## TRANSPORT WATER

## Down the Big River

Irtysh steamship navigation transport workers opened navigation in Omsk on the eve of May Day. The honourary right to raise this year's navigation pennant was awarded to L. Sokolov, USSR State Prize laureate and captain/mechanic of the towboat OT-2024, A. Likhachev, captain of the tanker TN-673, and V. Gonin, captain of the dredger "Portovyy-5".

The crews of the tanker "Lenaneft-2023" and Gri-goriy Usiyevich" have set off on their first trip down the Irtysh, and delivered the first shiploads of oil products to the workers of Sargatskiy and Bol'sherechenskiy Rayons.

Six "belomorki" (ships of a class presumably named after the White Seal (Canal)) are heading for Pavlodar for gravel and crushed stone. Grain and coal are being shipped on the Omsk-Cherlak route. By the end of April the wharves at the northern ports of Tara and Ust'-Ishim had also begun working.

During the coming navigation season, Irtysh river transport workers must ship more than 19 million tonnes of various national economic cargo, as well as almost one and a half million passengers and tourists. The basin's longshoremen also have some difficult tasks ahead of them. Success will be guaranteed if all the links in the transport chain remain disciplined, and the new methods of economic management are improved.

Vodnyi Transport 30 April 1989 Page 1 (Slightly abridged)