

An appeal for a ruling from USSR Gossnab was in vain. In the reply it was stated: "In the Perm Oblast you have stocks of standing timber. Cut enough of it to meet everyone's needs and precisely the kind that is required."

But the truth is that the timber resources of the Western Urals are already exhausted. There isn't enough for everyone.

In the circumstances, Kurbash was left with no alternative but to appeal for help from the Oblast Committee of the Party. There they analysed the situation and admitted "The situation is indeed awkward. To bring the papermakers to a stop is clearly out of the question. Since there is no way out of the problem it is necessary to sacrifice the interests of the secondary consumers of the timber. Act accordingly and we will support you."

So, sawtimber instead of pulpwood was sent to the paper combines and those for whom it was intended according to USSR Gossnab requisitions did not receive it.

In consequence, a furious disagreement arose. The then directors of USSR Gossnab were out for blood. What they had in mind was to bring Evgenii Aleksandrovich before a court, claiming that by his "irregular" deliveries he had wrought harm on the national economy. Although the Perm Oblast Committee of the Party managed to clear Kurbash of responsibility, he was nevertheless dismissed from the post of head of the Association.

The net result of all this had precisely no effect on the timber resource situation in the Perm Oblast. Sawtimber as a substitute for pulpwood continued to be supplied to the paper combines in ever increasing quantities. Initially it was delivered at the expense of consumers situated outside the Oblast. But the situation