

situation. The March plenary session of the Central Committee emphasized that one should not expect to be prompted but should act, guided by peasant wisdom. Indeed, the nature of the different regions of the country is so specific and the traditions and habits of the people are so diverse as to preclude the possibility of proceeding in a uniform manner always and everywhere. It is necessary to select that particular variant, to find that golden mean, which is most appropriate to the local conditions.

Let us take, for example, the specific nature of our region, one of the most remote regions in the Arkhangelsk oblast. Both the regional center and all of the other villages are in the Arctic zone, in the Far North, where "one can only fly in by aeroplane". The territory has an area of 28 thousand square kilometres. The population is 15.5 thousand people. There is a complete absence of roads and of public electrical energy. There is no stable reception of television transmissions. Each populated point represents an autonomous territory. And the life of the people in these villages, in point of fact, is autonomous.

What would be the most effective pathway for resolving the social problems under such specific conditions? We can not count on the active assistance of industrial enterprises in the renaissance of our villages: the cities with their industrial might are too far away from us. Should the inhabitants of the village be brought together into the central buildings of the sovkhoses? Such attempts have been made, but right at the start they were found to be completely unsound. This meant not only disturbing the traditional way of life of the people, but also leaving ownerless land, fields and hay meadows, every hectare of which was won from the