

the bowhead whale when this was recently allowed once again for the native population. After all, this is their livelihood. The whale provides the local inhabitants with everything they need.

Nature feeds and clothes the native peoples of the Arctic. Still, machines are implacably destroying the tundra, invading it with increasing force as industrial development of the Far North intensifies. Various pipelines cut off the paths to pastures, and the herdsmen and herds are rushing about in search of a solution, but the onslaught of the machinery leaves no hope. There are fewer lemmings around, and the number of polar fox have dropped sharply. The once abundant birds have flown off to new nesting grounds. Not important? Permit me to disagree. If the birds don't nest here, then there won't be any in the southern part of our country whence they migrate to their "summer home". Everything in nature is interrelated. By destroying the Arctic, we destroy other parts of the country.

We either attack Nature mercilessly, or forget about her completely as our provider who is always at our side. We go to the other end of the world to fish (think of the cost to our country), and yet we do hardly any fishing in the coastal waters of the Arctic where there is an abundance of excellent fish. The only thing is that ordinary fishing boats have to be used here, but in these days, why venture into the icy cold sea in primitive vessels... The greatness mania has blinded us to the experience and wisdom of the northern peoples who know that a primitive boat, rather than a nuclear-powered vessel, is needed for shallow waters where the fish forage and grow.

I think that the recently established State Arctic Committee will take up these ready-made urgent problems.

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