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**WARNING FROM RUSSIA**

(Victoria Times)  
 Soviet Russia today seems to be nearer to that long-predicted smashup than at any time since Nicholas Lenin was laid to rest in chilly grandeur in the Kremlin.

Every year has brought its scare story from Russia; but this one, which tells of revolting peasants, hostile neighbors and a restless army, seems to be based on fact. Its chief details, for instance, are broadcast by the special correspondent of a New York paper that has always been scrupulously fair to the Soviet regime. The grand Communistic experiment is evidently approaching a crisis.

Probably "experiment" is not quite the word, at that. It is the word we have been using for a decade, and the Russian nation has surely lent itself to a great venture into an untried field; yet, on the whole, what has happened over there has been a great deal more than an experiment. It has been, primarily, an object lesson, a colossal, smoking warning, trailing across the eastern sky a banner of blood and fire and smoke, by which all the rest of us can profitably be guided.

Suppose, for the sake of argument, that the present stories should be correct and that the Soviet state should presently come down with a crash. Suppose that Stalin, as some predict, should seize absolute power and make himself a kind of northern Napoleon, riding the Russian people with a spur as sharp as the czar's. What then? Would it be in order for us to lean back and smile and say that we "knew all along" that this wild Communistic struggle could not possibly stand for more than a few years?

It would not. All along most of us have missed the point of the Russian revolution. We have deplored its wild excesses, shuddered at its bloodshed, piously shaken our heads at its cruelties—and have been, all the while, supremely blind to the real meaning of the whole business.

The Russian revolution has been a demonstration that ought to last the human race forever, of what repression and autocracy inevitably bring in their train. The rulers of that great country sowed the wind for centuries and as always happens, they finally had to reap the whirlwind. Many innocent people were killed and much money was wasted, but it was inevitable. As Carlyle pointed out, if people are deprived of their rights long enough they will eventually assert their rights—tragically and cruelly.

The Russian revolution was Russia's by-product of the World War. We are beginning to realize that to avoid a repetition of the war we must steer a different course from that which was charted up to 1914. We might let the Russian revolution tell us that the race must discard autocracy, repression and Bourbonism if it is to avoid another Communistic experiment on a grand scale.

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**News of the Mines**  
 AROUND PRINCE RUPERT  
 Consolidated Enters New Field at Stewart; Independence May Ship Next Year; Heavy Expenditures at Khutze Inlet

A great step has been taken in broadening out the Portland Canal mineral area through the acquisition by the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. from Charles Knipple and Thomas Williams of a large zone on the Naas slope north of Bowser Lake. Fifty-seven claims in all have been staked to cover the showing. The zone has an average width of 700 to 800 feet and is some four and one-half miles long. Chipped samples taken from the surface

have given returns of \$3.50 per ton in gold and silver, in addition to a large arsenic content. Located on the Naas slope of the divide between Twenty-Mile Creek and the Unak River, the development of this immense showing will be of much importance, demanding transportation facilities which will open up another large territory. It is understood that Consolidated next year will establish a camp and prospect the area thoroughly. It will be necessary first to extend and improve the present inadequate trail system. With satisfactory development of the Big Missouri, George Copper, as well as this new property, it is possible that such a large tonnage may be produced as to warrant the establishment of a smelter by the Consolidated at or near Stewart.

Splendid progress is being made under the direction of S. P. Fitzgerald with the driving of the tunnel on the Independence mine at Stewart. Two shifts are being worked and each is making four feet on the 600 feet objective. All winter supplies have now been landed at the camp. The work was started at the face of No. 2 tunnel, which was 300 feet from the portal. In 225 feet the first ore is expected and in 500 feet the downward extension of the shoot carrying native silver that was opened up in the tunnel above should be reached. It is hoped to get into a body of shipping ore which may be sent out next season.

Another interesting ore body has been encountered in a cross-cut from the main drift in the silicified porphyry zone that extends into the Sebakwe from the Premier and B. C. Silver. In extending the drift southwest toward the B. C. Silver, a blind vein, 20 feet wide with an average value of \$20 in gold and silver, was encountered. Further tonnage is thus developed for both the B. C. Silver and Sebakwe.

The White River Placer Syndicate has been formed at Stewart by Fitzgerald brothers and associates for the purpose of securing funds to prospect placer claims on White River, a tributary of the Naas River, which were staked last spring. Trustees are S. P. Fitzgerald, Frank Fisher and E. D. Haddon. As a result of considerable prospecting, the owners have been convinced that further development, which would cost a good deal of money, is warranted. The ground is undoubtedly a dredging proposition, so it is proposed to thoroughly prospect it with a keystone drill. It is the plan to raise the money this winter and move the outfit in early next spring.

Pete Swenberg and associates are now engaged in the contract to drive 300 feet of tunnel on the Rufus Argenta property, this tunnel being part of a plan to open up the Erickson lead, which is one of the main showings of the property. Though diamond drilling has been discontinued for the

cent visit of eastern directors to the property, further development has been outlined to cost \$115,000 more. The syndicate is virtually pouring money into mine development here and is meeting with very encouraging results. It is also planned to spend \$50,000 in development of a property in Theodosia Arm. A shaft will be sunk and the vein cut at three levels. The ore is from 3 to 27 per cent copper, about \$2.40 in gold and seven ounces in silver.

James Gibbons, Bangor, Maine, railwayman, is expected to arrive in the city next Tuesday from the east. His visit here will be in connection with the affairs of his brother, E. C. Gibbons, who is presumed to have lost his life last week in a drowning accident while hunting at Hartley Bay. He and M. P. McCaffery of this city are the administrators of Mr. Gibbons' estate.



HOST: "Well, little lady, did you have a good night?"  
 SMALL VISITOR: "I don't know, I was asleep all the time."  
 —The Humorist, London.

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