

Credit With Future Oil As Collateral

Tyumen oil-industry workers, like other collectives of enterprises belonging to the fuel energy complex, have begun working under new conditions of profit and loss accounting. Our correspondent interviewed the chief engineer of Glavtyumenneftegaz*, Yu. Vershinin, and the assistant head of the Main Economics Directorate, I. Gubenko.

All of the enterprises are following the so-called first standard of profit and loss accounting; after all the payments have been made, 60% of the profits goes to the Main Directorate. However, as in the past, the plans are not fully balanced. This factor has stood in the way of our coping with centralized deliveries, though they are extremely profitable. Whereas this unbalance of plans was previously exposed for show, to evoke compassion and to appeal for assistance, new conditions now compel us to turn to different tactics. For example, we know that billions of cubic metres of gas byproduct is burned up in the fields. Such must not be tolerated any longer. Our collective has set the goal of 90% utilization of this gas by 1990. The capital investments allocated for this are still insufficient. In the past, we would have knocked on the doors of ministries and the State Planning Committee, or tried to prove the impracticability of the goal. Instead, we have gone to the bank, and received a long-term loan of 600,000,000 roubles on preferential terms.

* Tyumen Oil and Gas Industrial Combine of the USSR Ministry of the Oil and Gas Industry - transl.