

This marks the first step towards cooperation in timber processing in the entire history of the relations between our far eastern timber exporters and a neighbouring country.

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Page 1 (full text)

PULP AND PAPER

Combines in Archangel Oblast Struggling to Break Free of the Ministry and Earn Currency Through Exports

Newspapers and magazines have recently been subjected to a form of censorship much more rigid than that which was abolished by the Law on the Press. I am speaking about the paper shortage.

The "paper famine" has forced some publications to reduce the number of pages and their circulations and the size of their runs and also to publish intermittently, all of which, albeit unintentionally, infringes upon our right to receive rapid, reliable information through the mass media. Also placed in jeopardy is another right proclaimed by the Law on the Press: the right of a Soviet citizen to establish his own publication. Just try to start your own newspaper in a country where the per capita production of paper amounts to 37 kilogrammes, including packaging and cardboard! In comparison, with our Finnish neighbours this index is 254 kg, which is not only sufficient for their own needs but also for sales to other countries, including ourselves. But the most striking thing about this is that both countries are in the same starting position for paper production: both the USSR and Finland produce on average 9,000,000 tonnes of pulp annually. What is happening to our raw material?