

There is another detail of some importance that should be stressed. One of the main reasons for the region's accumulation of housing and social problems was connected with the fact that population growth in districts under development was not controlled in any manner. Ministries and departments conducted a virtually colonialist policy, feeling free to use all resources, including human resources. People went North by the thousands, but there was nowhere for them to live, so the notorious shacks and trailers started to appear. As of the past year the region restricted the inflow of people going to work in the northern districts. As compared to last year, immigration is down by a factor of 2.5. Naturally, this demographic policy immediately yielded positive results.

Will it be possible to hold the line? Otherwise, no matter how much is built, there will never be enough. They say it will. Because of the estimated population increase, that figure of one and a half million, includes those who will come to Tyumen' to build petrochemical plants for complete processing of oil and gas. There is no doubt that this is of the utmost importance - how long can we go on selling raw materials? However, it would seem that local Party and Soviet bodies will have to fight one more round with the departmental bureaucrats, with their view that the petrochemical sector will settle everything, just as oil used to settle everything.

And yet, looking at grounds for the optimism of those who insist that as much will be built as is needed, one cannot share that optimism without reservations. In fact, those grounds are imported to a great extent. At present, the region brings in more than half of the required amount of