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DEVELOP NEW PROCESSES FOR SHALE EXTRACTION;
ESTONIAN SHALE MINES USE IMPROVED METHODS, MACHINERY

MOTOR FUEL, OTHER PRODUCTS EXTRACTED FROM SHALE -- Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Dec 51

Associates of the All-Union Scientific Institute for the Processing of Shales, in collaboration with engineers of the Estonian Shale Gas Plant in Kokhtla-Yarve, have developed new technological processes resulting in the extraction of some types of motor fuel, raw material for tanning leather from shale, in addition to household gas.

Great importance is attached also to the new method of obtaining so-called frothing agents, used widely in the mining industry for concentrating ores. The new materials are 2 1/2-3 times as cheap as the previous ones. Scholars of the institute have developed and introduced the technology of gasifying shale dust, leading to the utilization of shale fines which previously had almost been discarded as waste.

KYAVA-2 MINE ACHIEVES HIGH PERFORMANCE -- Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 8 Jan 52

In 1951, miners of the Kyava-2 shale mine achieved considerable success, keeping their promise to Stalin to deliver tens of thousands of tons of shale above plan. In 1951, all technical and economical indexes improved over 1950.

Labor productivity of the cutting and loading personnel rose 17 percent. The effectiveness of the work of the cutting machine increased 30 percent and of electric locomotives 15 percent. Starting on 1 September 1951, operations at Sections No 1 and No 4 were converted to the cycle work schedule.

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Before every shift, electricians and mechanics prepared the machines for uninterrupted work. During the development shift such processes as undercutting of the seam, transferring of the conveyer, and installation of mine props were carried out so efficiently that the actual mining of shale at the faces could proceed promptly. The entire cycle of operations in shale extraction was completed in a 24-hour period.

Workers in Section No 4 had never fulfilled the production plan from February to August, but, in September, after introduction of the cycle schedule, the plan was fulfilled 102 percent. In October, plan fulfillment rose to 112.6 percent, and in November to 123.2 percent. Since the introduction of the cycle work schedule, the quality of the shale mined has improved with a reduction of the rock content of almost one percent. Labor productivity has had an average increase of 6 percent. Every worker in the section fulfilled his norm in December.

In October, Section No 4 received the Transferable Red Banner of the Ministry of the Coal Industry and the TsSPS for its distinguished performance. Workers of Section No 1 also had great success.

In 1952, all sections of the Kyava-2 shale mine will be converted to the cycle work schedule.

IMPROVED MACHINERY RAISES PERFORMANCE OF ESTONIAN MINES -- Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 4 Jan 52

In 1948, the first STR-30 conveyer was tested by engineers and miners in the Kyava-2 shale mine, and it was proved that this conveyer could be used in shale as well as in coal mines. At present, the STR-30 is being reconstructed in order to improve its technical and economic indexes considerably.

In Mine No 6 the chief of a section carried out experiments with a cutting machine with a thin bar, manufactured by the Kopeysk Mining Machinery Plant. This innovation makes it possible to decrease greatly the amount of shale fines resulting from mining.

Operators of cutting machines in the Kukruse Mine collaborated with a docent of the Leningrad Mining Institute in designing a new cutting chain for cutting machines which is intended for cutting hard seams and which will save a large amount of state funds.

Formerly, shale was cleaned by the manual removal of rock. Now, rock is removed mechanically, thus saving for the state 8.8 million rubles per year.

SHALE MINE USES OPEN PIT-METHOD -- Moscow, Pravda, 22 Dec 51

The Vivikond shale mine in the Estonian SSR is being worked by the open-pit method and has recently acquired two walking excavators. Recently, the first of these excavators reached the main pit of the mine and was made ready for action. The walking excavator will remove rock located on the surface of the ground from the shale seam. The shale miners will then work the uncovered shale seam with ordinary excavators. Employment of the new machines will greatly accelerate shale mining. The second walking excavator is now being assembled at the Vivikond shale mine.

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