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SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN USSR RADIO, ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

OUTLINE 1953-1956 OUTPUT OF RADIOS, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES -- Moscow, Pravda, 29 Nov 53

The Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry is now producing 12 times as many radio receivers and dozens of times as many television sets as were produced in 1940. However, the electrical industry is still lagging in the production of consumers' goods. The variety of types of radio sets, radiophonographs, and television sets is still too limited. The quality of cabinets and the acoustical qualities of loud-speakers and radio receivers still fail to meet the demands of consumers. The industry is not producing enough first-class and second-class radio receivers.

The vacuum tube industry has not yet organized the mass production of large-screen cathode-ray tubes, which in turn holds up the output of modern television receivers. The industry has yet to produce portable battery-operated radio receivers, concert radiophonographs, sound recorders and reproducers and dishwashers for everyday use. The industry should increase the variety of types of automatic record changers, radio receivers with attachments for tape and wire recording, and high-quality dynamic speakers. The quality of washing machines must be improved.

Workers of the electrical and radio industries should eliminate shortcomings, improve the quality of electrical and radio products, and see that the planned increase in production is achieved. In 1954, enterprises of the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry are to produce 2.8 million radio receivers and television sets, 1.3 million loud-speakers, 75,000 vacuum cleaners, 1.5 million electric irons, 1.5 million electric hot plates, 30,000 floor polishers, and other products. Planned 1955 production for ministry enterprises has been set at 3,350,000 radio receivers, up to 450,000 television sets, up to 150,000 vacuum cleaners, and up to 2,230,000 electric hot plates. The 1955 output of washing machines, electric record players, and electric motors for sewing machines will

be increased considerably as compared with 1950. The output of electrical equipment for home refrigerators will be increased 600 percent. Planned 1956 output of radio receivers and television sets will be five times that of 1950.

In 1954 and 1955, the ministry will also increase the variety of types of products and improve their quality. The output of Class I and Class II receivers (Mir, Belarus', Rodina, and others) will account for 35 percent of radio-receiver production, as compared with 18 percent in 1953. More than 20 new types of radio receivers, radiophonographs, television sets, and record players will be developed and some of the radiophonographs will be equipped with tape recorders.

In 1953, the ministry completed development of new television receivers: the Avangard, Sever, Svet, Temp, and Volna models. The pictures on these sets will be four to five times as large as the picture on the KVN-49 set. At the same time, the number of tubes in the new sets will not exceed 17-20; that is, the new sets will have about half as many tubes as the T-2 set produced in 1952 and 1953. The new television sets are simpler to operate, use less electric power, and are more reliable than earlier sets. The life of picture tubes has been increased considerably. Television antennas which will serve 50 individual receivers have been developed and will be produced.

Among the new consumer items that have been developed are washing machines with capacities of 2.5 and 1.5 kilograms of dry wash, electric stoves with heating racks, table hot plates with two or three temperature settings, all-purpose kitchen appliances, air-sealed heating stoves, hair dryers, electric shavers, etc. The output of electric irons with automatic temperature regulators is being increased. In 1954, up to 9 million frosted and 3 million clear glass electric light bulbs will be produced. The output of special purpose bulbs (blue and ruby colored) for medical use will be increased considerably.

The Urozhay radio transmitter and receiver must be redesigned. New transmitters and receivers will use ultrashort waves for interference-free communications.

Many plants of the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry are already producing consumer goods. In 1954, the number of enterprises producing electrical and radio products will increase 30 percent.

The production costs of a number of electrical and radio products are still high and at some plants exceed the established retail price of the product. As a result, some enterprises are losing large sums of money. For example, the production cost of a Mir radio receiver made by the Riga VEF Plant is considerably greater than the retail price, the production cost of television sets made by the Aleksandrov Radio Plant is considerably more than the retail price, and the production cost of washing machines made by the Riga REZ Plant is several times as much as the retail price.

Analysis of a mass-produced radio receiver showed that 75 percent of its production cost went into radio components, subassemblies, and tubes. Thus, production costs can be reduced by producing low-cost, standard, semifabricated parts and materials at specialized plants. This will only be possible if ancillary plants producing radio parts and electric-vacuum instruments mechanize and automatize their operations.

Production sections that are bottlenecks should be put on a three-shift basis. The reject rate should be reduced, especially in the vacuum tube industry, where it is particularly high.

The Ministry of Consumer Goods Industry USSR should supply the radio industry with a wider variety of decorative fabrics of various colors and shades.

The Ministry of Chemical Industry does not supply sufficient quantities of varicolored molding powders and nitro lacquers to the electrical and radio industries. There is a need for chemical products for finishing cabinets. The chemical industry is not supplying sufficient quantities of luminescent coatings for picture tubes or of other chemicals used in the production of vacuum-tube instruments and radio parts.

The Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR should increase the supply of walnut, Karelian birch, mahogany, and plane wood, and also increase the supply of special types of paper and cardboard.

The Ministry of Metallurgical Industry should assure the supply of stock sizes of calibrated aluminum strip, transformer iron strip, and chromium steel; should increase the output of nichrome wire for heating appliances; and should organize the production of wire for sound recording.

Special optically clear glass without bubbles or flaws is needed to make cathode-ray tubes, but the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry USSR is not supplying enough of this glass to meet the needs of the radio industry.

The aid of the machine-building ministries is especially needed now in the critical task of developing and building automatic equipment for the mass production of television receiving tubes 400-500 millimeters in diameter. Mechanized equipment for making high-quality electric vacuum-tube instruments and radio parts at low cost must also be developed.

The Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry must increase the output of control, measuring, and testing equipment and of spare parts to meet the needs of the expanding network of electrical and radio repair bases and shops.--- G. Kazanskiy, Deputy Minister of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry USSR

INDUSTRY PRODUCES FAULTY RECEIVERS, TUBES -- Moscow, Radio, Oct 53

The Rekord radio receiver is poorly designed and has been marketed for a number of years in spite of major defects. Work on the improvement of this receiver has moved along very slowly.

Defects in the Riga-6 receiver produced by the Riga Plant imeni A. S. Popov (formerly the Riga Radiotekhnika Plant) were pointed out in this periodical over a year ago. Dirin'sh, director of the plant, has not yet informed the editors of Radio that he is taking steps to improve this receiver.

Readers of this periodical complain that good battery-operated radios are unavailable. Of the two battery sets produced, the Rodina-52 is too expensive and the Tula does not provide adequate reception. The miniature tubes of the Tula receiver burn out very rapidly. The Neva receiver is poorly designed and the cabinet of the Moskvich receiver is flimsy and is frequently broken in transit. The selenium rectifiers of the Moskvich receiver frequently go out of order. The tuning cables of the Ural radiophonograph are not reliable. The cabinet of the Rekord radiophonograph is carelessly put together.

The Central Department Store in Moscow receives more radios than other stores. It received 1,650 first-class receivers and 7,420 second-class receivers in the first 6 months of 1953 -- only enough to fill 40-50 percent of its orders. The industry should organize the output of a greater variety of radios and start production of portable radios.

The vacuum-tube industry is turning out low-quality miniature tubes (for battery sets) which do not last for even the guarantee period. High-voltage cathode tubes are low in quality and bring many complaints. There has been little expansion of the variety of types of radio tubes in recent years.

The output of loud-speakers and untrashort-wave receivers must be increased.

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