glossy black iron railings around lawns and squares, the deep green of the larches, the bright flags and streamers on the streets and the badges bearing the city's coat of arms - "a golden deer above an Okhotsk wave" - all contribute to a special holiday mood.

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Komi Republic Gets National Holiday

(Skytyvkar, August 22nd. TASS) The Day of the Republic is being observed for the first time today as a national holiday in the Komi ASSR. This decision was made by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Komi ASSR following numerous proposals by workers. Hitherto, only anniversaries of the autonomous republic, which was created on 22 August 1921, were observed. Now this date will be celebrated yearly.

Komi, a land which prior to the revolution had practically no industry, has become the major fuel base of the Soviet European North under Soviet leadership. The country supplies all of the union republics and many regions of the RSFSR with important products such as coal, gas, oil and petroleum products, wood and saw-timber, paper and paperboard, plywood and pulp. Part of this output is exported to various countries of the world.

Meanwhile, one of the autonomous republic's major problems is that it continues to be primarily a region comprising a source of raw materials. This is