

wood particle board production lines. The proportion of Soviet-made machinery in the first two assemblies currently amounts to 10 per cent of the total cost of the imports. Eventually, it will rise to 50 per cent."

Q. "Which subject area is being given priority in the development of machine-building for pulp and paper production?"

A. "Here we are working hand in hand with the Ministry of Chemical Machine-Building. The goal is to create ecologically clean machinery. I have in mind oxygen-alkaline bleaching of pulp. The next area of investigation is the manufacture of spherical and other headbox fittings, as well as equipment for the production of thermomechanical and chemical-thermomechanical wood pulp and beater accessories. These tasks are exceedingly complex."

Q. "Shall we again be approaching foreign firms?"

A. "We already tried that. But neither the British, the Finns nor the Swedes want to invest their capital in our machine-building for the papermaking industry. They are promising to sell only the licence and the technology..."

Q. "Without wearying the readers with figures, tell us nevertheless to what extent the requirement of our sectors for machines and equipment is being satisfied."

A. "This year, the requirement in monetary terms amounts to 1,600,000,000 roubles. Only 60 per cent of it is covered. Of this, 40 per cent will come from the other ministries and imports, and 20