

highway robbery. If the oil industry workers were given the opportunity to sell by themselves even 8-10% of what they produce, we wouldn't be involved in these bewildering issues of food and of financial and material-technical support and would not be arguing with the government."

"The fact that our industrial product is raw materials, that the government has a monopolistic right to the sale of the raw material, and our total dependence on centralized funds and on deliveries under direct contracts at prices significantly above government prices - all of this has placed our region, considering the situation today, in an extremely difficult position," adds V. Sidorchev, secretary of the Nizhnevartovsk City Committee of the CPSU. "I am firmly convinced that the soviets should be sole masters of the land and mineral resources."

"But wouldn't this lead to increased exploitation of mineral resources? Won't the oil workers naturally want to produce more so they can sell it on the open market?"

"Of course, things should be done sensibly. As soon as the money is available, the soviets will set about energetically developing the social infrastructure. But now, you can see for yourself that this city, which was brought into existence by the government and exists solely because of oil, has virtually no future. A monostructure is a road to nowhere."

The lack of a clear strategy on the part of the Tyumen Oblast Committee of the CPSU for scientific development of the oblast's natural resources has made the nationality problem more acute. The fate of minority peoples of the North is at risk...

To be fair, we should note that there have been some positive developments here recently.