

"...cause is the highest stage in which the concrete notion as beginning has an immediate existence in the sphere of necessity; but it is not yet a subject..." Hegel, Science of Logic, Vol. 2, p. 172

LAST EXCERPTS FROM NETTL re: German Rev.

1918--The German Rev. begins, pp. 706-736

Nov. 9, a general strike breaks out in Berlin and large groups of armed workers and soldiers stream out into the street. It was the effective end of the Empire.

Schneidemann declared the "Democratic Republic then and there, to prevent a complete Spartacus takeover." (p. 711)

On Nov. 11 Spartakus issued a special supplement to the Rote Fahne which had a detailed PROGESS, p. 712-713

RL was released from the city jail at Breslau; allegedly the Oct. 12 amnesty was supposed to apply only to those serving a specified sentence. Only when the revolutionary wave reached Breslau ^{on Nov. 9} were the jail gates opened.

F. 735: "If anything, the membership of Spartakus was even more revolutionary than the leaders. The pressure for action came from below--just as RL had always predicted."

Ch. 17: Irresistible Force and Immovable Object

The conclusion of that chapter contains Nettl's whole thesis: "Mark left two great alternatives--one basic, one derived. The basic variable was revolution--formal or real, objective or subjective, an event that happened or the one that had to be made. (Extreme positions, these, with an infinity of possibilities in between). The irreparable break, which transformed possibilities into irreconcilable alternatives, took place in 1910 with RI and KK holding the two sawn-off ends. (The revisionist controversy was about 'how,' not 'what,' about the small present, not the great future--really a second-rate dispute.) From this first break derived the second variable: Socialists making the revolution, or leading it. The pull of the

14324

Russian October Revolution prevented any intermediate positions from developing and produced a new break right away--only RL's death prevented her from developing and defending her leadership of an alternative revolutionary Marxist ~~power~~ tradition against other claimants. But nonetheless, the

CH. 18: ~~Review~~ Luxemburgism

14325