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SOVIET CONSTRUCTION

NO. 15

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Introduction

This is a serial publication containing selected translations on construction in the Soviet Union. This report contains translations on subjects listed in the table of contents below.

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1. Expedite the Construction of New Building Materials/
Production Facilities

Following is a translation of an unsigned
article in Stroitel'nyye Materialy (Const-
truction Materials), No. 5, Moscow, May 1960,
pages 1-3.

...At present it is a most important national-economic task to ensure the spearheading development of the building materials industry, to accelerate the construction and activation of new output capacities in the new and old, expanded and modernized enterprises for the production of cement, precast reinforced concrete, wall, roofing, nonmetallic-mineral, heat-insulation, facing, and finishing materials, lightweight concrete aggregates, and sanitary fixtures and fittings.

The Soviet State is investing enormous funds in the development of the building materials industry, in the expansion of the output capacities of that industry, and in the establishment of new branches of the construction industry called upon to satisfy the variegated needs of our numerous construction projects. In the last three years alone the output of cement has increased by 14 million tons, which is 2.5 times as much as the total volume of the output of cement in 1940. The output of precast reinforced concrete components and parts, whose industrial fabrication has essentially commenced as late as in 1954-1955, has grown by nearly 17 million m³. During the same three-year period, the increment reached in the output of slate amounted to 795 million nominal tiles, in the output of soft roofing -- 154 million m², and in the output of window glass -- over 27 million m².

Even so, however, the demand of construction for the principal building materials is far from being fully satisfied. This is why it is now necessary to focus the maximal effort and energy on a further rapid upsurge in the building materials industry, on the fulfillment of the stipulated plans of expansion of the production base of that industry.

There exist not a few examples of the solving of the task of increasing the output capacities in the enterprises of the building materials industry: in all such cases this is done by the workers of that industry upon active support by the local Party, Soviet and Komsomol organizations, in close contact with design institutes and with the equipment-supplying plants, and in the minimal time and on a high technical level.

...At the same time, there still exist quite a few facts of a contrasting nature, cases in which the enterprises of the building materials industry are being built at a snail's pace, thus resulting in the consistent underfulfillment of the stipulated targets for the activation of new output capacities. As a result of the poor organization of the work on the construction of new cement-industry plants and expansion of old ones, and as a result of the unpunctual provision of technical documentation and technological and power equipment to these plants, the newly activated capacities for the production of cement in the last three years were altogether 9.5 million tons lower than planned. In a number of the country's regions the construction of plants and shops for the production of reinforced concrete components and parts is lagging impermissibly. Last year the target for expanding the output capacities of large-panel housing construction plants was set at 1.3 million m² of dwelling area, but the actually introduced capacities totaled only 470,000 m².

Certain republic organizations, sovnarkhozes and their construction boards still continue to regard the construction projects of the building materials industry as projects of secondary importance. By following such a myopic policy they are undermining the foundations for the further fulfillment of the plan of capital investment work and creating a difficult situation -- primarily for themselves. This is precisely what had happened last year in Kazakhstan, where the underfulfillment of the plan of the activation of new capacities for the output of precast reinforced concrete and wall and other materials was the principal cause of the lagging of capital construction as a whole.

...The prompt activation of new capacities for the production of building materials, parts and components hinges largely on the fulfillment by the machine building plants of the orders for the construction of equipment, and on the delivery of that equipment in complete sets.

...The unpunctual deliveries of equipment to the construction sites of the building materials industry are often also attributable to the design organizations which delay issuing technical documentation, especially specifications for equipment. This does not make it possible to place orders for equipment at the proper time. It would be necessary to establish some order of sequence such that the planning organs and sovnarkhozes would provide the design organizations with a list of newly planned objects at least six months prior to the beginning of the year for which the activation of given output capacities is expected. This will not only facilitate the activities of the designers but also make it possible to keep under strict control their work on ensuring construction projects with the necessary technical documentation.

2. Raise the Technical Level and Lower the Estimate Cost of Industrial Construction

[Following is a translation of an article written in Beton i Zhelezobeton (Concrete and Reinforced Concrete), No. 5, May 1960, pages 193-194.]

...It is necessary to provide for the following design decisions in order to further the technical perfection of industrial and transport equipment, increase the effectiveness of capital investments, reduce the expenditures on the erection of buildings and structures, and improve the operating indexes of buildings and structures....Precast reinforced concrete components should find widespread use in the construction of enterprises and such branches of industry as nonferrous metallurgy, chemical and power industry, and heavy machine building.

It is necessary to use more broadly precast prestressed reinforced concrete structures when building bridges, electrified railroads, subways, tunnels, and harbor facilities, and foundations of precast reinforced concrete shells and piles as well.

The level of the industrialization of industrial construction at present lags considerably behind that of housing construction. Prefabricability in industrial construction amounts to 23 percent, whereas in housing construction it amounts to 56 percent.

On the average only 75 m³ of precast reinforced concrete components are used per million rubles of estimate cost of construction and installation work in industrial buildings and structures, against the approximately 200 m³ used in housing and civic construction.

...The inadequacy of the production base for industrial construction in the last few years has resulted in that only 36-40 percent, instead of the envisaged 56-60 percent, of the total output of reinforced concrete products are used by that base.

Such a situation requires an expansion of output capacities, and a rapid mastering and further perfection of the technology of the fabrication of reinforced concrete products for industrial construction.

The Union republics, ministries and agencies should increase the output of precast reinforced concrete structures for industrial construction to 19 million m³ in 1965. For this purpose, new enterprises and new shops in the ex-

isting enterprises for the production of precast reinforced concrete structures, with an aggregate capacity of 7.9 million m^3 annually, will be built and activated in the years 1960-1964. Distributed by years, this increment in output capacities will amount to: 1,040,000 m^3 of precast reinforced concrete structures in 1960, 1,890,000 m^3 in 1961, 2,080,000 m^3 in 1962, 1,650,000 m^3 in 1963, and 1,260,000 m^3 in 1964.

The Giprostroyindustriya /State Institute for the Design and Planning of Building Materials Industry/ should assure in the first half of 1960 the drafting of standard designs of precast reinforced concrete structure plants with capacities of 30,000 and 60,000 m^3 each, and in the second half of 1960 -- with capacities of 90,000 m^3 each.

At the same time, the Ministries of Construction, Power Stations and Transport Construction should draft standard designs of precast reinforced concrete structures plants and shops for thermal and hydroelectric power stations and objects of transport construction.

The most economical plants of this type were considered to be those with capacities of 30,000 and 60,000 m^3 of products each, which ensure the construction of 150,000-300,000 m^2 of dwelling area annually each. In the regions of major concentration of such construction it is expedient to operate plants with capacities of 90,000 m^3 of products each, in order to ensure the construction of 400,000-500,000 m^2 of production space annually each. Plants with such capacities should be provided with covered open-air yards for the fabrication of parts of foundations and columns and other large-size and small-serial structures.

...Of the 247 precast reinforced concrete plants to serve industrial construction which will be built by 1956, 171 will have an output capacity of 30,000 m^3 annually each.

3. Toward New Victories /in the Glass and Ceramics Industry/

Following is a translation of an unsigned
article in Steklo i Keramika (Glass and Ceramics),
No. 5, May 1960, pages 1-4.

...The multithousand collective of the workers of the glass and ceramics industry is laboring fruitfully. In 1959 -- the first year of the Seven-Year Plan -- a great stride forward was made in developing the production of all types of glass and ceramics. The national economy received 139.7 million m² of window glass -- 6.85 million m² more than in 1958. The output of polished glass increased by 34.6 percent compared with 1958, the output of plate glass -- by 93 percent, and the output of glass fiber -- twofold.

In 1959 the production of large-size polished glass was mastered at the Saratov Plant, which was provided with an automated grinding-polishing conveyer line. That plant can now produce glass sheets as large as 15 m² each, which solves the problem of providing civic buildings and department stores with high-quality plate glass.

The construction of the Polotsk Glass Fiber Plant was completed, and so was the expansion of the Gusev Plant, and the activation of the Berdyanskiy Plant: as a result the capacities for the output of glass fiber in the country have increased more than twofold.

The output of structural porcelain in 1959 increased by 13 percent compared with 1958, the output of sewage pipes -- by 10.1 percent, and the output of flooring tile -- by 6.1 percent.

At present our country is producing over three million articles of sanitary-structural porcelain, eight million m² of facing tile, and over 10 million m² of Metlach ceramic flooring/ tile.

The ranks of the existing structural ceramics enterprises have been expanded by new and modernly equipped plants in Stalingrad, Kuybyshev and Leningrad, to be joined shortly by other such plants in Irkutsk, Novosibirsk and Sverdlovsk. The Slavuta, Slavyansk, Lobnenskiy and other plants have been radically renovated on an up-to-date technical basis.

Conveyer lines for casting and curing toilet seats have been installed and activated at the Lobnenskiy Plant, a second conveyer line for molding and curing pipe has been installed and activated at the Shchekino Plant, and the progressive method of saggerless firing has been introduced at the Slavuta Plant.

The Krasnodar Chinaware Plant, with a capacity of 12 million articles a year, was opened.

The second year of the Seven-Year Plan is almost halfway over. The first months of this year have shown that the workers of the glass and ceramics industry are coping successfully with the raised plan-set targets, increasing the pace of production, attaining further successes in technological progress, and mastering the fabrication of new types of production.

The plan of window glass output for the first quarter of 1960 was fulfilled 102 percent. The mean daily output was four percent higher than in 1959.

4. The Potential of the Ceramic Building Materials Industry in the Light of the Experience of Leading Plants

Following is a translation of an article by
B. M. Gartsman in Steklo i Keramika (Glass and
Ceramics), No. 5, May 1960, pages 5-8.⁷

...The structural ceramics industry has undergone a number of progressive changes in 1959, both in its technology and its economics. Such changes include the expansion and renovation of sanitary-structural articles plants (Lobnenskiy, Slavuta and Kuybyshev), improved utilization of output capacities in the pipe and tile plants and shops (Voronezh, L'vov, and other plants), transition to saggerless firing of sanitary-structural products in nearly every plant and of Metlach tile at the Khar'kov Tile Plant, etc.

However, considering the general advances made by Soviet industry and the ever-increasing demand of construction, the growth of the structural ceramics industry is to be considered unsatisfactory.

Data on the output and production of the structural ceramics enterprises are cited in the Table below, from which it can be seen that the 1959 plan of the output of sanitary-structural products, facing and Metlach tile, and acid-resistant refractories as well, was underfulfilled. This is to be explained by the fact that the plan of the activation of new capacities in the plants under construction (Irkutsk and Stalingrad) and modernization (Kuybyshev and others) is not being fulfilled because of the lag in the construction of batch-preparing shops and the failure to ensure prompt deliveries of the necessary technological equipment.

In 1959 the Kuybyshev Plant furnished only 171,200 sanitary-structural articles instead of the planned 270,000. The Irkutsk Plant, which in 1959 was to provide 100,000 sanitary-structural articles, 400,000 m² of facing tile, and 200,000 m² of Metlach tile, was not set in operation at all. Nor has a Metlach tile shop been readied for operation at the Stalingrad Plant.

The pace of growth of the output of structural-ceramic articles in 1959 is incommensurate with the pace and scale of construction, thereby clearly hampering the development of the latter.

The most slowly growing type of production in 1959 was the production of facing tile, which has on the average increased by only 3.2 percent more than in the preceding year,

Principal Types of Products	1958	1959		1959 in % of 1958	Ful- fill- ment of 1959 Plan in %
		Plan- ned	Repo- rted		
Sanitary-Structural Articles in thousands of units	23,514	26,816	2,622	111.5	97.8
Facing Tile in thous- ands of m ²	6,114	6,866	6,311	103.2	92
Metlach Tile, in thous- ands of m ²	84,153	8,952	8,900	105.8	99.4
Sewage Pipe, in thous- and of tons	2,920	3,089	3,175	108.7	102.8
Acid-Resistant Refrac- tories, * in thousands of tons	701	682	632	90.2	92.7

*The data on refractories pertain to plants in the RSFSR only.

and in a number of plants by only as little as 2-2.5 percent (Smolensk, Voronezh, Katuarovskiy, etc.).

The situation regarding the production of acid-resistant refractories is unfavorable because of the complete discontinuation of their production at the Katuarovskiy Plant and the reduction of the volume of their output at the Slavyansk Plant. In 1959 the output of acid-resistant refractories in the RSFSR had declined 10 percent. The shortage of acid-resistant refractories is affecting adversely the development of the chemical industry.

And yet, the plants have a considerable production potential which could be utilized largely by propagating the pace-setting experience. However, this important matter does not receive due attention and many highly effective improvements introduced in individual plants are not copied by other plants.

5. The Seven-Year Plan Requires More Cement

Following is a translation of an unsigned article in Stroitel'naya Gazeta (Construction Gazette), Moscow, 1 June 1960, page 2.

In the volume of capital investments and construction and installation operations we are outdistancing the target figures of the Seven-Year Plan, but this outdistancing may prove to be transient and precarious unless the lag in the development of the material-technical base of construction is overcome. In effect, this year's plan of construction and installation operations is much higher than was anticipated by the target figures of the Seven-Year Plan while the output of cement is, because of the above-mentioned lag, lower than was anticipated by these target figures.

Therefore, naturally, the growing lag of this most important link in the development of the national economy has attracted universal attention. The First Secretary of the CC CPSU, Chairman of the Council of Ministers USSR Comrade N. S. Khrushchev turned from the tribune of the Fifth Session of the Supreme Sovet USSR to the governments of Union republics, sovnarkhozes, and Party, Soviet, trade-union and Komsomol organizations with an appeal for intensifying their attention toward the construction projects of the cement industry.

Last week a large two-day conference was held in the Construction Division of the CC CPSU. The head of the Division of Construction and Building Materials Industry of the State Scientific and Economic Council under the Council of Ministers USSR Comrade Nikulin delivered at that conference an address on the state of and measures for improving the construction of cement plants and the acceleration of the activation of new capacities for the production of cement.

"In the last three years," declared Comrade Nikulin, "the sovnarkhozes introduced 16.1 million tons worth of new capacities for the production of cement, or approximately as much as was introduced in the preceding ten years. This is incontestably a great growth. But even such tempos no longer keep up with the needs of the national economy. In the course of the last three years the plan for increasing output capacities was consistently underfulfilled.

Because of the underfulfillment of the tasks for the activation of new output capacities alone, the plan of cement output for this year was set at 650,000 tons less than

anticipated by the target figures of the Seven-Year Plan. In other words, construction and installation operations totaling nearly three billion rubles will not be assured a binding material.

Why did this happen? The representatives of certain republics and sovnarkhozes reported to the Conference that their output of cement exceeds the level set by the target figures of the Seven-Year Plan. Thus, the output of cement in the Ukrainian SSR in 1960 amounts to 101 percent of the level set by the target figures, in the Lithuanian SSR -- 111 percent, and in the Georgian SSR -- 112 percent, and it likewise exceeds the target figures in the Azerbaydzhan and Uzbek republics.

At the same time, a different picture is presented by other republics. The output of cement in the RSFSR lies on the level of 98 percent of the target figures, in the Kazakh SSR -- 95 percent, Tadzhik SSR -- 75 percent, and Turkmen SSR -- 53 percent.

In the first four months of 1960 the situation has not improved. The plan is being fulfilled 83 percent. This year, as in the previous years, the tasks pertaining to capital construction in the cement industry are being fulfilled at a slower pace than in the national economy as a whole. As a result, the volume of uncompleted construction is growing. According to greatly incomplete data, last year the volume of uncompleted construction exceeded the planned level by 388 million rubles,, and the inventory of the still uninstalled imported equipment alone has increased to 440 million rubles.

The Lag is Elimidable

The Conference's participants raised the question: can the permitted lag be eliminated in the immediate future? The reply was unanimous: the lag can be eliminated within the next few months.

The belief in the definite elimination of the lag in the activation of cement-industry output capacities is based on the experience of the pace-setting collectives of construction organizations and cement plants.

The speakers had deservedly pointed out the great and fruitful labors conducted by the South Kazakhstan Sovnarkhoz with regard to the construction of the Chimkent Plant. The first and second batteries at that plant have been activated on time. At present the Chimkentpromstroy Trust is building a fourth technological line far ahead of schedule. The original plan calls for activating that line at the year's end. But, as declared by the Deputy Chairman of

that Sovnarkhoz Comrade Volinskiy, the collective of builders and installers has decided to activate the new kiln on the opening day of the July Plenum of the CC CPSU.

The work on expanding the Belgorod Plant is being conducted with great success by the Belgorodpromstroy Trust and by the collectives of the subordinate organizations of the Ministry of Construction RSFSR. Their efforts will lead to the establishment of a new complex of large-capacity shops within less than one and one-half years. At the Akmyansk Plant in the Lithuanian SSR new output capacities were activated last year ahead of schedule. This year, too, the Lithuanian builders are working successfully: if the machine builders of Bryansk will build a kiln for them on time, then the men of Akmyansk also will activate new equipment ahead of schedule this year.

High praise is deserved by the work of builders and installers on expanding the Spassk Plant in the Primorskiy Sovnarkhoz, the Nikolayevskiy Plant in the L'vovskiy Sovnarkhoz, the Kaspkiy Plant in the Sovnarkhoz of Georgian SSR, etc.

Considerable effort was applied to the development of cement industry in the Uzbek SSR last year. The work on the expansion of plants in Begovat and Kuvasay was finished ahead of schedule. At present the Uzbek comrades face the self-imposed task of ensuring a pre-term activation of output capacities at the Akhan-Garanskiy Cement Plant.

Experience in the high-speed construction of cement plants exists in nearly every Union republic. It should be utilized for solving this most important task on the scale of the country as a whole -- this is a question of honor to the builders and installers constructing cement plants.

6. Electrically Fused Cements

Following is a translation of an article by V. Vladimirov in Stroitel'naya Gazeta (Construction Gazette), 19 June 1960, page 3.7

One and one-half years ago "Stroitel'naya Gazeta" had published an article "Together With the Metallurgists." This was the first notification that the research and experiments conducted by the Urals Affiliate of the Academy of Construction and Architecture USSR at the Chelyabinsk Ferroalloys Plant had corroborated the possibility of obtaining high-grade fused cement clinker from ferrochrome slags. A year later, the article on "Cement Clinker in Electric Furnaces" discussed not only broad experiments but also the technical and economic advantages of this new method.

That article had engendered lively replies from the workers of the planning and scientific-research organizations and sovnarkhozes. Some of these replies were published in the "Letters to the Editor" column at the beginning of this year.

At that time also the Council on the Coordination of Scientific Research Work under the NIITsement /Scientific Research Institute of Cement Industry/ -- the main scientific-research organization of the cement industry -- had listened to a communication by a representative of the Urals Affiliate of the Academy of Construction and Architecture USSR concerning the work already done, and it had approved the decision of the Urals men to build an experimental industrial installation for producing fused cement. And now, recently, on 16 June, a technical conference at the NIITsement had discussed the same matter: the work of the Urals Affiliate of the Academy on obtaining fused cement clinker in electric furnaces.

This problem -- the obtaining of fused cement clinker from red-hot molten metallurgical slags -- has been confronting the world's scientists for many decades already.

Initially the Urals scientists were, as it were, helped by nature itself. They had chosen the ferrochrome slags of the Chelvabinsk Ferroalloys Plant as the object of their research. In their chemical composition these slags resemble cement closely and therefore need but a minimum addition of lime -- only 25 percent -- to be enriched.

After a large series of experiments, an original production scheme was worked out. According to this scheme,

the incandescent molten slag is poured onto the surface of the lime admixture, which can be introduced in ground form into the furnace. Such a scheme, as evidenced by experiments, makes it possible to reduce the consumption of electrical energy, accelerate the enriching process, and increase the furnace productivity.

Hitherto it was assumed that in view of the high temperatures needed for enriching slags no other furnace lining than graphite could be used. Experiments of the Urals Affiliate have shown that an electric arc furnace can operate without graphite lining, on "garnissazh" (a protective coating of cement-clinker melt hardened on the walls of conventional magnesite lining). This technique unlocks broad prospects for perfecting the electrothermal method of obtaining fused cement clinker.

Moreover, the experiments have shown that the smelting of cement clinker from ferrochrome slag is accompanied by the recovery -- settling out on the furnace bottom -- of the residual metal contained in the slag -- ferrochrome. Thus, now the metallurgists themselves are vitally interested in the retreatment of slags so as to obtain from them complex residual metal and cement.

Preliminary estimates show that the cost of the construction of a shop for the production of cement clinker from incandescent molten ferrochrome slags will be half the cost of construction of a new cement plant with the same output capacity. It has been tentatively calculated that the cost of the cement produced in such a shop will be lower than the present cost of the cement produced at the existing Yemanzhelinsk Plant of the same Sovnarkhoz.

The activities of the Urals Affiliate of the Academy have attracted the interest of the heads of the Orenburgskiy Sovnarkhoz. It was decided to construct an experimental electric arc furnace at the Orsk-Khalilovka Combine. There, the technology of obtaining cement clinker from blast-furnace slags will be worked out.

In their speeches the participants at the Conference -- heads of the NIITsement and laboratory researchers -- had unanimously declared that these activities are of great significance to science and industry. It is characteristic that the Institute researchers L. Ya. Lopatnikova, I. V. Kravchenko and V. F. Krylov suggested assistance for the Urals men, correctly pointed out the individual shortcomings in their performance, and spoke of the need for a creative collaboration in solving this big problem. Also voiced was the valuable idea that, when designing the aforementioned shop, one of the two experimental furnaces should be built with caisson cooling to create the protective "garnissazh."

At the same time, all speakers had cited with disapproval the impermissible red tape reigning at the Chelyabinskiy Sovnarkhoz, where the construction of the experimental shop has not as yet been commenced.

It is necessary that the new method of clinker production be adopted more rapidly in practice. And here the Chelyabinskiy Sovnarkhoz is most primarily concerned.

7. Expedite the Building of Plants for Large-Panel Housing Construction

[Following is a translation of an unsigned article in Stroitel'naya Gazeta (Construction Gazette), Moscow, 22 June 1960, page 1.]

The unprecedented upswing of housing construction in our country requires a new and more progressive technology of building construction. This technology already exists. It is the technology of large-panel housing construction. In Leningrad, Moscow, Cherepovets, and other cities, large-panel construction has won widespread recognition. It serves considerably to shorten the time and cut the costs of construction and installation operations.

Pursuant to a decision of the Party and State, about 500 large-panel housing construction enterprises should be established within six years in the country -- of this number 122 enterprises with a combined output capacity of 6.6 million square meters of dwelling area to be established annually in the years 1959-1960. In the Russian Federation alone it will be necessary to set in operation about fifty large-panel housing construction plants. Many other plants should be built in the Ukraine, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, and other republics.

Next year additional plants with a combined capacity of nearly eight million square meters of dwelling area annually should be set in operation. Thus, a solid industrial base for large-panel housing construction will be created within two years.

This is a task for builders, a greatly important and responsible task. It is absolutely imperative that the heads of construction projects, sovnarkhozes and Party and trade-union organizations should take the most resolute measures for a successful implementation of this task.

However, due attention is not always paid to the construction of large-panel housing construction plants. Precisely for this reason, the capacities actually introduced last year fell short of the target by two-thirds.

The situation is just as grievous this year: of the more than one hundred new plants subject to activation over one-half have not been started on at all or have just been started. In this sense, the Arkhangel'skiy Economic Rayon is particularly lagging. In that Rayon, the large-panel Pervomayskiy Plant with the capacity of 35,000 m² of dwelling area annually was to be set in operation last year. The

related work was entrusted to the Arkhbumstroy Construction Trust. However, because the Sovnarkhoz failed to provide the necessary funds, the activation date was postponed till this year, although the situation still remains as tense as before. The Sovnarkhoz has assigned only one-fourth of the 6.8 million rubles needed for this project.

The work on the construction project for a large-panel housing construction plant in Koryazhma is proceeding slowly. To be sure, funds have been provided for this project, but only about one and one-half million rubles out of the assigned seven millions have been utilized.

In the Yaroslavskiy Sovnarkhoz the construction of a plant with a capacity of 35,000 m² of dwelling area annually was commenced as late as in the first half of May, i. e., four months later than specified. A definitely intolerable attitude toward the construction projects for large-panel housing construction plants is being displayed in the Kurganskiy Sovnarkhoz as well. Already on 26 May the "Stroitel'naya Gazeta" had reported that the heads of that Sovnarkhoz are squandering funds, assigning them for other, secondary projects. And still the situation has not changed, and the construction of the large-panel housing construction plant there continues intermittently, as before. The Kustanayskiy Sovnarkhoz is under the obligation of activating this year two plants with capacity of 35,000 m² of dwelling area annually each, but no construction work has as yet been started, and neither of these two projects has as yet been assured project-estimate documentation and funds.

There can be no excuse for such a situation. Wherever due attention has been paid to the matter, success has been achieved. After all, in the Gor'kovskiy Sovnarkhoz this matter was handled so well that the construction time of a large-panel construction plant in the Avtozavodskiy Rayon was shortened by two months. Likewise, proper solicitude concerning the rapidest possible activation of new output capacities is being displayed in the Bashkirskiy, Astrakhanskiy, and Stalinskiy sovnrarkhozes.

A tense situation has arisen with regard to the delivery of technological equipment. The equipment-manufacturing plants failed last year to settle their accounts with the equipment-ordering ones.

Although the deliveries of equipment ought to be completed within the first quarter of this year, actually they still have not been completed as of the present time. Out of the 53 complete sets of equipment for the fabrication of series "1-464" houses, only 14 have been provided in complete form. The Ivanovskiy, Kuybyshevskiy and Sverdlovskiy

sovnarkhozes are lagging. And yet the equipment-manufacturing plants should deliver 77 complete sets of equipment according to the 1960 plan. How do these plants expect to carry this out now?

In this sense, a definitely incorrect attitude has been adopted by the Ministry of Construction RSFSR. Last year it was charged with the duty of delivering equipment for four plants. The Ministry had broken the deadlines for delivery, after having promised to fulfill the order by May of this year. Later on the fulfillment was postponed till June, but even so no notable progress has as yet been made.

The delays in the delivery of technological equipment for the new large-panel housing construction plants are endangering the activation of output capacities planned for this year and future years.

The creation of a base for large-panel housing construction is a matter of primary importance. The heads of sovnarkhozes, construction trusts, and boards of the building materials industry have the obligations of achieving a radical upturn in this matter.

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