

loggers, float workers, river fleet workers and consumer organizations. Loading and unloading work when the logs are shipped by boat should, in particular, be organized in such a way that the river boats are not left around waiting for something to do.

Yu. Borisovets, Chief of the Timber Float Administration in the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry, noted that "last year the "Dvinosplav" Association applied an advanced method for loading pulpwood on-board in bundles (with preliminary sorting of the logs by length). In this way the logs could be packed more densely in the barges, working conditions improved, and barge turnover time was reduced."

New demands are now being made on the Scientific Research Institutes. Together with the enterprises, they are becoming producers and are financing their scientific-technical and social development by means of the funds obtained by selling their work. What work is this? First of all, the industry needs sorting and bundling modules, mobile sunken-timber removers with manipulators, multi-operation units based on the T-150 tractor for putting together rafts bundled on shore and for collecting stranded logs and rigging. We have to make the route from prototype to mass production as short as possible.

There is yet another problem that has to be solved: organizing operations on a two- or three-shift system. The equipment we use is extremely expensive. A bundling machine or a unit for raising sunken logs costs 120,000 roubles and a Soviet-made raising crane costs about half a million roubles. How can one be reconciled to the fact that these machines sit around idle or are used at only a fraction of their capacity?