

Speaking of these stove-heated shacks, which are gradually becoming part of history, we should describe more fully the social profile of today's Surgut. As described in a copy of the town's "Social passport", given to us at the Party Town Committee, only polyclinics, fruit storage and freezing space are presently in surplus. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of everything else, with respect to the social welfare standards. For example, the number of day-care places is at 72.8% of the standard, school places - at 62.6%, shops - at 59.8%, clubs and houses of culture - at 65.9%, cinemas - at 24.2%, etc.

And yet, as the reader will remember, we called the town a prosperous one. We had in mind its residential construction potential.

The largest builders are the "Surgutneftegazhilstroi" Minneftegazstroi design and construction society, and the Zapsibénergozhilstroi Minénergo USSR trust, with their local plants. They are now being restructured, and at the beginning of the next five-year plan, they will each be producing an annual 780,000 square metres of large-panel housing in the town.

To be sure, not all of this, far from it, will go to meet Surgut's needs. Right now, 200,000 square metres from each builder is "melting away" to Nizhnevartovsk, Noyabr'sk, Kogalym and other towns of the region.

Moreover, in our excitement over the present and future potential of the local building industry, we left out one significant aspect: the departmental accountability of the residential builders. The passion of bureaucratic interests runs very high here as well. It would be best to break down the