

WARFARE OPENED BY HAND GRENADE

Bomb Thrown Into Dense Throng in Berlin Wreaks Havoc

STIRS FIGHTING SPIRIT

Spartacans Start Trouble in Peaceful Assemblage Supporting Ebert

By LEONARD SPRAY Wireless to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1919, by the N. Y. Times Co.

A HAND GRENADE was thrown into a crowd of tens of thousands of people who passed in front of the Chancellor's palace. The dead and wounded are being carried away, and there is a sound of firing.

Such are the ominous concluding words of a long message which I have just received by telephone from Berlin. Taken in conjunction with the preceding events, they mean nothing less than the beginning of a civil war.

All day immense crowds filled the Berlin streets, crowds in comparison with which the biggest assemblies of the first days of the original revolution were insignificant.

"About 11 o'clock," telephones the correspondent of the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, "when I went into the city, thousands of sightseers were still flocking to the districts where the government buildings are situated. They were all supporters of Ebert and were on the way to Wilhelmstrasse to make protest against the Spartacan anarchy. After a time the various groups combined into a procession, which at street corners would often merge with similar bodies coming from another direction, until at last one powerful procession was formed, which marched to Wilhelmstrasse.

Fighting Spirit Aroused "There, before the Chancellor's palace, an immense multitude was demonstrating. The crowd extended from the neighborhood of Leipzigerstrasse to Unter den Linden. This crowd was comparatively harmless, but it was already apparent that the fighting spirit on both sides had been aroused.

"The Eichenhorn question had made the differences sharper. The Government could no longer retrace its footsteps and was quite aware of the fact, while Liebknecht and his people, who probably knew beforehand that the Independent Socialists would be with them, had clearly made up their minds to accept the challenge. Issue can only be decided when one party is in the position of commander and the other in that of the defeated.

"Along the whole wide thoroughfare people were pressed so close together as to form an impenetrable mass, and still new streams of humanity continued to flow toward this central pool.

"In the Sigsalle at 19 o'clock an opposition demonstration had already begun. At first the number was not extraordinarily great, but in the course of the military hours thousands flocked in from the factories, where work had been stopped, carrying red flags and banners with the inscription, 'Down With the Government!' They formed an endless procession, which moved toward the head police office.

"The great Alexander square was a sea of people. From the balcony of the police office some one was speaking. It was probably Eichenhorn himself, and whatever he was saying evoked tremendous applause, varied now and then by shouts denouncing the Government.

Armed Spartacans Appear "In the course of the afternoon armed bands of Spartacans came into the streets. They rode in motorcars on which machine guns were mounted, and whenever they passed the crowds denouncing in favor of the Government. The appearance of these cars produced the greatest excitement in the streets.

"The first armed encounters were of a comparatively harmless kind, for they were fought out with fists. But about 2 o'clock armed Spartacans, who included a number of socialists, gathered in the neighborhood of the Chancellor's palace and assumed a threatening attitude, talking about a general strike, and with intention to storm the government building.

"This, however, was not going to be so easy to do as to say, for in the meantime the whole government district had been prepared for defense. Every building was a fort and at every window were soldiers wearing their steel helmets. Pointing out of many windows were machine guns, and bombs were lying about on the balconies. Soldiers were grimacing efforts to approach the Chancellor's palace, but this was impossible.

"Suddenly as I stood there a hand grenade was thrown, though it was impossible to say from which side. It fell into the masses of the crowd and a few minutes later the dead and wounded were being carried away.

"This morning all the Berlin trams ceased to run, as did also State railways, the employees of which joined the strikers from the factories.

Fighting Throughout Night "All through the night there was fighting, and that part of the population which went home was left awake by the almost continuous gunfire.

"Up to 10 o'clock, this morning the Government was still holding its own in the Chancellor's palace, all the approaches to which were cut off by soldiers, and they had also succeeded in regaining the mastery of the Brandenburger gate, around which raged a battle of several hours' duration.

"The Spartacans, however, still remain in occupation of several outlying railway stations, all the newspaper offices, the principal army provisioning depot, the Potsdamer Station, and the State printing works.

"The Government secured its valuable victory in reconquering the administrative headquarters of the State railways. This was managed very cleverly. Government soldiers from the Anhalter station moved steadily forward and under cover of darkness succeeded in mounting machine guns at points covering all the roads along which Spartacan reinforcements could be brought up. Then another strong body of troops made a frontal attack. The occupants of the building opened fire with a machine gun, but this was quickly silenced, and then two white flags were hoisted on the roof. The conflict was over in ten minutes and the victors lost only four killed and three injured.

Government Troops Repulsed "Two night attacks were also made against the Silesische and Statiner stations, but the Government troops were repulsed. This morning a fresh attempt was being made.

At midday the correspondent of the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, says: "That the tram and railway communication has ceased at last brings the favorable circumstance that there are fewer people in the city. The tremendous crowds which have been in the streets have constituted one of the greatest dangers. Wherever firing breaks out or a conflict is expected thousands of sightseers flock to the point.

HINDENBURG CAN CRUSH RADICALS

Germans at Coblenz Not Much Worried by Events at Berlin

EBERT DELAYING CALL

Teuton Army as Yet Not Much Affected by Bolshevism, Is Report

By EDWIN L. JAMES Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1919, by the N. Y. Times Co.

Coblenz, Jan. 10.—According to messages received here, negotiations between the Berlin Government and the Spartacans have been broken off, and the radicals say they will "fight to a finish." Since Monday morning there have been scattering conflicts between the Government adherents and the radicals.

It is difficult for Germans here to get exact information from Berlin, because the wire service has been interrupted by the activities of the Spartacans group and trains are not running, due partly to strikes for higher wages and partly to the fact that the Spartacan adherents assume themselves to be in control of the railroad stations from time to time and causing trouble until Ebert's police arrive and drive them away.

One reason why the situation in Berlin is not regarded here as serious insofar as threatening to give the Spartacan crowd control of the capital, is that people know that Hindenburg has about eighteen divisions of troops not far away, upon which Ebert can call at any time. But it is understood that Ebert wishes to use these only as a last resort, and is depending on the excesses of the Spartacan crowd to arouse indignation among the great majority of the population, which will mean death to the radical cause.

General Groener has also offered to restore order in Berlin should it become necessary.

CHURCHILL TO BE SECRETARY OF WAR

Daily Chronicle Correspondent Names Lloyd George's New Cabinet

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London, Jan. 10.—The Daily Chronicle parliamentary correspondent says that he understands that the following appointments to the new Ministry have been definitely made: Chancellor of the Exchequer—Austen Chamberlain.

Secretary for Home Affairs—Edward Shortt.

Secretary for Foreign Affairs—Arthur J. Balfour.

Secretary for the Colonies—Lord Milner.

Secretary for India—E. S. Montagu.

Secretary for War—Winston Spencer Churchill.

First Lord of the Admiralty—Walter Hume Long.

Minister of Transport—Sir Eric Geddes.

President of the Board of Trade—Sir Albert Stanley.

President of the Local Government Board—Christopher Addison.

Minister of Reconstruction and National Service—Sir Auckland Geddes.

Chief Secretary for Ireland—Ian Macpherson.

Secretary for Scotland—Robert Munro.

Under Secretary to the Home Office—Sir Hamar Greenwood.

Under Secretary to the Board of Agriculture—Sir A. Griffiths Boswell.

Chief Whip—Captain Guest.

SOCIALISTS LOSE BADEN

Bourgeois Parties Elect Large Majority of Representatives

Copenhagen, Jan. 10.—Results of the elections to the national assembly in Baden have been disappointing, according to an admission made by the Freiheit of Berlin. Out of a total of nearly one million votes the Independent Socialists polled less than fifteen thousand and failed to elect a single representative.

The bourgeois parties elected seventy-two representatives against thirty-one for the majority Socialists, who polled less than one-third of the popular vote.

AUSTRIAN ELECTION FEB. 16

State Council Selects Date, Vienna Dispatches Say

Amsterdam, Jan. 10.—The Austrian State Council has decided to hold the election for a constituent assembly on February 16. It was reported in Vienna dispatches today.

BRITISH AT WORK IN AUSTRIA

Mission to War Prisoners Performs Wide Variety of Tasks

ATHENS HONORS ALLIES

Will Name Streets for Five Leaders, Including Wilson

Amsterdam, Jan. 7 (delayed).—A deputation of Independent Socialists, consisting of Ledebour, Dittmann, Kavitsky and Breitscheid, entered into negotiations with the Ebert government, which demanded the immediate return of all weapons, the evacuation of occupied buildings, and the resignation of the deposed police president Eichenhorn. An armistice was arranged for, so that the demands might be considered.

These demands apparently have been refused by the revolutionaries, as the latest report says that their leaders have constituted themselves a government, consisting of Liebknecht, Ledebour and Tiek, president of the Spartacan band.

The sailors' division has declared itself neutral and deposed its revolutionary leaders.

SPARTACANS LOSE GROUND STEADILY

By the Associated Press

London, Thursday, Jan. 9.—The Ebert government is steadily gaining control in Berlin and the Spartacan element is gradually losing ground, though still showing great determination, according to the latest news from the German capital. Fighting raged through Tuesday night and up till noon Wednesday in various parts of the city, and there were a number of casualties.

Gustave Noske, who was placed in charge of the Government's defensive measures, seems to have matters well in hand. He has gained control of the railways and is bringing large forces of troops into the city, where a state of siege has been declared.

A great difficulty is found in establishing the sequence of events at Berlin with any approach to accuracy, owing to the fact that a great number of the dispatches received have been without dates. It is assumed that all were completed during the night.

The Allied leaders, both civil and military, wish the national assembly elections called for January 19 to be held, because it is only after a meeting of assembly that Germany can have a stable government. It is the avowed purpose of the Spartacan group to prevent the holding of this assembly, which they know they cannot control against the conservatives. It is not thought that they will be able to prevent it.

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230 ACRE FARM, 150 HEAD REGISTERED STOCK, HIGH GRADE LAND, ALL CONVENIENCES, FINE LAWN, QUICK SALE, CIRCULAR, PATENT HEAT GENERATOR, CONSERVES 80% HEAT, LET US PROVE IT, HALF INTEREST FOR SALE, A FORTUNE IN IT, CIRCULAR, PRIVATE HOSPITAL, PROFITABLE, SUITABLE, QUERREY, NEEDED, LARGE GROUNDS, ELEVATED, FINE WATER, ALL CONVENIENCES, FINE LAWN, AND SHADE, \$14,000, GARIS & SHIMER, BETHLEHEM, PA.

THE GREAT SHOE EVENT!

STOCK-REDUCING SALE

Shoes will be more costly next Spring and next Fall than they are today. With this in mind, and with the full realization that because of very heavy advance buying we are able now to sell our great surplus stocks at about half their present value—prudent Philadelphians should anticipate their shoe needs in this Sale.

Women's Shoes—Formerly \$7 to \$8 NOW \$3.90, \$4.90, \$5.90, \$6.90, \$7.90, \$8.90, etc.

Men's Shoes—Formerly \$7.75 to \$15 NOW \$5.90, \$6.90, \$7.90, \$8.90, etc.

Splendid Savings on Shoes for Children, Misses, Girls and Boys

The Much-wanted Scotch-woolen Stockings for Women, \$2.95 formerly \$3.50

19 So. 11th A quick-service Men's Shop.

Every Foot Professionally Fitted—Three Geuting Brothers Supervising

OPEN EVENINGS TILL 9 P. M. SATURDAYS TILL 10 P. M.

BECKER'S MANUFACTURERS OF QUALITY CLOTHES 1514-16 MARKET ST.

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