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of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry of the Latvian SSR, all of which exceeded the plan. The Kramatorsk, "Granulit," Voskresensk, "Spartak," Amvrosiyevka No. 2, and the Ennskov plants are near to fulfilling the month plan. The Bryansk and Volkovysk plants continue to lag far behind the plan. The Novorossiysk plants have still not made up the losses for the first 20 days in July but have improved greatly in recent days. The best plants of "Glavvostoktsement" include "Bol'shevik," "Krasnyy Oktyabr'," "Kommunar," Yashkino, Spassk, Chernorech'ye, Nev'yansk, Suknoy Log, and Kaley-Ivanovsk. The Sengiley, Krasnoyarsk, and Kuznetsk plants are not fulfilling the plan because of delays in utilizing new production facilities.

The glass industry has not yet achieved the level of production planned for July. Delay in repairs at the "Dagestanskiye Ogni" Plant, cessation of repairs at the Ulan-Ude Plant, and lags in the daily production schedule at the Gusev plant have lowered the total production level for the industry. The Bytosh and Chernyatinskiy plants fulfilled the glass-production plan but is lagging in the packing of glass. The following plants are fulfilling the plan: "Ashkhabad, Kurlovo, Lisichansk, Misheron, "Velikiy Oktyabr'," Gor'kovskiy, the Konstantinovskiy Plant (ment "Oktyabr'skaya Revolyutsiya," "Avtosteklo," and Chagoda.

The paper-roofing materials industry fulfilled the 26-day plan in July for ruberoid 97.6 percent, "pergamyn" 95.6 percent, bar paper 84.5 percent, and cardboard 102.9 percent. The chief cause for failure to fulfill the plan was the poor work of the Slavyansk and the Murem plants. The Kuybyshev and "Kartontol'" plants exceeded the plan, and the Odessa plant improved its operation in the last few days.

All slate plants exceeded the production plan. The Rostov plant has considerably increased the production of the large "TaV-1" slate.

Brick plants of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry RSFSR and Tadzhik SSR fulfilled the plan successfully, while Ukrainian and Belorussian brick plants continue to lag.

MOSCOW CONSTRUCTION-MATERIALS INDUSTRY PROGRESSES -- Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov, No 31, 29 Jul 48

Workers in Moscow construction materials enterprises recently held a meeting at which the results of the first 6 months were cited. The output of red brick increased almost 70 percent in comparison with 1947, silicate brick increased 32.5 percent, lime 35 percent, gypsum 50 percent, and wall board seven times. The gross production plan of the first 6-month period was fulfilled 129 percent, including 110 percent for fired brick. The removal of brick per one cubic meter of kiln increased considerably. Removal of brick per cubic meter exceeded 1,100 bricks in June in the Leninogorsk, Verkhne-Kotel'skiy, and Nizhne-Kotel'skiy brick plants.

The average fulfillment of the work norm by pieceworkers was 130 percent. Leading Moscow brick enterprises have pledged increased production in the second 6-month period of 1948. The Cherepishki Plant has pledged to produce 5 million bricks above the 1948 plan, the Leninogorsk, 2.5 million, and the Beskudnikovo, 3 million. Alekhin, Minister of the Construction Materials Industry RSFSR, was present at the meeting.

"KRASNYI BLOK" PLANT IMPROVED -- Zarya Vostoka No 150, 29 Jul 48

Many improvements have been made in the Moscow "Krasnyy Blok" Plant. The assembly of blocks is done by the continuous and conveyor methods. Intraplant transport of goods has been mechanized, and cold casting and stamping of parts have been instituted. Plant workers fulfilled the 8-month plan ahead of time

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and have pledged to fulfill the year plan by 20 October. The plant was awarded the Red Banner of the Soviet of Ministers USSR for successes achieved in the all-Union competition.

"AKTYUBSTROY" BRICK PLANT TURNS OUT DEFECTIVE BRICKS -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 150, 30 Jul 48

The Brick Plant of the "Aktyubstroy" Trust is a well-equipped, large-scale enterprise. However, it consistently turns out defective bricks. Out of 250,000 bricks delivered to "Kazmetallurgstroy" (Construction of Kazakh Metallurgical Enterprises), 100,000 were half-bricks and chipped. Bondarenko, plant director, and Ganauer, chief engineer, knew that many of the raw bricks were defective but, nevertheless, they gave the order for the bricks to be fired. Afterwards, workers had to be hired by "Kazmetallurgstroy" at 10 rubles 40 kopecks each to sort the good bricks from the bad.

ARTIKTUF MACHINE SHOP EXCEEDS PLAN -- Kommunist, No 176, 27 Jul 48

Workers of the Artiktuf (Artik, Armenian SSR, Tuff) Machine Shop (director, Naldzhyan) organized the job of repairing cutting machines, shuttle cars, motor tugboats and other equipment, thereby insuring continuous work for the stonecutters. The half-year plan for 1948 was fulfilled 238 percent and the 15-day July plan, 270 percent. The shop completed the 1948 plan in 6 months. Six Stakhanovites are already working toward the 1951 assignments.

A vibrating tuff blockmaking machine was constructed at Naldzhyan's suggestion. Since the machine was put into operation, the shop has been turning out 500 more blocks daily than the number specified by the plan. Shop workers have decided to carry on their work without State subsidies and to complete the Five-Year Plan in 4 years.

"RIGIPS" PLANT RESUMES PRODUCTION -- Sovetskaya Latvija, No 176, 27 Jul 48

The "Rigips" Plant is almost completely mechanized. It consists of three shops--the gypsum, the "Ziporeks" gas-concrete block, and the "Rigips" dry gypsum. The latter shop was dismantled by the enemy during the war and sent to Germany. To date, 160 tons of equipment have been recovered and installed in the plant.

In 1946 the dry-gypsum shop was completely reconstructed under the direction of A. A. Yakushev, the plant's chief engineer, after a 1.440 millimeter rubber belting was procured from the "Varonis" Plant which never before made rubber belting wider than 1.000 millimeters. In 1947 the shop was put into operation.

The process used in the production of dry plaster was known to us long ago. Dry plaster was produced by a few enterprises in the Moscow region from the same raw material that goes into making paper. The end-product could simply have been described as cardboard, although the process employed was slightly different from the one used in the manufacture of real cardboard. Despite the fact that this type of plaster was unquestionably good insulating material, it still could not compare with "Rigips" dry-gypsum plaster. The only plants in existence which produce such a product are in the US and one in Latvia.

The "Rigips" Plant is capable of turning out thousands of square meters of dry plaster every day or hundreds of thousands of square meters annually. The plant exceeded its plan in the course of 16 working days this June by producing thousands of square meters of dry plaster in excess of the plan.

Production of dry plaster, however, depends upon the effective operation of the Yamtsiyem Paper Factory (chief engineer, Teraukain). This factory turns out air-permeable duplex-cardboard which is an indispensable material in the

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production of "Rigips." The Yanitsiyem Paper Factory has been responsible for producing cardboard which is not permeable to air and which does not stick to the gypsum. This has impeded the smooth operation of the "Rigips" dry-gypsum shop.

The demand for "Siporeks" gas-concrete blocks as well as for dry plaster is unprecedented, since three workmen can assemble a one-family cottage from these blocks in one day. Such a cottage is twice as cheap as an ordinary stone house. Dry plaster is equally important for in addition to its insulating value it speeds up interior decoration and reduces costs of materials. It is possible to move into a house an hour after the walls have been covered with such dry plaster. (Article by Georgiy Maksimov.)

LIME AND RUBBLESTONE PLANT EXPANDS -- Sovetskaya Moldaviya, No 148, 27 Jul 48

A small construction-materials plant at Gidigich Station near Kisbinev is processing lime and obtaining rubblestone for new buildings under construction in Moldavia. The enterprise is gradually expanding and improving its work.

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