

into a "carpet", which is molded under pressure and at a high temperature and then cooled without reducing the pressure. That's all there is to it."

"So, what is new here?"

"The principle is not new. But the "secret" is in the manner of preparing the raw material (let us say, in the degree of wetness), and in the behaviour of the presses. But there is one peculiarity: we don't use bonding substances. The LCWP is formed from the "inner reserves" of the raw material itself. Which is why, strange as it may seem, the longer the wood wastes lie in the heaps the more valuable they are to us, since biological processes are "working" for our technology."

"A gold mine! We have amassed mountains of bark, lignin and sawdust, and there is nowhere to put them. You are undoubtedly overwhelmed with suggestions?"

"As the enterprises are converting to full profit-and-loss accounting and self-financing, interest in our research efforts has increased to an unprecedented level. Orders (along with requests to send documents and render practical assistance in the setting up of production facilities) are being received from ministries, departments and many cooperatives. In the next few years it is planned to build LCWP plants in the Urals, Siberia and Central Asia. It is true that there are problems, primarily with the basic plant. Who will make the presses, for example? The Dnepropetrovsk plant, which is in a monopoly position, has raised the prices of its presses so high that they are no longer within reach of the small factories, the more so the cooperatives. At present there is no manufacturer of