



RESTRICTED

STAT

of operations. What does the fact that Maxim Ivanov's combine as not been cleaned for a month, indicate, if not a bad, unsocialistic attitude toward technology?

Maximum exploitation of the machines depends largely on the condition of the equipment in the shaft.

There is hardly a day when the conveyer belts do not stop because of the lack of cars. Each shift loses 2 hours in repairing belts or waiting for cars. With the stopping of one belt, production is halted in an entire sector of the shaft. There are no objective reasons for such a state of affairs. The main culprits are senior technicians Arsov, Rangel Khristov, Engineer Pamukchiev, and the superintendent of the shaft, Engineer Koev, who do not adequately supervise the placing of conveyer belts and the operation of coal combines.

Conveyer belts are installed incorrectly, without a level. Because of this, the belt buckles and slips off the rollers. In striving to increase production, the technical staff have not paid enough attention to these things -- not realizing that herein lies one of the main reasons for nonfulfillment of the plan.

Maintenance of other equipment is not carried out any better. The electric motor of the sector to which machine No 4 is attached does not function regularly. The belts there transport only half of the coal they should normally transport.

Because of all these irregularities, thousands of tons of coal are lost every month. The administrative staff seem to have overlooked these facts, for no measures have been taken for their elimination. According to statements made by the superintendent, Engineer Koev, and Engineer Pamukchiev, the idle periods are legal and unavoidable, because conditions impose them. This is, of course, far from being true. Had the engineering-technical personnel paid more attention to the installation of belts and the procurement of cars, had more regular supervision been exercised over the maintenance and use of the equipment, the picture would be quite different. However, among the supervisors, there is much complacency; they rest on the laurels of past successes.

The party leadership also bears great guilt in the matter, because of its lack of interest in production and failure to exercise its right of control. Relations between the superintendent and the party secretary are tense. This reflects badly on the general work. The superintendent, Engineer Koev, does not seek the support of the party organization and of the workers in solving production problems. There have been cases when he most shamefully threw out workers who had come to him on official business.

Criticism is stifled. When the worker Vlado Guirov, sectional party secretary, wrote to the press on the bad state of maintenance of the shaft equipment, he was reprimanded for not having asked the approval of his superior.

The workers' complaints and symptoms of unhappiness are disregarded. At all meetings and consultations the workers alone are blamed.

- E N D -

- 2 -

RESTRICTED