

polar night facing both the elements and the bureaucracy remains with me.

Izvestiya

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Page 1 (slightly abridged)

Divorce - Noril'sk Style

We know that every year in this country out of three million marriages, one million end in divorce. However, in the Noril'sk industrial region, for example, there are sixty five divorces for every hundred marriages. Something about divorce also came up at the first judicial session in the New Palace of Justice, the symbolic keys of which were recently handed to the Noril'sk legal authorities.

Sociologists who study this phenomenon have noted the negative effect of the particular way in which people usually come to Noril'sk. Most often the first to arrive to work is the husband, who may only send for his family after he has received an apartment. Not everyone can withstand the strain of separation, which may last for a year or two. At Noril'sk, over seventy percent of the divorce proceedings are initiated by women. Incidentally, at Noril'sk, alcoholism is relatively common among women, according to the newspaper Krasnoyarskii Rabochii.

Trud

23 February 1989

(full text)