

"Doesn't it seem to you that in both Canada and the USSR there are business people who would like to find some common ground, to organize effective production systems, but, alas, haven't succeeded? What I'm now talking about isn't only such large-scale projects as the construction of pulp and paper combines, but also cooperatives, small, leased factories and plants which are ready to collaborate with Canadian firms. What is preventing a rapid increase in the number of small joint enterprises which do not require large capital investments?"

"In my opinion such enterprises are already being created. Perhaps this process is proceeding more slowly than we might all like. But, I believe that the number of joint enterprises will grow as more and more western firms become convinced that the perestroika process is irreversible, when they see that the Soviet Union is making a determined effort to foster their activity by taking on the bureaucracy and by introducing a convertible rouble, when individual people and organizations of the cooperative type will be able to make money by taking a risk and through their own efforts. The main thing is not to give up.

"The number of active joint enterprises is, in my opinion, considerably higher than some people are attempting to claim. For example, of the twenty six joint Soviet-Canadian enterprises registered in November of last year in various branches of industry, twelve are already functioning and as far as the other fourteen are concerned, at the very least two of them will start operating in the near future.

"Some joint enterprises are quite big, employing a large number of collaborators, others on the contrary are tiny, but they are also important. In Canada we put a lot of effort into promoting small-scale entrepreneurship. This represents one of the most creative aspects of