

no hurry to set things straight or at least reduce our losses by one way or another. Something like the psychology of the doomed. It has already been a year since the Kama Pulp and Paper Combine acquired a unit capable of producing 25,000 tons of paper. And it has been sitting there idle due to a shortage of raw material. An entire year! And this is happening under conditions of the most acute demand for cultural "bread", of the virtual lack of our own capacity for producing such units. One cannot really take the "Petrozavodskbummash" Papermaking Machinery Association seriously when it produced only 80 million rubles worth of equipment for the pulp and paper mills annually while the price of only one of the units mentioned is higher. But somebody has to solve the serious problem confronting the Kama and Solikamsk Pulp and Paper Combines. Yet the Ministry of the Timber Industry could come up with nothing better than to suggest placing these combines under the jurisdiction of the "Permlesprom" Association. Workers in the paper industry have sarcastically called such a way out a "poultice for the dead". Yet the choice is not an easy one: to ensure complete supplies of raw material for the combines would mean either, closing of the oblast's seven woodworking and housing construction enterprises, or the other way around. Only Gosplan or Gosstab are in a position to handle problems of this kind. Acting arbitrarily won't do anyone any good.

By the way, let's talk about arbitrary actions. It is no secret that the sharp decline in a disciplined approach towards contracts displayed recently has been harmful to the interests of enterprises. Many people have interpreted talk about independence and the right to protect their own interest as total permissiveness. Without any prior warning or agreements whatsoever they felt free to deal with some customers while denying supplies of raw materials to other. And this