

production (less still would mean bankruptcy). The list of assortments is also specified, of course, but the crews retain the right to produce high-cost products. The rest is simple. An intra-shop price per unit of output has been set, and a rental for the equipment. The payment is divided by the unit price to give the amount of output which is necessary in order to settle with the logging enterprise. Everything that is done over and above this is your own. The effect rises like yeast: productivity has jumped and wages have also risen sharply.

Why do I describe "the kitchen" in such detail? Well, there is no end to the questions we get in the mail: how do you introduce the leasing arrangement, what do you start with, how do you build an accounting system, and so on. The interest in the new, as well as the doubts and fears are all understandable. It is not clear, however, why the Main Economic Administration of the Ministry has not yet provided the enterprises with procedural manuals in this matter. They are needed, after all, not only by the losing but also by the profitable collectives.

On the other hand, those for whom the lease has become the only saving "straw" do not wait for explanations from above, they act. And they are most successful where the economic service is well organized. Moreover, the lease sometimes takes on an original flavour. At the "Ziminskles" Association, let us say, there is its auxiliary farm at the village of Verkh-Oka. The loggers, of course, have practically no agricultural experience. They obtain only six tonnes of meat a year, although ten times as much could be produced. They are in a tight spot for fodder, and they have very little knowledge. But next door is the Maslyanogorsk State farm. It in fact offered to take the loggers' farm and saw frame on lease. The terms are highly attractive: in this year alone, the combine will receive 10 tonnes of meat, and in 1989 70 tonnes. And this is not without profit for the State farm: they set up a shop for increasing the milk yield from non-calving heifers in the auxiliary buildings. In effect, a joint multi-sector enterprise has been created. The loggers are helping to reconstruct the farm. And they are getting meat at a lower price than before.