

Candidates To USSR Congress Of Deputies Make
Environment, Minorities A Priority

In Tyumen' province, 11 million hectares of reindeer pasture and quite a few rivers have been ruined. Every year, 14 billion cubic metres of gas is burned off in the open. The aims set out by the head of the Irtysh Steam Ship Company, Ivan I. Yanovskii, in his election programme for the USSR Congress of National Deputies are to save minority nationalities from dying out and to put a stop to the barbarous plundering of nature.

National-territorial constituency No. 22 combines the electorate of two large RSFSR* provinces, Tyumen' province and Omsk province. That is why 253 delegates from each province, people of different ages, educational background and social standing, were invited to the Dzerzhinsky Palace of Culture. The meeting did not have an easy task before it: out of a total of eight candidates - four from each province - it had to elect the two best.

Among the candidates were two river transport employees - Leonid I Sokolov, captain and mechanic of the M/S OT-2024 of the Omsk Ship-Repair and Ship-Building Yard, and Ivan I. Yankovskii, head of the Irtysh Steam Ship Company.

What did the river transport candidates bring with them to the meeting? The first to speak was Leonid Sokolov. The main thesis of his programme was full power to the councils and everything possible to improve their economic position. He maintained that, in order to put as many goods onto the market as quickly as possible, we need co-operatives in industrial enterprises and joint-stock companies. We must change the import