

THE REVOLUTION STARTS

The period from Nov. 1918 to January 1919 when RL is released from prison, there is uninterrupted work for the next 2 months until she is murdered. On Nov. 9 the monarchy falls. The USPD unites with the SPD and they call for a national assembly. Spartacus which had been an organized faction within the ~~USPD~~ USPD denounces this and calls for workers and soldiers councils.

*Founding Congress of KPD refers,
1918 - 1/1919*

Within two weeks, after a lynch campaign had been mounting for weeks in the so called socialist papers, against RL and KL, they were both murdered, Luxemburg undergoing the most brutal murder as she was not only shot in the head but her body thrown into the ~~Landwehr~~ Landwehr Canal. And when it was first found in May, it was mutilated beyond recognition.

Here is the speech that provoked the counter-revolutionary mayhem against her. It was delivered to the Founding Congress of the renamed Spartacus League as the Communist Party, and it breathed both defiance and historic continuity directly with Marx as the very first sentence shows that the program she was offering was not due to the

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mere fact of founding a new party: "Great historical movements have been the determining causes of today's deliberations."

And when she likened this to the CM it was to a very special edition of the CM, [1872] after the Paris Commune when Marx proclaimed that the Paris Commune proved that the "working class cannot simply lay hold of the ready-made state machinery and wield it for its own purposes" but must smash it, concluding,

"It is time to shake ourselves free of the views which have guided the official policy of the German SD down to our own day, of the views which share responsibility for ^(what happened on) ~~the 4th of August~~ ~~1914~~ Aug. 24, 1914.

(Hear! Hear!)

"The 4th of August did not come like thunder out of a clear sky; what happened on the 4th of August was not a chance turn of affairs, but was the logical outcome of all that the German socialists had been doing day after day for many years. (Hear! Hear!)

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She then begins to analyze the first steps in the beginning of the revolution, Nov. 9 when those who participated with them -- (USPD) -- at once retreated!

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When she talks about the end of the first act where they still entertained the illusion of unity with the other socialists; they were actually betraying the revolution, she says: "It was typical of the first period of the revolution down to Dec. 24 that the revolution remained exclusively political. Hence the infantile character, the inadequacy, the half-heartedness, the aimlessness of this revolution... But within the last 2 or 3 weeks a number of strikes have broken out quite spontaneously. Now I regard it as the very essence of this revolution that strikes will become more and more extensive, until they constitute at last the focus of revolution. (Applause)... Socialism will not be and cannot be inaugurated by ~~MEASURES~~ decrees; it cannot be established by any government, however admirably socialistic. Socialism must be created by the masses, must be made by every proletariat... We of the Spartacus Group, we of the Communist Party of Germany, are the only ones in all Germany

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who are on the side of the ~~workers~~ striking and fighting workers. (Hear! Hear!) "

The loud applause comes, however, as she talks of extending the revolution: " We must carry the class struggle into the country districts; we must mobilize the landless proletariat and the poorer peasants against the richer peasants. (Loud applause)

We must
mine the bourgeois state, and we must do so by putting an end everywhere to the cleavage in public powers, to the cleavage between legislative and executive powers. These powers must be united in the hands of the Workers' and Soldiers' Councils."

She proceeds further to spell out how these powers lay in the hands of the masses. The masses must learn how to use power, by using power. There is no other way. We have, happily, advanced since the days when it was proposed to 'educate' the proletariat socialistically. Marxists of Kautsky's school, it would seem, are still living in those vanished days. To educate the proletarian masses

socialistically meant to deliver lectures to them, to circulate leaflets and pamphlets among them, but it is not by such means that proletarians will be schooled. The workers today will learn in the school of action. (Hear! Hear!) Our scripture reads: In the beginning was the deed."

~~"...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

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