

we will spend the greater part of this money on regeneration and operating expenses. Therefore our profits will, for the time being, be more in the nature of bitter tears. In order to conduct the business successfully and profitably, the Siberian petroleum industry workers should be receiving, according to their calculations, 80-85 rubles for each ton of extracted oil.

It is impossible to avoid mentioning the gas-lift method of extraction, which has been widely discussed in its time. The Ministry of Heavy Machine Building and the Sumskoye Combine im. Frunze had promised the Tyumen' workers that they would help to introduce it. In response to the promises, over the next two years the Siberians invested 120 million rubles and constructed four gas-lift complexes, from which they were to receive annually not less than 5 million tons of oil. However the low standards of engineering, the poor quality of the automation system and other serious deficiencies made it impossible to place these complexes in service. All these things and "like annoyances" are in no way conducive to rhythmical operations by oil extraction workers of Western Siberia.

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