

Germany,—Field of the Decisive Battle

By JOHN PEPPER.

The following description of the German situation is a part of Comrade John Pepper's article, "The New Wave of World Revolution," which will appear in the November issue of "The Liberator."

The greatest and most important battle of the world revolution and world counter-revolution is now being fought out to a finish in Germany. The German working class is today the vanguard of the world proletariat, and the German capitalist class is today the prize-fighter of world capitalism. The victory of the German revolution means a whole series of new revolutionary movements in Poland, in Czechoslovakia, in hopeless Austria, in suppressed Hungary—it is the best guarantee for the definite victory of Soviet Russia. The victory of the German capitalists will mean the victory of military dictatorship throughout Europe, will mean a new invasion against Soviet Russia.

The German capitalists, the present ruling class, are losing more and more the leadership of the nation.

Capitalism, the Bankrupt Leader.

The German capitalists are not in a position to assure the continuity of production. Every week thousands of factories close down; unemployment is increasing at the average rate of 400,000 more workers per week losing employment. The inflation of paper money grows to astronomical figures. The dollar is now one, two, six, eight, ten billion marks. Credit has ceased to exist. Prices change with the rapidity and unreasonableness of the thoughts of a madman.

The capitalist class is no longer in a position to provide the most elementary needs of the masses. The workers, the petty bourgeois and intellectuals literally haven't anything to eat. Shopping for bread or potatoes has assumed in Germany the form of raids, robbery and hunger-riots.

The capitalist state power is in process of decomposition. Armed

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THE AMERICAN LEGION.

Next week's issue of "The Worker" will contain a complete story of the gathering, just adjourned, of the American Legion, at San Francisco. The article is written by James H. Dolsen, editor of San Francisco Labor Unity, one of the best writers in the labor movement. This issue, therefore, in addition to its being our Soviet Anniversary Edition, should have a specially large circulation.

Foster Meeting in Newark, N. J., Stopped by Police

A meeting under auspices of the Labor Defense Council in Newark, N. J., with William Z. Foster as principle speaker, was stopped last night by the manager of Iroquois Hall, 262 Washington St., where it was to have taken place, the American Civil Liberties Union has been informed.

Altho the place of the gathering was prominently displayed in advertisements for several weeks, the hall keeper stated that it was engaged for something else and drove out the crowd which came to hear Foster. The Labor Defense Council charges that the hand of the local police is behind the action of the Iroquois Hall.

A local union offered a hall at 74 Market St. for the meeting when the situation became known, but the police interfered on the grounds that the hall did not measure up to fire regulations and that there was no permit.

Arthur Brisbane almost thinks as much of Lloyd George as he does of John D. Rockefeller. Perhaps Hearst has made some deal with the former concerning some mining properties in some colony of Britain provided the tricky Welshman comes back into power. Hearst was opposed to the recognition of Mexico until Obregon got fixed up, and Hearst was given an assurance that he was within Mexican law in robbing his peons.

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The Field of the Decisive Battle

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might be no longer a monopoly of state power, but every class and every political party has its partly open, partly secret, armed troops.

The capitalist class is no longer capable of safeguarding the unity of the nation. East Prussia is already separated from the body of Germany by the treaty of Versailles by the Polish Corridor. Germany's capitalist state power could not prevent the French invasion in the Ruhr. The Separatist movement for a Rhenish republic is gathering strength. Bavaria has proclaimed its independence and is only nominally connected with the German empire.

The capitalist class is bankrupt in Germany, and it is becoming clearer and clearer to the masses that the capitalist class can no longer fulfill the duties and tasks of a ruling class. Thereby is provided the first basic factor of a revolution, while at the same time we see the increasing strength of the second factor—the capacity and will for power on the part of the working class.

The New Leader is Arising.

The working class is becoming ever more unified, more class-conscious, and it has become the only class which can offer a program and solution for the whole nation.

The Communist Party of Germany today has behind it the majority of the active part of the working class. The Social Democratic Party, formerly so strong, is being torn into factions. The right wing wants to continue co-operation with the capitalists, whereas the left wing calls for co-operation with the Communists.

The German Communist Party has not only been able to make itself a powerful mass party, but it has also created organs of the united front which assure it the co-operation of the laboring masses not as yet Communistic. And these organs of the united front—the factory committees, the proletarian Hundreds, the control commissions, the Socialist-Communist Cabinet in Saxony and Thuringia, are constantly growing, and are rallying greater and greater masses about themselves. And these organs of the united front are at the same time the nuclei for taking over power and wielding power for the working class. The factory committees are the embryos of the future Soviets. The proletarian Hundreds are embryos of the future Red Army. The proletarian control commission are the embryos of the future organs of food distribution. And the left Socialist-Communist government in Saxony is the nucleus of the future Soviet government of Germany.

But the Communist Party of Germany has not only assembled the majority of the working class around itself around the organs of the united front, but it is according more and more in winning over the strata of society between the capitalists and the workers—the farmers, lower middle class and intellectuals, as allies of the working class, or at least in neutralizing them. The great lower middle class masses in Germany are losing more and more their faith in the leadership of the capitalists, and are putting their hope more and more in the working class, as the only saviour from political and economic chaos.

It is becoming constantly clearer

that only the working class in Germany can safeguard the unity of the nation against separatist efforts and can save Germany from the fate of becoming a colony of France. The passive resistance conducted in the Ruhr by the German capitalists has proved a complete failure. Stinnes, the most powerful representative of German capitalism, is negotiating in open high treason with the French general, Degoutte. The only counter-balance against the treacherous Separatists in the Rhineland is the working class. All the diplomatic tricks and cunning of the German capitalists, all the negotiations with France, Belgium and England have remained futile. Only the working class, only the victorious proletarian revolution can lift Germany out of hopeless isolation, can secure for it the alliance of Soviet Russia, the support of the Red Army and the help of the agricultural surplus of the great Russian plains for the starving populations of the German cities.

In the measure that the German Capitalists are split in more and more factions, the German working class is becoming ever more unified under Communist leadership. In the measure that the capitalist class is forced to abandon the leadership of the nation and to become an open traitor, in the same measure does the working class assume leadership of the nation and constitute itself as the leading class of the entire nation.

Two Centers: Bavaria and Saxony.

The decision in Germany cannot be held in abeyance very long. More and more clearly do we see two centers of power concentrate themselves—the center of power of the counter-revolution—Bavaria, and the center of power of the revolution—Saxony. The deciding phase of the revolutionary struggle shows in Germany a new feature, different from the Russian and Hungarian revolution. The struggle of the Russian and Hungarian workers for seizing power was openly the fight of the suppressed workers against the oppressing state power. In Germany the deciding battle of the class struggle of workers and capitalists will assume the form of a struggle and war between two state powers—between counter-revolutionary Bavaria and revolutionary Saxony.

The decisive battle of the new period of world revolution is being fought out in Germany now. The fate of the whole working class of the world depends on this battle. But for that very reason it is not sufficient to look on with bated breath; we must give out active aid. The victorious German revolution will have against it the enmity of the entire capitalist world. The government of the United States in the White House and Stock Exchange will attempt to send money, ammunition and perhaps even troops against the German revolution. We must alarm the American working class today. We must proclaim today the solidarity of the American and German working class. We must today drill the slogan into the American working class: Not a cent, not a ship, not a gun, not a case of munitions against the German revolution!