

The steamship line, it is true, is already building two apartment houses for dockworkers of Murmansk and Kandalaksha. It has also allocated funds for, and is participating in the construction of two phases of the Murmansk Municipal Youth Housing Complex, which will provide apartments for 72 seamen. It has created a program for construction of its own youth housing complex and has allocated workers for this. Thirty workers have been sent to procure bricks from one of the factories in the oblast.

But this is only part of the job. The steamship line is running head on into a mass of unresolved issues. Housing means cement, metal, pipes and fittings, all of which are strictly stockpiled material. These materials need to be readily available or else you end up with the construction delays so typical during the stagnation period (i.e., the years of the Brezhnev régime).

The problem of labour resources is easier to solve. The steamship line is creating a single repair and construction administration by combining its smaller repair enterprises. This central administration can also be used to train construction workers. But time is required for all of this, and the administrative has already made plans to implement at least 1.5 million rubles in construction and installation operations during the current year. Is this level of operation feasible for an enterprise which as yet has no experience, no specialists, and no reliable material base?

Many are predicting failure. Some are of the opinion that construction workers of "Glavmurmanskstroi" (Main Administration for Residential and Civil Construction in the City of