

there! They are literally being snatched out of their hands. There is also greater economy in dealing with materials. Not a single thing is removed from the warehouse needlessly. Wages have increased by 9.6 percent, while production has grown by 23.4 percent. Thus all the proportions are being observed. And the work itself is, so to speak, a joy.

However, it is not so good when such a joy is overshadowed by black envy. The case in point is the Chunoyarsk lespromkhoz which leased its unprofitable railway tie shop to the "Avangard" (Vanguard) cooperative. And after only seven months the shop began to show a profit. Business picked up briskly. And above all, the cooperative often helped out the logging enterprise by paying off its electricity bills and tariffs for transport services. And yet some envious people began to grumble: well, don't those people in the cooperative live too high on the hog? And the leadership of the logging enterprise were taken in by this and abrogated the five-year contract. Wage levelling turned out to be the darling of everyone.

One can understand the ordinary workers. The idea of equality in poverty was hammered into them over decades and decades. But how does one explain the anti-cooperative itch among the representatives of the local authorities? Especially since nowadays young, modern people are working in the regional executive committees of the Councils of Peoples' Deputies. But despite this fact, inspections of cooperatives follow one after the other, the smallest fault is being ferreted out and adopted legislation is often violated.

And yet no matter how progressive leasing and cooperatives are, it is still too early to talk about complete freedom and independence of the collectives.