

and elsewhere - the lespromkhoz has opened its own sawmill facilities. Their products - beams, railway ties, boards, etc. - are bought by construction and railway enterprises. What they buy is not wood but goods. In other words, that which, during the reign of our powerful administrative system, was discussed countless times, approved, and repeatedly proposed as an "emergency solution" but never carried out became reality at the lespromkhoz just as soon as it began to move toward a market system.

Being aware of the genuine advantage of even superficial processing, the Chulym people are making the most of it. Inviting other enterprises to go shares, they are building a furniture-making shop and a wood processing combine, and are preparing to produce parquetry. They are also supplying materials for reconstruction of local social amenities - housing, kindergartens, clubs, and subsidiary farms. The lespromkhoz also has a brick factory which was restored from old ruins by a local cooperative.

The fact that the Chulym Lespromkhoz is bringing its products onto the market against the will of the government department is felt by the directors of "Tomlesprom" to be a slap in the face, an insult to their supreme authority. All the more so since the Chulym example is catching. Other lespromkhozes have claimed for themselves the right to dispose of the timber they log and are already seeking the customers they need without consulting the association.

But the power of the monopolistic department is still considerable. It has placed on the wilful Chulym lespromkhoz the heavy yoke of rafter. This yoke is harshly chafing against economic viability: each cubic meter of timber floated (and the total is approximately 300,000) represents 7 to 8 rubles of uncompensated expense. These costs are devouring all of the profits obtained from its enterprising initiative. It is being driven into debt. The fact is that the Chulym people, being forced to provide transport services to other lespromkhozes are penalising themselves. And it is the prices dictated to them that are responsible.