

Holden Karlovich Kirchnerov (ГТ Холден Карлович Кирchnerов) was a Galtanian Communist theoretician, leader of the Socialist Party of Galtania from 1884-1895, leader of the Galtanian Socialist Party from 1895-1912, and Chairman of The People's Executive Council from 1892-1912, ruling over the DSRG until his death. He is remembered for his Marxist-based theory of Kirchnerism. Kirchner, as he was most often called, masterminded the creation of the world's first socialist power by leading the 1890 Kramplovich breakaway and the Galtanian Communist Revolution (1891-1894). He and his followers overthrew the Droz of the Empire of Galtania, Drozgi Vladymyr Vladymyrevich Prozanov IV.

Early Life

Holden Karlovich Kirchnerov was born on September 7th, 1844, to a German working-class family in Herbstburg. His first language was widely considered to be German. His father, Karl Kirchner, pushed him early on towards medicine, the family's traditional business, but young Holden never took to it. He had a mother, Eliza Kirchner, and a younger sister, Anna Karlovna Kirchnerov. Not much is known about his childhood, besides a story told by his mother in which he broke his leg at age 10, falling off a horse. He was apparently bullied at school quite often for being shy, but mostly because of his German background, which made him an obvious target.

Education and Political Awakening

At the age of 18, Kirchner went to Grosdon University to study law using the funds of his wealthy late uncle. However, when he arrived, he was much more taken by politics. He started

reading Marx after being introduced to the infamous theorist's works by a fellow student.

Kirchner was instantly captivated by the ideas of Marx, believing them to be the solution to all the struggle and poverty he had witnessed during his childhood in Herbstburg. In 1866, Kirchner finished his education at Grosdon University, but decided to stay in the city of Grosdon due to the connections he had made in college. He got a job as a blacksmith working at the Zhmte Factory in lower Grosdon, and joined an underground communist organization called the Vpered. He attended many of their rallies until the police arrested their organizers in 1869.

Meeting Leonid Volzin and Moving West

In 1870, Kirchner started working as a writer, living with his old college friend. His friend Zarkov introduced him to Leonid Volzin, a professor from Vantsk University who was interested in many of the subjects that Kirchner was interested in. Volzin shared a few of his own revolutionary writings with Kirchner, inspiring Kirchner to finish and publish his first small book on societal structures in 1871, titled *On State and Society*. It gained moderate attention in underground circles, but also got the attention of regional authority. Kirchner decided it was time to move on. Using the funds from his previous jobs, he moved to the brand new German Empire in 1872, settling in Berlin. Although he spoke German growing up, it apparently took him a while to relearn the language according to a German acquaintance of his. Two years later, Kirchner moved out of Berlin and into the countryside. He took up multiple odd jobs and taught local farmers about revolution. However, in 1878, he was deported from Germany for spreading revolutionary ideas.

Kirchner's Return to Galtania

Almost immediately after returning from Germany, Kirchner was drafted into the ongoing Second Swedish-Galtanian War (1877-1881). Galtania's holdings in Scandinavia were being threatened by the Swedish Empire, so Drozgi Vladymyr Vladymyrevich Prozanov III drafted as many young men as he could to fight in brutal conditions. Kirchner was badly wounded in the Battle of Vimmerby in 1880 and was sent home with a shattered leg. He limped for the rest of his life. The war ended a year later with a Swedish victory, much to the dismay of average Galtanians, who felt like the sacrifices that their nation had made had been in vain. Hundreds of thousands of young Galtanians had died in the war, and the people were ready for something new. In 1881, Kirchner traveled from his flat in Grosdon to Vantsk, where he met up with Volzin. Volzin introduced Kirchner to a young former Army Captain named Ivan Petrovich, who had been humiliated and disgraced for protesting the Swedish-Galtanian war as a "pointless intervention". Petrovich was very taken by Kirchner's and Volzin's ideas about revolution and class structures, and wanted to join their cause. In 1881, Volzin, Kirchner, and Petrovich formed the Vpered Party, a Communist organization that used the ideologies of Marx, Volzin, and Kirchner as its backbone. Unlike other communist parties, the Vpered Party was organized, structured, and welcoming to those who were unfamiliar with its cause. They quickly garnered major support from urban and rural workers alike.

The Rise of The Vpereds

In 1883, Leonid Volzin published his now universally acclaimed book *On The Unity of Labor*.

This book, more than anything, garnered the Vpered massive support, even leading to the formation of their own small paramilitary. Vpered posters and flags started adorning the streets of Grosdon, even though they were quickly removed by the police. Public opinion of the Prozanov monarchy had hit an all-time low, and revolution was openly discussed in certain circles. This was due to a number of reasons, but the main reasons were territorial expansion at the cost of the population, Herbstburg dominance, rural starvation, wealth inequality, and the result of the Swedish-Galtanian War. These reasons all helped the Vpered Party gain attention as an alternative, and their rallies grew every day. In 1884, Kirchner rebranded the Vpered Party to the Socialist Party of Galtania, although its followers were still called the Vperedes. Throughout the rest of the 1880s, the Vperedes would continue to grow in massive numbers, with their volunteer-based paramilitary being named the Red Liberation Forces, or the RLF for short. The RLF would guard rallies, engage in protests, and get into fights with local police occasionally. Each RLF “victory” made revolution seem more plausible. By the end of the decade, Herbstburg officials openly debated outlawing the Socialist Party altogether, while the Vperedes began to whisper of seizing entire regions rather than streets. The stage was set for open rebellion.

The Kramplovich Breakaway and Galtanian Revolution

In July of 1890, Kirchner and Petrovich discussed a secret RLF operation that was planned to take place in November of the same year. Demographically, the Socialist Party of Galtania, or SPG, had the largest amount of support in the Galtanian State of Kramplovich, home to Grosdon. Kirchner would use this support to topple the highest Kramplovich authority, titled the Senior Grant of the Droz, and gain control of the state. Petrovich, the leader of the RLF, agreed, and the

date was set for November 23rd. On November 23rd, 1890, RLF forces stormed the Executive Building in Grosdon, and executed the Senior Authority Yavko Pulchye. They then gained control of the entire state, and forcefully broke it away from the “motherland”, forming the Socialist Democratic Republic of Kramplovich. The Droz was furious, but most of his army was fighting the Austro-Hungarians. While the Galtanian Empire was winning the war (Galtanian-Austro Hungarian War 1890-1892), attempting to crush the traitors in Kramplovich might result in loss in the West. So the Droz waited, building up the Imperial Army on the Border of Kramplovich. Kirchner knew they would be immediately outnumbered if fighting was stalled by even a few months, so he prepared the RLF to start massive recruitment, and to strike first. In January, 1891, Kirchner ordered the RLF occupation of Imperial Galtanian Poland. The Imperial Army had expected him to strike East instead of West, thus allowing the RFL to gain massive ground. In February of 1891, the RLF captured Warsaw, a massive goal. Here, they began to draft young men into the Red Liberation Forces. The RLF started to use scorched-earth tactics to slow down Imperial troops being recalled from the Austro-Hungarian front by destroying roads and train lines. Petrovich described this as a “necessary sacrifice”. Meanwhile, socialists around Europe were watching this war with great interest. What had started as a small mutiny had now turned into a genuine movement capable of occupying much of Western Galtania. On April 5th of 1891, Kirchner renamed the Socialist Democratic Republic of Kramplovich to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Galtania, proclaiming the newly formed DSRG as the sole legitimate Galtanian state. Prozanov IV now knew how large the movement he was against had become. In order to gain more soldiers, Kirchner promised the majority-Ukrainian provinces in the South of Galtania self-determination/independence if they joined the cause. This gained the RLF many new Ukrainian fighters. In September, 1891, the

RLF captured Kyiv. However, the tide quickly turned against Kirchner as the bitter winter months made progress deadly. The RLF started to slow down their assaults and even got pushed out of Ruinya by the Imperial Army. After the captures of Minska in March 1892, Mokgrad in July 1892, Tolsin in November 1892, Herdonsaw in June 1893, and Vantsk in October 1893, the war was just about won by Kirchner. The Battle of Herbstburg took place in a siege led by Petrovich, lasting from January 28th to March 7th, 1894. Kirchner and the Vperedts were triumphant, and Kirchner proclaimed Grosdon the new capital of the new republic.

Kirchner in Office

Kirchner immediately nationalized all housing, industry, and agriculture after coming into power. He proclaimed the SPG the only legitimate ruling party of Galtania. Kirchner and the SPG reintroduced the Cyrillic script to Galtania and went about removing loanwords from the Galtanian vocabulary in the Linguistic and Script Reforms of 1894. Kirchner, although never elected into office, created democratic processes in order to elect future leaders into office. In his own words, “Revolution can only succeed if those leading have vision and great commitment towards sustainable, efficient democracy within our socialist system” - *Kirchner's Biography*, 1914. Kirchner's term focused heavily on housing. The newly renamed GSP (Galtanian Socialist Party) immediately seized property around the state and redistributed it, even converting old palaces and manors into apartment buildings. This also acted as a huge incentive for those living in rural conditions to move into urban areas and take up more profitable manufacturing jobs. Kirchner legitimized the MVK Doctrine as the state ideology, combining ideas from Marx, Volzin, and Kirchner. The MVK Doctrine emphasized decentralized worker democracy within a

centrally coordinated economy. Kirchner also created the People's Assembly to act as parliament, taking votes on various matters. The GSP also granted voting rights to women in 1897, becoming one of the first countries to do so. Kirchner passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 68 on May 14th, 1912. Ivan Petrovich was elected to office by a wide majority 4 months later, while the Commissioner of the GSP took up a provisional role as Chairman in the period in between, as defined by the constitution.

Legacy

Kirchner's legacy remains deeply contested. In Galtania, he is seen as a hero, a revolutionary icon, and a liberator of the oppressed. Many left-leaning Western European countries see him as a bold visionary who strayed a bit too far from the center. In more right-leaning countries, people see him and his ideas as dangerous. No matter where you go, though, most people will agree that he helped fundamentally shape the world into what it is today, for better or worse.