

COPPER HOGGING IS THREATENED

Copper from Russia May Prevent American Monopoly, Says Sir Edward Edgar Bert.

(By Associated Press)
LONDON, Oct. 25.—That the recent agreement between the Soviet government and the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated Company, which will permit the handling of the inexhaustible copper, lead and zinc resources of Russia, is the most important event to British industry since the armistice, is the opinion of Sir Edward Edgar Bert, the merchant banker.

Sir Edward, in an interview, has declared that while the world at the present time is running short of these metals and the present source of supply is being rapidly depleted, the reserves of Russia, which are practically virgin, will be laid open, averting any possibility of an acute shortage. There are vast areas in Russia containing these metals which have never been touched for commercial purposes according to his statement.

"It is quite possible," Sir Edward said, "that without this new Russian source the supply of copper, lead and zinc in the next twenty years, Russia is our only hope of lessening this catastrophe, for the resources of the United States, which represent about forty per cent of the total, are rapidly dwindling."

"For the next decade I can see America leading it over the world of industry through her control of

these metals, but I also see her surrendering her heritage with recklessness, and I further see how it may easily happen that Great Britain, through her development in Russia, will assume a position in the metal industry that will displace America."

"That is where the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated Company and the Soviet government come in. If allowed to develop to the full extent of its capacity, this company may easily become the greatest producer and exporter of copper, lead and zinc in the world. It will free British industry from servitude to these essential trans-Atlantic raw materials, and it will secure for us a supply of these metals that will be felt in every department of British commerce and manufacture. I believe the coming period of leanness and scarcity will be followed by long years of plenty that will more than reestablish us in our old pre-war position."

MORE WAR FOR POOR OLD CHINA

Deposed President Forming Coalition of Political Parties for Attack.

AMONG CHINA, Oct. 25.—A political conspiracy which may mean another disastrous civil war in China is believed to have been uncovered in the province of Fukien, whose capital, Fuzhou, recently was taken by the invading forces of Han Tsung-chi.

According to advices from Fuzhou, Sun Yat-sen, deposed president of south China, has plotted with Chang Tso-lin, the Manchurian

warlord, Tuan Chi-jai, Han Shu-cheng, known as "Little Han," Chang Wen-sung of Anhui and Lu Yun-hsing of Peking to form a coalition of the Fengtien, Anfu and Kuomintang parties. This coalition, it is said, plans to take Shanghai and drive Gen. Chen Chiung-ming from Kwang-tung and Chi Hsieh-tsun from Kailash, thus gaining control of the Chinese coast.

Will Meet Opposition.
The unification plan will have a formidable foe in Gen. Wu Pei-fu, the conqueror of Chang Tso-lin. There was said to be a possibility of General Tsoo Kun, the north China military leader, joining the coalition.

Gov. Li Hsu-chi of Fukien, who fled from Fuzhou upon the approach of Han's troops, is accused of playing a double game, secretly helping the plotters while ostensibly supporting the Peking government. His attitude toward Peking, it is said, is due to his fear of losing his office of tuchun, or military governor, of Fukien because of the recent government policy of eliminating the tuchuns. Both Chang Wen-sung and Lu Yun-hsing, north China leaders, also are believed to be preparing to forsake Peking for the same reason. It is declared that the coalition, if successful, will bring together the worst elements of all the political



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groups. The situation is extremely complicated and the future is uncertain.

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Fear to Be Original.
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