

The new levers of economic self-interest recently brought into use have already proved themselves in a positive manner. Now, in accordance with a governmental decree from 5 to 20 percent of the currency awarded for exceeding the petroleum raw material extraction plan is being made available to the petroleum industry workers themselves. Thus, in the account of the "Surgutneftegaz" combine there will be many millions of dollars. The council of the labor collective and the administration are channelling a part of this currency into the acquisition of consumers' goods and foodstuffs. Highly productive equipment will also be purchased abroad for the development of plants for the processing of agricultural products - the production of sausages, butter, cheese and canned milk.

The expansion of economic independence is having a beneficial effect. The Tyumen' inhabitants have already begun to establish joint enterprises with foreign firms. Thus, the business partnership of the "Yurganskneftegaz" combine with its associates from Canada will make it possible for the Siberians to phase in more progressive extraction technology and will permit the extraction of those raw material resources which we are unable to develop on our own at the present time.

Contacts with consumers within the USSR are becoming more concrete and business-like. Previously, the giant concern Glavtransneft' (Main Administration for the Transportation and Procurement of Petroleum Products) devoured the almost 400 million tons of oil extracted annually by the Tyumen' workers. This "office," which has neither a face nor regional interests, has become the owner of tremendous riches without lifting a finger. Those, who laboured ceaselessly to extract the valuable hydrocarbon product from the depths of Siberia were deemed to have no rights to it. This nonsense has seemingly begun to be put right.