

Even though some impressive corrections to the State production order had been made, through successful appeals to State arbitration, the fact is that out of 7,508,000 cross-ties a total of 3,357,000 had been rejected. What does this say for planning?

At the Ministry of the Timber Industry, desperate attempts are currently being made to salvage the situation and put on a brave face for the consumers. Not only does this apply to cross-ties. The State order is not being executed in full with respect to sawtimber, pit props, telegraph poles and other items. Sector headquarters has been intending to clarify the relationship with the Krasnoyarsk people at the USSR State Arbitration Agency.

But even if the Ministry twists the Association's arm in Moscow, my guess is that this won't change a thing. The collectives at the sites are convinced that they are in the right and are not giving in to "Krasnoyarsklesprom".

From all of this, the following conclusions must be drawn. Voluntarism in planning is becoming obsolete, albeit slowly and very unwillingly. Remember the words in the telegram to the effect that the resources for 1991 will remain "according to a preliminary communication for Gosplan, at the level for the current year". Since we already know what the actual level is, it would not be a bad thing for the appropriate bodies to find out and take it into consideration. Otherwise, in the following year the railway workers will be scouring the country in search of the promised cross-ties.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'

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