

development in the engineering infrastructure of its scientific centres as well as in its sociocultural and housing base. What characterizes the Branch's scientific centres is that the administration of the centres is developed by the Branch itself. Eighty to ninety percent of assigned targets for construction and installation work is being met. For housing construction the figure is 100%. The list of those in need of housing (approximately 12,000 people) is not growing shorter, however. Solving this and other rapidly developing social problems at the scientific centres is not possible within the framework of allocated capital investments. Here the Branch is in need of substantial assistance.

Academician G.I. Marchuk, President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, spoke to the Politburo of the CC CPSU during the discussion of the foregoing address.

"Following Academician Koptug's speech, Mikhail Sergeevich Gorbachev approached me and suggested that I express my opinion. I worked in the Siberian Branch for many years, and directed it during my last years there, so that the problems raised in the speech are known to me at first hand.

"I remarked that much of the work of Siberian scientists is on a high international level, and in certain spheres it is at the forefront. One must not forget that in the eastern part of the country the Siberian branch grew extremely fast, and it is a unique structural component of our scientific organization. Its distinguishing feature is that Siberian scientists not only conduct basic research, but themselves play an active role in the practical implementation of the results achieved.