

Lets go back six months, to the time when the Ministry of the Marine Fleet went over to a system of full cost accounting and self-financing. The port of Pevek had been prepared for this move, before it actually happened. A lot of work had to be done by the economists, the chief accountant Nina Aleksandrovna Nikolaeva and the director of the Labour and Wages Department, Vasilii Yakovlevich Shilin..

At the port everything was done so that everyone would be fully prepared to take part in the economic reform. As far as was possible they eliminated machinery and equipment which was worn out or obsolete.

Last year alone, one hundred and forty-four thousand roubles worth of outdated equipment was written off: several automatic loaders, a scow, an "Abus" gantry crane and so on. Items were written off mercilessly. While previously an "Abus" crane, which had served for thirty years, would be retained in reserve and transferred to back-up duties for auxiliary cargo-handling operations, now, on the other hand, the crane was simply consigned to the scrap heap. It works out cheaper that way.

Last year the sale of superfluous machinery and equipment brought in one hundred and ninety-eight thousand roubles. Sales of capital machinery and equipment to other enterprises brought in ninety-two thousand roubles. All sorts of things had accumulated in various warehouses for a rainy day, including spare parts, underwear, hydrochloric acid, canvas raincoats....

The final result was a saving of fifty-two thousand roubles. You know, in the end this money