

### Food for Thought

As recently as three years ago, wine and liquor topped the list of what Norilsk residents spent on leisure items, far ahead of the other "prize-winners" (radio and toy purchases)... 304 rubles per year, per capita, including unweaned babies. 608 times less was spent on payment for the services of sports facilities.

Today the situation has changed somewhat. Although not at the expense of an increase in "sports" expenditures, but as a result of a decrease in liquor sales - a largely administrative measure. The effect of such a step will be short-lived if the other end of the "yoke" is left unloaded not only with the corresponding product demand, but also with numerous good services. The search for liquor most often begins when it is useless to search for something else.

The accounting of this problem is not arithmetic. It can in no way be said that if a person spends ten rubles on a membership subscription to a health group, his contribution to the liquor department's earnings will go down by the same amount. And no one is preparing to cheat Norilsk folk out of their earnings. On the contrary, let them save their money for a car, a dacha, a holiday...

Much is need right on the spot - before and after work. Much is already appearing: more than a hundred self-paying personal-interest groups - from dog-breeding to the study of foreign languages and Esperanto.

The question might be asked: are Norilsk residents not abusing the shift from formerly free services to paid services? Certainly not! Although