

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN. N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1918.

GREAT CONFUSION OVER NEW POWERS

Reports from Germany Indicate
Chaos in Government Affairs—
Against Liebknecht

Amsterdam, Nov. 17.—Berlin newspapers and despatches reaching here indicate that there is great confusion in Germany over the powers to be given the various councils, committees and officials.

The despatches indicate that there is chaos in government affairs owing to the formation by the Spartacus group of a new political party, which has reduced the strength of the Independent Socialist. How strong this new party will be is not known.

The so-called executive council of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council has followed the Berlin garrison's demand by "temporarily" rescinding its order for the formation of a civilian red guard. There is reason to believe that the executive council, despite the fact that Captain von Roerfeld was forced to leave it because he was considered too radical, is still more socialistic and radical than the larger council, from which it has its commission.

That the bulk of the soldiers themselves refuse to countenance Bolshevik methods again has been demonstrated at a meeting in the Reichstag building of delegates from all the Soldiers' Councils in Berlin and delegates of similar councils elsewhere. The Berlin soldiers are united firmly against Dr. Karl Liebknecht. They declare that he had been thrown out of the barracks owing to his



German Situation At End of Fighting

Had War Continued Three Days
Longer Collapse Was Inevitable
—Preparedness for Hostile
Action Still Necessary

London, Nov. 19.—Regarding the military situation, The Christian Science Monitor is reliably informed that on signing the armistice, the German army's position was an extremely precarious one. Its communications were gravely disorganized, and the main lateral line was completely severed at

Sedan. The troops were exhausted and had the war continued three days longer, the collapse was inevitable, particularly in view of Marshal Foch's great attack which was pending east of the Meuse. Five days' respite may have enabled them to organize communications to withdraw, though enormous forces make such a task colossal and difficult and may mean complete dissolution of the German army.

Preparedness against possible hostile action by enemy elements remains necessary. The setting up of revolutionary councils which may disagree with the armistice, plus the fact that the armistice is capable of termination within forty-eight hours' notice necessitates preparedness against eventualities.

It is considered premature to imagine that large numbers can be immediately released, or that demobilization can be begun for some time, as the uncertainties of the situation are very great. Certainly the German army was not in a position to resist, but should the troops refuse to acknowledge their present commanders and the army disintegrate, the Allies may still have much to do.

Exhaustion of the Teutons necessitated a withdrawal east of the Rhine. The All-Russian government appointed the Russian, General Beldiev, commander-in-chief, serving with "Kokchak" as Tschuk and Russians, the prospects are favorable for raising a reliable strong army in Siberia. Considerable progress has already been made in recruiting, and the Russian generals appointed are experienced. It is believed that General Denikin intends to clear the Caucasus of the Bolsheviks and occupy Tauris. The growing Siberian and Cossack forces in Southern Russia, are favorable features, pointing to the eventual deliverance of Russia from Bolshevism.

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