

of those directly engaged in packing the borehole, and the lack of proper supervision of this high-risk operation on the part both of the chief engineer, S. Perov, and myself." The only thing I have to add is that Perov is now head of the "Irkutskneftegazgeologiya" (Irkutsk Oil and Gas Geological) Corporation, and the author of the explanation, Konarev, heads an expedition in Siberia. And as for what they left behind, here is the analysis given by N. Kotlyar, USSR Minister of the Fishing Industry: "Ichthyological studies indicate that pollution of Korovinskaya Bay," he answered in response to letters of concern from social activist, "has not only led to a change in the condition of this body of water, but has also caused a decline in the biological condition of the fish ..."

One would not reproach the government of the republic and the Oblast Committee of the Communist Party for being inactive, but their concern for the Pechora is limited to well-wishing and filling out papers. The fact of the matter is that nobody has properly called to account any of those managers who worship the plan above all. What could reasonably explain the fact, for example, that over the past three five-year plans nearly 40 million roubles have been "economized" on nature conservation works in the Pechora Basin? There is no explanation except connivance and the absence of strict accountability. Some may say to me: "People who talk of the past ..." But no, this isn't the past. This year, with the knowledge and approval of the Oblast Committee and the Council of Ministers of the republic, construction workers are preparing to put into operation a brick-making plant in Ukhta. With a production capacity of 100 million bricks, the plant has no waste treatment facilities. At the present moment, in the Yaksha Lumbering Establishment,