

"A few statistics are in order. Supervisory bodies have sanctioned the shut-down or restriction of production at 22 enterprises of the pulp-and-paper industry. Of the total amount of effluents discharged by the pulp-and-paper industry, only 19% is regarded as adequately purified, and the trend recently has been towards an increase in the discharge of contaminated sewage, rather than a decrease. At only three per cent of our enterprises does the contamination not exceed the maximum permissible level. Only three per cent! Very little progress has been made towards utilization of waste water residues. We have spent many years talking about the different ways of dehydrating and burning the residue, but we have no reliable series-produced equipment for this, and none is on the drawing boards."

Q: "In a word, you have nothing against constructive criticism. In connection with this, I would like to hear your response to the statement made on the pages of our newspaper by Tamara Andreyevna Andreichuk, a delegate to the 19th Party conference, who works at the Oster forestry enterprise. She directed her criticism at the Minister of the Timber Industry, and would like to know your reaction to it."

A: "Tamara Andreyevna apparently had in mind the speech by the First Secretary of the Krasnodar regional committee of the Party, Comrade Polozkov, who, in speaking about the restructuring of this branch of the economy, expressed doubt that the "Yugmebel" Association should continue to exist. Immediately after the conference, the Deputy Minister, F.G. Liner, departed for the Krasnodar Krai. After a detailed discussion of this question with the leaders of the regional party committee and