

"The development of cooperation between the USSR and Finland in the timber industry and forest management fields has excellent precedents due to the fact that the composition of the forests and the conditions of their growth are similar in both countries, while our geographic proximity and neighbourly relations make it possible to carry out programs of technological and economic cooperation and forge new types of foreign economic links.

"Business ties between our Ministry and the Wilhelm Schomann and Raute companies have long existed. Years of successful cooperation have provided us with a fund of expertise.

"With the use of advanced technology and equipment at the joint enterprise, plus improved labour and management methods, we plan to produce high-quality, competitive goods for Soviet, Finnish, and world markets under environmentally safe conditions."

"We regard the founding of this joint enterprise as an important and positive contribution to the further development of commercial ties between the USSR and Finland. It is in keeping with the spirit of the times: the building of a 'secure world.'"

Other speakers included G. Ernrut, President of Wilhelm Schomann Ltd., H. Mustakallio, Chairman of the Board of Raute Ltd., and M. Pekkanen, Chairman of the Timber Union of Finland. They praised the long standing, successful cooperation with the USSR Ministry for the Timber Industry and expressed confidence that the agreements concluded would be promptly and successfully implemented. It was stressed that mutual trust, and the pooling of raw