

Q. "But what if the sector were to receive this authorisation right now, during the period of transition to a market? Would it mean that all newspapers and books would cease being published? Even the apparatchiki of various government departments would be unable to write letters to one another, wouldn't they?"

A. "A market presupposes a rapid growth in the output of all types of products. This includes paper. Provided that currency is in the hands of the enterprises, it will be possible within two or three years to reconstruct the decrepit mills and to install powerful modern machines in the old buildings, which will make possible a severalfold increase in the output of pulp and paper products. The point is that at present our government, Gosplan and USSR Gossnab are concerned only with dividing up the paper, but not with a growth in production".

In my view, the primary purpose of going over to marketing arrangements is to make the enterprises become economically interested in manufacturing more and more of the products in short supply and rapidly satisfy the demand for them. It is precisely this that will ultimately make it possible to lower the prices. Which means that the health of a civilised paper market will be in our hands.

(Interviewer V. Parfenov)

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Kondopoga Papermakers Form New Commercial Association

An association to be known as "Lesbumizdat" has been formed in Karelia at the headquarters of the existing concern "Kondopogabumprom" (Kondopoga Paper Industry). It will encompass, inter alia, the forest-based industrial