

"We have informed the Public Prosecutor's Office of these blatant violations", your reporter was told by the head of the fire-prevention services for the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, A. Cherednikov. "We have also told the Nadym branch of the industrial construction works bank and the Okrug executive committee. But, they too ignored us, although they are supposed to see to the observance of state legality. The construction bank even paid the construction workers their wages in full and bonuses for this faultily built project. The local and Oblast employees of the Public Prosecutor's Office covered themselves with a screen of meaningless paperwork. The leaders of the Okrug Executive Committee also acted as if nothing had happened.

Then again the team-leaders of "Tyumen'gasprom" weren't afraid of any fire and naturally they reported the "urgent start-up" of the project. And they started up the unfinished No. 5 comprehensive gas-treatment installation. As it turned out this was also done in a slipshod way. The installation was operated with a poor level of production and technical awareness and the gas was shipped off to the customers without having been sufficiently purified.

Incidentally, how can we talk about quality, when, in violation of all standards and rules, the shift workers worked not for twelve hours, but for twenty four hours at a stretch? The engineers mainly worked at the installation during the day. The workers had not been trained to cope with an emergency situation and they did not put on heat-protective clothing. For this reason, when, because of violations of standard technical procedures, a small fire initially broke out, they weren't able to