Russian 'Gary' Rising Near Mountain of Iron As American Engineers Prod 20,0000 Workers in Three Shifts Daily.

By Victor Eubank.

MAGNETOGORSK, U. S. S. R.

(P)—Here, a thousand miles from any city of importance, the soviet union is building one of the biggest steel mills in the world.

Americans who have seen it describe the place as "the Gary of Russia." It is rising from barren steppes in much the same manner as the steel town at the southern end of Lake Michigan mushroomed amid sand dunes of northern Indiana. Indiana.

A city is springing up here, too, but thus far the town consists prin-cipally of shacks and tents. And as in World war days, when military minds of the United States

hooked to Gary as a life-saver in case of disaster overseas, so the soviet authorities are appealing to the patriotic sense of R ussian workers to hasten the Magnetogorsk project to completion.

gorsk project to completion.

Far from Moscow.

From the standpoint of invasion by a foreign army, the project would be classed as "impossible."

It is more than 1,000 miles almost due east of Moscow near Where Siberia and European Russia

would constitute an important milthary vertebrase for soviet defense, both from the east and wast. But it is only one link in a chain of such enterprises which the com-munist regime has planned in the

Urol region.
Other plants are being built or are planned at Niji-Tagil. Bakaisky, Sinarsky and Kuznetsk.
Like most of the big projects now under way in the union, Magnetogorsk is being bossed by American engineers, the Arthur G. McKee company of Cleveland having the contract.
Twenty McKee specialists are on the job, although the winter wenther here runs the North Pole temperature a close second. But with 19,000 men working in three shifts of eight hours each, the Americans nust ignore the climate.
Finished in 1933.
The huge metal plant is to be

Finished in 1933.

The huge metal plant is to be campleted, according to the "five-year plan," by 1923, but if work continues at the present pace engineers believe it will be in full operation before that time. Two of the big blast furnaces may be ready for work by the end of 1931. While the soviets may envisage the uninterrupted production of war materials here in the future, the first orders to be filled will be for the transport service of the

for the transport union.

By the end of 1931 it is desired the state of beams of beams.

that Magnetogorsk furnish 350,000 tons of rails, 450,000 tons of beams 220,000 tons of assorted fron and steel and 100,000 tone of roller fron for the immediate use of the tail-ways, which even the most opti-mistle communist will admit are in

mlette communist will admit are in a bad way now.

Need More Metal.

"More metal!" is the cry of the soviet planners in their five-year scheme to build "the world's greatest industrial nation." So the Magnetogorsk steel mills will be surrounded by factories which will hasten the conversion of its products.

Nearby a number of machine building plants, including those for industrial and agricultural ma-chinery, are to be erected. Foun-dation work is already under way for chemical plants and some smaller factories of the light in-dustry class.

dustry class.

The steel plant is at the foot of magnet mountain," which is almost solid fron. No watch can be surranteed to keep the right time in its vicinity and compasses are worthless. Preliminary estimates place the mountain's content at a billion tons of ore.

Growing Population.

A little more than a year ago

Growing Population.

A little more than a year ago Magnetogorsk was a small village called Magnetonya. By the time the various factories are completed it is expected to have a population of more than 80,000. State and collective farms are being organized to furnish food for the coming city.

Magnetogorsk is to get its fuel from the rich Kugnesk basin, which is some hundred miles farther east in Siberia, and which has a deposit of coke coal estimated at 400 billion tons. Double railway tracks are being him between the steel works and the coal mines.

Trains Are Slow.

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The railway situation, as in other parts of the union, is one of the greeent handlears of the projects. A single track line now connects the works with Troitsk on the Trans-Siberian railway.

There is another single track line to Kartall, but this is of the military field type and trains run over it at only five miles an hour. American engineers call it the "slawest railroad in the world," but a double track line also is under construction on this route.

under construction on this route

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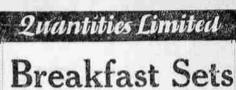
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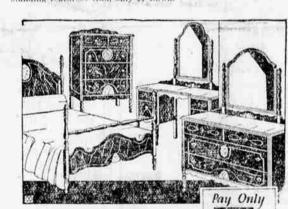
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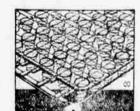
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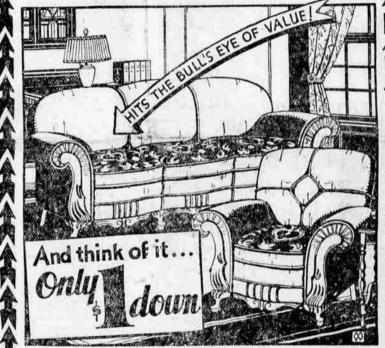


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