statutory charge; and, in fact, four or five days of flogging without even the warrant—these are American improvements over the Czar and Kaiser methods.

Hearing is completed in the Stoklitsky case at Detroit; also in the Shumovich and Bieznak cases at Chicago. In the latter two cases a brief is to be filed by the party counsel, J. E. Ferguson, which will involve only the single issue of whether or not membership in the Communist Party is of itself a basis for deportation.