

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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GOOD PROPHECIES AND BAD.

There are indications enough that the Lenine-Trotsky faction is by far the strongest in Russia. Practically all of the rumors that formidable opposition had developed have proven unfounded. Thus the report that the czar had been made crowned head of an independent Siberian government is refuted by an authentic report that the Bolsheviki decided to change his residence and increase the force guarding him, with which is coupled the intelligence that Lenine troops occupied Vladivostok. Russia's Pacific part and something like twice the distance between San Francisco and New York from Petrograd. The rumor that Kerensky was supported by strong Cossack detachments is capped by an authentic account of how the Cossacks deserted him when he moved on Petrograd. General Dukhonin, we were assured, was going to whip Lenine's followers into line; then we heard of the capture of his staff and his own assassination.

Russian ambassadors at London, Paris and Washington declared confidently that the Bolsheviki would stay in power but a few days; they have held the reins for more than a month, and the ambassadors are intimating that they are almost ready to revise their predictions. England and France would not deal with the new government; the United States held aloof beyond permitting newspaper correspondents at Washington to send out an inspired statement to the effect that this country had no intention of interfering in Russian domestic affairs. Now we learn that the British ambassador at Petrograd has made a statement that his country was in sympathy with the Russian people; that it contemplated no coercive or punitive action in the event of Russia making a separate peace. "Great Britain," he said, "is ready, as soon as a stable government is established, to examine with it the aims of the war and possible conditions for a just and durable peace. She wishes to stand by Russia in this critical hour."

The French ambassador also issued a statement of willingness to discuss war aims and peace terms with the Russian government as soon as it is established and recognized. The Petrograd dispatch explains that the declaration is similar to the one made by Sir George Buchanan, the British ambassador. "As soon as a stable government is established" means as soon as the constituent assembly, delegates to which have been elected in the last few weeks, convenes and decides upon a constitution. Inasmuch as the Bolsheviki candidates have received a very large vote, in some sections of the country larger than all the other parties combined, and are assured, with the Social Revolutionaries elected, of a strong majority, perhaps as great as two to one, in the assembly, the French and British statements mean that as soon as the formalities are done with the two allies will recognize Lenine and Trotsky.

Predictions based on precedents are dangerous, but one takes little chance of guessing wrong in saying that in a few days, or weeks, the Kaledine effort will have proven futile. If he and Korniloff had really developed a strong following the allies would have preferred to help and recognize them. That the allies' diplomats are issuing what might be termed "sympathetic" statements is evidence enough that, blind as are the Lenines and Trotsky to the futility of their own wild dreams, the great bulk of Russia's 180,000,000 people are behind them.

GERMAN OPINIONS.

The inspired press of Germany, which reflects but muddily the real sentiment of the war-weary German people, receives President Wilson's message with its usual remarkable lack of insight. One paper says: "If President Wilson so puts the problem that there can be no peace with the present Germany, then Wilson, together with Lloyd George and Clemenceau, must disappear." Another says: "Wilson has surpassed himself in unexampled shamelessness"—truly great tribute, considering from whence it comes. Still another: "Wilson's phrases will not shake us; neither will our enemy's desire to bleed to death until we consider the time has come to establish his world rule of justice." The famous Tageblatt opines: "It is not to be denied that the intransigent American war will tend indefinitely to prolong the war. It goes without saying that entire Germany is united against the extravagance that speaks in Wilson's new proclamation." The Berlin Vossische Zeitung declares: "The message is an essential part of a big action initiated by America, evidently with the understanding of her allies, to disturb the negotiations between the central powers and Russia. Regarding the latter, we may recall the announcement concerning the alleged imminent declaration of war made by America against Austria-Hungary, which evidently aims to divert Austria-Hungary from solidarity with Germany."

It is now up to every loyal American to don his arms and fight to the finish. America must win this war. Every young American must enlist today—this is the last day. Let Tonopah and the entire state in her quota of population lead every state in the Union.

SOME FACTS ABOUT WAR INSURANCE.

ANY man or woman of any age in the active military or naval service of the United States can obtain government insurance. It has been ruled that members of officers' training camps are under the act and can obtain insurance. The cost for each thousand dollars of insurance is from 65 cents a month to persons at the age of 21 to \$1.20 a month to those of the age of 51.

The beneficiaries are limited to wife, husband, child, grandchild, brother or sister, step-brother or step-sister, adopted brother or adopted sister of the insured, as well as parent, grandparent, or

step-parent either of the insured or of his or her consort. The insurance is not compulsory, but the cost is low and the protection great, and not only are all persons eligible afforded every opportunity to obtain this insurance without trouble or extra expense, but they are specially urged to do so. General Pershing and thousands of other officers and tens of thousands of soldiers have already taken out insurance. Up to date policies of insurance have been issued aggregating \$1,032,938,000.

PORTUGAL'S TROUBLES.

DETAILS of the Portuguese revolt are meager. The revolutionists are in power and have placed the president under arrest, he having refused to resign. For years the people of Portugal have been chronically discontented. Lately they have been hungry. The republicans have been beset by a strong monarchistic party, the radicals of the Russian type are fairly strong, and the result is a condition of widespread disorder. Portuguese soldiers are fighting, and fighting bravely, with the allies in France; apparently the rebels seized their opportunity to put over a quick revolt with comparatively little bloodshed. The new government will doubtless be as strong or stronger pro-ally than the one just overthrown.

CLIPPED AND CREDITED.

Recent events justify recasting the old maxim somewhat in this fashion: "Nothing succeeds like surprise."—Chicago Herald. Colonel Roosevelt should be more lenient in his criticisms. He ought to remember that other men are not as wise as he is.—Charleston News and Courier. Why are New York school teachers surprised by suspicions of disloyalty when 110 protested to the board of education against signing the pledge of loyalty? That protest alone is reason enough for suspicion.—Buffalo Enquirer.

"The Fighting Trail"

EIGHTH EPISODE—"THE STRANDS OF DOOM."

It was over two months now since anything had been heard from Von Bleck or any of his men. Gwyn, Nan and Casey were standing one day before the main shaft of the mine, watching the operations of the men. All about them things were busy. Ore cars were traveling into and out of the mine, cars of trains, laden with cinnabar, were moving along the narrow-gauge railroad which had been built from the mine to the town, and which, incidentally, had been one of the big improvements which Gwyn had installed in Lost Mine.

"It seems," said Gwyn, as he and Casey stood outside the shaft, "that we finally scared Von Bleck away. He hasn't been heard from for nearly nine weeks now, and it looks as though he'll stay among the missing. I have written to the financial powers in New York and they are mighty well pleased with the outlook. I believe that they will send someone out soon to see how we are getting along."

"Well," replied Casey, "if they do, the report ought to be a bum-dinger. We sure are progressing—and, don't forget, this is the only cinnabar mine that anyone knows of. And this would have been drained long ago if anybody except Don Carlos had known where to find it. Hi, there!" he called suddenly to a man operating an ore car which had just come from the entrance of the mine. "Stop your loading and drive up here. We got no time for vacations between loads. Move up!"

The person to whom this curt order was addressed looked up from his car with a scowl. His unshaven

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Southern Nevada Abstract Company, Agts

R. J. Highland, Mgr.

"Of course, I can go," Nan answered. "I'll start now and get back as soon as I can." Gwyn halted one of the men who was nearby and ordered him pull up one of the automobiles. "One-Lung," who had snaked along slowly so he could hear what was being said, hurried along with his car to the end of the track, and then disappeared behind some ore cars. Casey and Gwyn walked slowly toward the former's office and left Nan as she was preparing for her departure for town.

The four men who were seated about the table leaned closer to each other and spoke in low tones. About them, standing in the rear room of Brown's cafe, in the center of the town of Lost Mine, were a score or more of the roughest, hardest type of men that had ever been seen in the town. They talked among themselves, glancing frequently at the group about the table, waiting for the decision of the conference. And Von Bleck, Cut-Deep Rawls and Shoestring Drant were firing questions and statements in subdued voices at another individual, a large, fleshy person, weak of face, although not weak of body. This fourth man was known to Lost Mine as Sheriff Causley, whose main object in holding the position was to try to assure himself of re-election at every next election.

In a sudden spasm of duty, which struck him but infrequently, Causley had threatened Von Bleck and his band, but when the agent of the central powers gave him to understand that interference would result sadly for him both physically and politically, he had seen things in a different light.

"Everything is just ripe for our next move—and it'll be our biggest move, too," said Von Bleck. "We have to act quickly and sensibly. The main thing is to get the deeds. I'm pretty sure 'One-Lung' can take care of that; he might even have them already. Then an attack on the mine. We'll capture that, and with the deeds and Sheriff Causley's legal influence, we can hold it—and I can go back to New York and take things easily. You boys," he spoke to the others about the table, "will get your little pieces and they'll be enough to keep you from worrying for some time to come. Now go to it!"

"Wait here a while, boys," Rawls addressed the crowd of men in the room. "We'll be back to get you soon. Be shining up your guns, meanwhile."

Then he, accompanied by Drant, Causley and a few of the others, left the room and piled into the sheriff's automobile, which was standing by the door.

Just as the auto filled with men shot away from the curb to go down the road, another car swung around the corner ahead. In it were two occupants, a man and a woman—Nan and the mine employee who had come with her. She caught a fleeting glance of the passing car and recognized the outlaws in it.

It was very evident that the unexpected presence of Rawls and the others of Von Bleck's men in Lost Mine alarmed Nan. She speeded up her motor, swung in by the bank, and came out again almost immediately with the money for the pay-

roll. In another moment she was back in the car and driving at a dangerously rapid rate of speed toward the narrow-gauge railroad which led back to the mine.

Some distance from the terminus of the railroad was a bridge, a wooden structure which ran several hundred feet above a river, whose waters rushed and whirled from the mountains. Before this was reached, when a train was coming from the town and going toward the mine, it was necessary to cross another bridge over a chasm. This latter structure was not straight, but made a turn, as a bow. Where the string of this bow would have been was a wire cable which also bridged the chasm, with the town end lower than that nearest the mine. By means of this, and a basket attached to a rope and pulley, ore had been sent across the chasm by means of the cable ferry before the bridge had been erected. Since then, however, it had not been in use, and the basket was rotten from exposure to the weather.

As Nan, in her engine, approached the chasm bridge, she noticed an automobile that was standing on a road near the trestle. It was Causley's car. She guessed in a moment that Rawls and his men had headed her off and were about to attack her. She did not know why; perhaps, she thought, for the money she had with her, perhaps to capture her and use her as a sort of modern hostage against Gwyn. A glance at the car and she threw the throttle wide. The engine dashed by the cut upon the bridge, just as Rawls, Drant, Causley and the other who had left Brown's cafe in the sheriff's car emerged from the bushes firing a fusillade of shots which they intended would stop Nan's flight. The man in the engine with her opened the coal box to speed the flames as they rode over the river and almost lost all the fire when many of the burning cinders fell to the bridge. As the engine swept along toward the mine, Nan looked back and could see the bridge over the river beginning to flame. The cinders had set fire to the dry logs that served as ties.

When Nan's engine drew up before the main shaft of the mine, she saw Gwyn and Casey talking excitedly before the superintendent's office. It was evident that something had gone wrong. The engine had scarce stopped when Nan jumped from it and ran up to the two men.

"Von Bleck," she cried, breathlessly. "He and his gang are on the tracks. They tried to get me. There's something mighty troublesome in the wind and we'd better do something quick."

"Von Bleck!" Gwyn echoed, his excitement at even a higher pitch. "You bet he's making trouble. Nan, your deeds to the mine are gone. They've been stolen. I was just in the house, and the safe has been ransacked. Casey, we've got to head them off. We've got to get to town before they do with the deeds and

land grant and keep them from filling them. Nan and I'll get on the engine again and ride back. You stay here, Casey, and guard the mine with your men. It's two to one they'll attack here and try to get possession."

Gwyn lost no time. Casey understood and shouted that he would do his part while Gwyn and Nan went to town. Gwyn ran to the engine, followed by Nan, threw open the throttle and sped along the rails in the direction of the town of Lost Mine. There was nothing to hinder them until they reached the bridge over the river. This they saw to their horror, as they rounded a curve and came within full view of it, was blazing in flames.

"There's nothing to do, Nan," Gwyn shouted above the din of the growling wheels on the track. "We've got to take a chance. I'm going to drive over, full speed. Hold, now!"

(To Be Continued.)

ISLANDERS WANT CANS.

(By Associated Press.) SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 11.—A few cans of salmon of the red variety will secure many tons of copra in the South Pacific islands, according to Captain James Carey, a San Francisco seafaring man, who has made many trips across the Pacific ocean. Kerosene cans and red salmon are the only specie that South Sea islanders know in the copra business, Captain Carey explained. The kerosene cans are used for coconut seedlings, the islanders maintaining that they thrive better in them than in a wooden box. The war has made both salmon shipments and kerosene cans scarce and the natives will not accept anything else.

GIFT OF INSURANCE.

(By Associated Press.) FORT COLLINS, Colo., Dec. 11.—"Nothing contributes to a man's inefficiency like the lack of money or the fear that his family will be in want in case of his death," says a statement issued by the Great Western Sugar company, announcing the gift of an insurance policy to each of its employees who have been with the concern for a certain length of time.

The policies have a maximum of \$3,000 and new employees are entitled to them after six months' employment, the announcement says. The total amount of insurance carried for the employees is close to \$2,000,000, it is announced.

FEW XMAS FURLOUGHS.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The war department has decided to grant Christmas furloughs for only those national army men living within trolley distance of the cantonments.

Jones' apple cider just arrived at Hall Liquor company. Six bits a gallon. advN231f

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