

documentation be issued. Our request, it would seem, was taken seriously. In 1987 Pronin authorized the head of the Ministry's Planning and Economic Directorate to provide for the production in 1988 of 5,800 tonnes of paperboard for the packing of paper on automated lines, 18,800 tonnes of base stock for the manufacturing of cores and 5,600 tonnes of pasteboard for end bands. The Directorate for the Supply of Materials and Equipment was ordered to allocate the materials which were needed for core production on spiral winding benches. During the second and third quarters of last year our collective, together with the Technical Directorate and the Astrakhan Branch of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of the Pulp and Paper Industry (VNIIB), should have been conducting experimental production of cores and agreeing upon the technological normative documentation governing the base stock for them. It is even possible to name the official who was responsible for implementing the plan. He is B.S. Zhuravlev, who headed the former production directorate of the pulp-and-paper and wood chemistry industry.

Unfortunately, everything has remained as it was. The official sidestepped his responsibility and we were left high and dry. We have neither the paperboard we need, the documentation, nor good quality cores. It is holding up the manufacture of newsprint for export.

Meanwhile a possibility exists for correcting the situation. Our combine, on its own initiative, embarked on a search for core board. And it located some: it is produced by the Kotlass Pulp-and-Paper Combine, weighs 230-250 grammes per square metre, is of suitable strength and uniform thickness. We attempted to reach an agreement with