

Shortage of Wrapping Paper for Food Products Due to
Railway Mismanagement and Lack of Rolling Stock

Why is it that at McDonalds almost every pie is in a box, while in the adjoining store the meat is being sold unwrapped?

Is there any wrapping paper to be had anywhere? Yes, at the Archangel Pulp and Paper Combine. But we don't see it because there are no railway cars.

"But didn't they give you 16,796 railway cars in the penultimate year of the latest Five-Year Plan? So, where are they?" "There are none. More than half are being repaired or held for cleaning, and 5,258 cars were sent back because, with the exception of the wheels, they were completely exposed to the weather. That is why your pies are in little boxes."

Is this really the case? The Archangel Pulp and Paper Combine needs 60 to 70 cars every day, which is more than 20,000 in a year. Moreover, they must be in good running order and of course, covered. But the cars that they sent are a dreadful sight. "What a dreadful individual the head of Isakogor'ka Station must be", hastily conclude our naive readers. But Oleg Vasil'evich Zakhozhii is not that way at all. Why would he want to dispatch badly damaged open cars, which according to the documentation, are to be sent to the Donets Railway for capital repairs.

It is incomprehensible as to who would benefit when cross-ties are being transported in covered cars and paper, in damaged ones. And this is the situation all the time. There is simply not enough rolling stock and the "pointsmen" display no initiative whatever.