

There is an extreme shortage in the Far-Eastern Sea Transport GPO* of ships of the "Pioner Moskvyy" class, which have demonstrated their worth in the Arctic. Ice-class ships of the "ro-ro" [roll on - roll off]* type are also needed to transport increasing volumes of equipment to areas of the Arctic and Chukchi.

Because of an insufficient quantity of ice-class refrigerator ships, great problems have arisen when transporting vegetables and potatoes to the oblast. Principal quantities of this produce are transported as before in dry-cargo ships, which do not guarantee adequate conditions to maintain quality and preservation. The problem becomes particularly acute when transporting potatoes and vegetables to districts in Chukchi. It is the same case when transporting canned fruit and vegetable produce to Magadan, as this is shipped somewhat later than fresh vegetables and comes into the oblast at the end of October and November. During this period, transporting produce in dry-cargo ships leads to freezing and spoilage of a part of the cargo. In a number of cases, the produce remains in Nakhodka until spring. Actual requirements for canned fruit and vegetable produce during the cold season of the year (November - April) are about 2 thousand tonnes per month. The acuteness of this problem is due to the fact that canned fruit and vegetable products are not produced in the oblast and the needs of the population living there are great.

In the last few years, the use of roadstead vessels for unloading sea transport ships in Northern Evensk, Shmidt and other districts where roadstead unloading of ships is carried out has become highly unprofitable. At the Far-Eastern Steamship Line Ship-Repair Works, construction has practically