

arrange for the production of many products out of waste materials, products which up to now have senselessly been made out of wood.

One also can't help but be dismayed at the state of the equipment used in the pulp and paper industry. The outmoded papermachines constitute the Achilles' heel of many of these plants, even those which are comparatively new. What is needed is a radical technical restructuring of the industry in which the various interested joint enterprises, set up in Soviet territory, as well as the scientific and technical cooperatives, could take part.

One final question - are we making good use of the paper that we do manufacture? Goods purchased in the majority of supermarkets abroad are sold in beautiful plastic packages while Soviet goods are wrapped up in not so pretty, but very valuable and non-reusable paper. Or take another example. Foreign countries have long been using all sorts of mechanical means for storing information instead of paper documentation. This has made hundreds of thousands of tonnes of paper available for more effective uses.

In other words, without a radical change in the structure of utilization of forest resources and without the introduction of advanced wood-processing and pulp and paper technology, our country, which reads the most in the world, will continue as before to be faced with a chronic shortage of paper.

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