

one of the effective means of resolving labour conflicts; and a call to celebrate every year, July 10-20, Unity Action Days of Russian Trade Unions dedicated to the protection of social and economic rights of workers, in commemoration of the strikes in the Kuzbass in 1989."

Yet another serious document - "Resolution of the Regional Conference on Social and Economic Problems of the North". The document lists in concentrated form all of the ills plaguing northern residents for many decades. And following the traditional introduction - the "complaint" section attesting to the facts - is a clear enactment section which enumerates numerous concrete problems point by point, including time frames for implementation. The document includes demands from northern residents to change the Soviet legislation regarding pension support and income tax, and the development by the RSFSR State Construction Council and the Ministry of Public Health, no later than January 1, 1991, of scientifically sound standards for the development and siting of a network of medical preventative treatment institutions. The Supreme Soviet of Russia is called upon to accelerate and work out adoption of the legislation "On Ecology", "On Protection of Nature", "On Protection of Labour", "Law on Baikal"...

Some serious allegations were made. Participants at the conference turned over a number of documents to USSR and RSFSR people's deputies to be conveyed to the Supreme Soviets of the country and of Russia, and to N. Ryzhkov, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

It is well known what an important role is played by maritime and river fleets in developing regions of the Far North and the Far East. Unfortunately, unlike the USSR Ministry of Fisheries and a number of other ministries, neither the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet nor the RSFSR Ministry of the River Fleet have authorized representatives to participate in solving the major problems of northern residents. The country's river workers and seamen were represented by V. Volikov, chairman of the Murmansk basin committee of the river transport trade union and member of the presidium of this sector's trade union central committee.