

Now in the Russian system we should say a word about what followed the N.E.T. The N.E.T. we notice was wiped out destroyed.

////// Now afterwards the N.E.T. has been in one or two lines, in monetary lines. There is one is one interesting example of it in the 30's. Russia decided they needed more gold. Why did they need gold? Thomas Edison once said that the very first thing that our modern economy was based upon something which was good for nothing except building picture frames films. Actually that is all gold is good for. I don't know anything else its good for. But our economy was usually based upon gold. Today it's not based upon gold at all. Gold is just a theory as far as any real importance to our economy is concerned. But it still has an ideological importance. And the western nations after gold had lost its significance were foolish enough to still give it an ideological importance, and consequently, if the Russians could turn over to us a certain amount of gold which we could take and bury in Kentucky, we would turn over to the Russians a certain amount of machinery which we have skillfully built which they could use and accomplish something with it. And they needed this machinery which we had. And we would just as soon that they would give us gold. So the Russians were interested in getting gold, and they got it in two ways, both of which were called 'gold mining', one of which was figuratively called gold mining and the other was called practical gold mining. I'd like to say a word about the figurative gold mining, but the practical gold mining was a question of going and hunting for gold, just as we do in this country. And so the Russians trained men especially for hunting gold, and they sent them out under government direction to Siberia and other places hunting for gold. And they found a certain amount of gold. But the amount of gold that they found was nothing compared to the gold they wanted. And so they decided to try the free enterprise system on gold mining. And the Russians found that the free enterprise system on gold mining brought them in 5 or 6 times as much gold as under the man's concept of getting gold. The skilled, fully trained men set out under government occupation not to clear the gold that they got in the other method. The other method was simply to say, "If a person wants to look for gold let him go, and if they don't find gold, they're just out. If they find it they can get a tremendous award." In other words a free enterprise system. So in Russia you soon had old fashioned prospectors, who had disappeared from the economy but there were still enough people who had the back bone of it; and they went to work wondering through the hills and plains--the untouched section of Siberia hunting for gold, and the prospectors were with a gold mine which they found.