

Even though the USSR is the main supplier of newsprint within the framework of specialization of the member countries of the CMEA, the country itself is only marginally better supplied with the "bread of culture" as a result of its own output, and in some countries an even higher per capita consumption has been achieved than in ours.

Of all the avenues of industrial cooperation, it is the agreements on international specialization and cooperative efforts in production (on a bilateral or multilateral basis) that have become most widespread. Conversely, very little progress has been made in the conclusion of domestic contracts that have to do with direct production ties, and of agreements concerning the formation of combined enterprise and international scientific-production associations. As a result, the socialist countries have not succeeded in truly uniting their efforts in order to deal with the scarcity problem -- to set in motion the output of those kinds of paper and board, and of the articles manufactured from them, the importing of which from third countries is irrational for the CMEA countries. Today, the USSR is buying between 470,000 and 530,000 tonnes of paper and board annually in capitalist countries, as well as articles made from these materials, at a total cost of more than 500 million roubles worth of foreign currency.

The predominance of foreign trading relations over the production and scientific-and-technical forms of intra-industry cooperation is due to the fact that the entire system of settlements was adapted to the servicing of interstate links and the implementation of intergovernmental agreements. The previously practised centralization of funds in transferable roubles (and other currencies also), and