

conditions of a radical economic reform. And not all of them are adapting well. Why do the "Novgorodlesprom," "Sevzapmebel'," "Murmanles," and "Udmurtles" associations and the Ministry of Timber Industry of the Belorussian SSR manage to make their contracted deliveries while the "Komilesprom," "Sverdlesprom," "Tyumen'lesprom," "Dal'lesprom" and many other associations are unable to do so? There is no simple answer. One thing, however, is clear: those associations which don't wait for instructions from above, which display socialist enterprise and which boldly introduce progressive forms of management, are the very ones which are dealing best with the reforms.

I would note, however, that the radical reform has had an overall positive effect on the financial and economic state of our industry. This can be seen in the fact that reserves of stocks are currently one billion roubles below the norm. USSR Promstroybank loan debts have been reduced almost fivefold: only 38 debtor-enterprises remained by July 1, 1989. This year the number of planned loss-incurring enterprises has been reduced by 117 and currently amounts to 113.

There is no doubt that the introduction of the interbranch rated price system within the industry has had a positive impact on the enterprises' financial situation. The ever bolder steps towards the transition to leased and cooperative forms of management have also proven profitable. At present 119 enterprises in all, including 16 which were previously loss-incurring or scarcely profitable, are operating under lease. Besides this, the industry has 770 cooperatives, including 437 manufacturing consumer goods, 107 producing timber products and 139 providing paid