

One of the most effective ways of eliminating losses is to expand the processing of waste and broad-leaved timber, the production and sale of special purpose chips from fuelwood, and long-log butts and tops. Here one can earn a profit not only in roubles but also in foreign currency, since the chips, including the broad-leaved variety, are in demand on the international market.

It is no secret that spilled shipments of long logs lie for years by the sides of our logging roads. Nobody has found the time to pick them up and put them to use. Losses of timber during the float are also heavy. Just try to count the long logs scattered along the banks of rivers. And how many have been discarded in the fellings areas? Not only fragments of small-diameter trees, but also some that are perfectly suitable for manufacture of quality saw-wood. No appeals will suffice to correct this matter, so long as the workers themselves remain disinterested in a proprietary sense in the valuable raw material. They ought to be, since each such log is worth up to 30 roubles retail. The answer is plain to see: people's wages should not be reckoned per cubic metre, but from the difference between production costs and the sale of final products.

The leasing contract should rightly be regarded as the key to success here. Having accepted and paid for standing timber the lessees will not allow even the smallest long log to remain unused. Similarly, not a single crew that has leased a timber-hauling truck will allow it to stand idle for a moment or waste a minute's fuel. Material self-interest will in this way automatically solve the problems of economising on materials, making efficient use of machinery and maintaining it in good condition. The leasing contract is the true road to solving the personnel problem. There is no place here for the negligent worker. If you want to earn you must work at full capacity.

As for the managers, if they want to keep their jobs and be reelected to them they must keep a firm hand on the economy. Together with the worker collectives' councils and the trade union committees, they must now carefully analyze the enterprises' capabilities, locate unused reserves and develop a clear program to overcome losses.