

for furs, it was only last year that they allowed a portion of these products to be sold among the workers of the sovkhos. Before, we never even saw them. It's like this: if we catch the fish, we should be able to eat it. And our women have the right to adorn themselves in sable and fox furs, which, after all, are taken on their lands. Meanwhile, they are being worn by women in France, Italy and Germany - any who want them, just not us: all of the best furs are exported."

Q. "The third session of the the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted laws regarding property and land. Will there be changes in the North in connection with this?"

A. "There should be significant improvement in the life both of the indigenous peoples and of the population of the region as a whole. These laws must be like a breath of fresh air to them. Finally, the land will have a true master, who will take care of his own and never permit what the ministries and government agencies arbitrarily wrought here. Maybe we will be able to finally move beyond the current standstill situation. As a result of ill-conceived experiments on northern lands, approximately six million hectares of reindeer pasture lands have been lost in our okrug alone, and many bodies of water have been put out of use. In the upper reaches of the Ob highly prized fish species can no longer be found because there is so much oil flowing into the water. The people will not stand for this any longer. Without the people's consent there will be no more industrial development in the region. This will force the highly placed officials in the central government to understand that it is not they but the true masters of the land who will manage its resources."