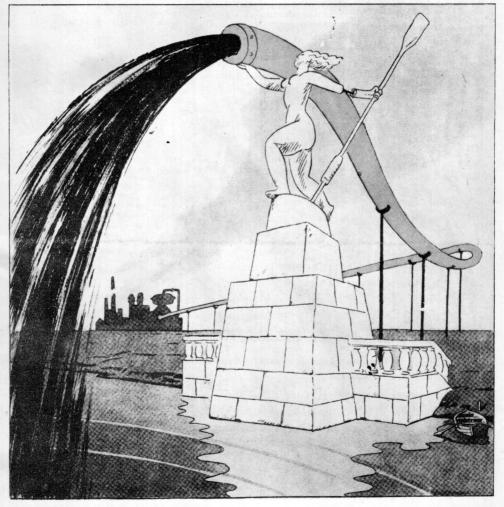
### POLLUTION

i n

#### SOVIET RUSSIA

and countries occupied and exploited by Russia, especially in

LATVIA and UKRAINE



Эстетику - в производство!

Рисунок А. КРЫЛОВА

Aesthetics in production!

Krokodil, No. 31, Moscow 1971

#### СТРАШНАЯ УГРОЗА

Рисунок Н. ЛИСОГОРСКОГО.



— Пока не бросишь курить, я буду проветривать комнату...

A TERRIBLE THREAT

-If you won't give up smoking, I'll air the room...

Krokodil, No. 22, Moscow 1957

# ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION PROBLEMS IN SOVIET RUSSIA AND COUNTRIES OCCUPIED AND EXPLOITED BY SOVIET RUSSIA

His Majesty King Gustav VI Adolf of Sweden, in a reply published in the newspaper AFTONBLADET of April 22, 1972 on the question what to do concerning pollution of environment, stated the following: "This problem is extremely important, one of the most important of our time. Everybody should contribute to a solution of it as quickly as possible. All ways which can lead to this goal should be tried out. The environment conference here in Stockholm should be a complete success."

Unfortunately there are signs of alarm that countries under the dictatorship of the communist party will try to make use of the conference for the disorientation of society, by insinuating that their system of government is the only suitable one for a healthy environment. A year ago Kerstin Aner, Ph.D., member of the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag) described some facts which indicated the opposite. She was shamelessly attacked by several "socialists", some of them from Moscow. Odd Olofsson wrote, inter alia, "The causes and forms of environment problems are the same, but the way to solve them is simpler in a socialist contry—it is impossible to create political structures which direct private capitalism for the benefit of a society——destruction of the environment is impossible ia a socialist structure——

Several Soviet scientists have been in Sweden as members of a symposium on environment problems, or in order to work as political propagandists. Riga Radio repeatedly broadcasts their biassed, anti-Swedish stories. The talks by Bonifacijs Tabors were broadcast on December 21 and 26, 1971 and April 15, 1972, and those by G. Andrušaitis on Sept. 27, 1971, Oct. 18, 1971 and Nov. 2, 1971.



- Despite so many complaints the smoke is getting worse!
- What else can you do with those piles of paper?!

Dadzis, No. 23, Riga 1968

G. Andrušaitis and others attended the Stockholm symposium from Sept. 8 - 10, 1971 as members of scientific institutions. In the Riga monthly NAUKA I TEKHNIKA ( SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, issued in Russian and Latvian, 52,000 copies each ) March 1972 issue, we can study a report which is not objective: bad about the Swedes, and with nothing about the Soviet Union. Dementyeva has delivered a report on the influence of pollution on Baltic fish - husbandry, G. Andrušaitis, Director of the Institute of Biology of the Academy of Sciences of the Latvian SSR told the journal the following half-truths: "They demonstrated the construction of a giant combined system for the complete purification of sewage from Stockholm and surrounding cities. So far, these waters are allowed to flow into lakes and the Stockholm archipelago. The result according to views held by scientists is extremely harmful to the Stockholm archipelago. Moreover, drinking water is taken from the same lakes. The entire purification system will be ready in about two years."

Actually Swedish specialists declare that all sewage water from the northern part of Stockholm has been undergoing mechanical, biological and chemical treatment for several years. South of Greater Stockholm is a second purification installation (Himmerfjärdeverket) still under construction. About half of the sewage water of Greater Stockholm is treated chemically. Stockholm drinking water has no contact with sewage water.

What trouble a communist dictatorship can have in trying to avoid pollution can be seen in Soviet publications and radio broadcasts. Spotlights on acute problems are cast by the satirical publications KROKODIL (Russian, 5,000,000 copies), PEREC (Ukrainian, 2,370,000 copies), DADZIS (Latvian, 82,000 copies).

Why humour? The Slavist, Prof. Nils Åke Nilsson, Ph.D., writes in his book MODERN RYSK HUMOR (Stockholm, 1959): "Satire and humour in the Soviet Union cannot be used as a means of harmless fun or pleasant relaxation. Like all other literary expressions, they are just forms of political propaganda. They are one of the many instruments used by the Communist party to reach and influence the masses."

"Jokes are cracked only about actualities," states Sven Wallmark in SOVJET-MÄNNISKOR I KROKODIL, Stockholm, 1970.



- MES JAU ARI CINITOS PAR ZIVJU AIZSARDZĪBU, BET TE ZIVJU VAIRS NAV.

-We, too, would be glad to join the fighters for the protection of the fish, but there aren't any fish here any more

Dadzis, No. 8, Riga 1967

## OF THE SUPREME SOVIET DURING 15 YEARS

The law for the protection of nature was promulgated in Latvia in 1959. The need was evidently extremely acute. "CĪNA" (official publication of the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist party) wrote on June 6, 1957 concerning the session of the Supreme Soviet: " - - - according to the report delivered by Bude, Minister for the Fishing Industry, everything seems to be in excellent order. But does comrade Bude know that people use very strong language about obnoxious practices in the fishing industry? Our old fishermen say: "If fishing continues in the same way, our children will see fish only in aquariums or zoos - - - our lakes are empty!"

When the law for the protection of nature had been in force for 8 years, Mr. G. Andrušaitis gave a radio talk on May 10, 1967 (report published also in SOVIETSKAYA LATVIYA of May 19, 1967):
"New forms of pollution have now appeared. One of them is synthetic detergents - - - which can be a strong poison for water organisms - - -

detergents - - - which can be a strong poison for water organisms - - in our republic 645 mill. m<sup>3</sup> water are used in industry and households every year, but in the same period the rivers of the republic receive immissions to the extent of 552 mill. m<sup>3</sup> of sewage and waste. With small exceptions, sewage water undergoes no treatment in our republic. Only in four industrial enterprises are there complete purification installations.

In the district of Daugavgrīva,  $320\ 000\ m^3$  of sewage water and industrial waste flows into the sea every day. At present the river Daugava contains only one-third of the mass of water that would be necessary to dilute this immission. Therefore the self-purifying process is continuing in the Gulf of Riga; we have ascertained that  $1370\ -\ 3120$  tons of water organisms are participating in the self-purifying process in the Daugavgrīva district.

The heavy pollution of the waters of the river Daugava is reflected in both biological and chemical analysis. When the water of Daugava reaches Riga, the number of colibacteria is normal: 1000 colibacteria/litre of water. After passing Riga, the number jumps to 238 000.



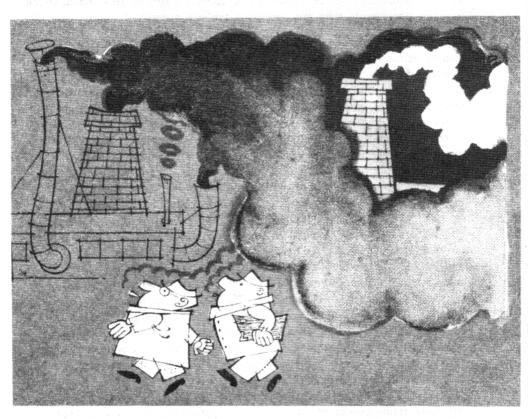
- WHY ARE YOUR FACES SO DIRTY?
- WE WERE HAVING A SNOWBALL FIGHT! ... DADZIS, No. 3, RIGA 197

The pollution of the Gulf of Riga is particularly evident between Dubulti and Vecāķi (20 km of shoreline) in a district which is most intensively used by holidaymakers. It has to be stated that during the summer up to 15 mill. bacteria can be found in one cm<sup>3</sup> of water on this beach, which is many times more than the permitted sanitary norms..."

During the third session of the Latvian Supreme Soviet on March 21, 1968 Deputy Prime Minister Pēteris Strautmanis stated: " - - - we were forced to close down the superphosphate works in Riga, notwithstanding the fact that our agriculture thus lost mineral fertilizers. There are many cases in which industrial waste pollutes water and air - - - the main polluters of water are the enterprises of the Ministry of Meat and Milk Industry, sugar works, alcohol distilleries, starch factories and enterprises of the Ministry of Cellulose, Paper and Wood, as well as the chemical industry and railway transport. In some ports there are no purification installations or boats which can collect oil from the surface of the water. The waters of ports are often polluted because of the lack of discipline of the crews of ships. In order to save the river Daugava as a source of drinking water in the coming years we have to stop the immission of non-purified sewage water into the river. This applies particularly to densely-populated centres. Purification installations must be built in Riga, Daugavpils and Jekabpils. Laboratory data disclose the fact that the most polluted water is that of the river Lielupe. This is caused especially by the cellulose and paper mills at Sloka, as well as by sewage from Jelgava and Rīgas Jūrmala. The water of the Gulf of Riga is polluted particularly between Lielupe and Asari, particularly in winter. Another period of maximal pollution of the Gulf of Riga has been noted during summer, when this seaside resort is used to maximum capacity.

All these transgressions of the law for the protection of nature of Latvia arise because Ministries and organizations, and the deputies of the working people in city and district councils, are not severe enough towards organizations and managers of enterprises, and fail to report persons guilty of the pollution of water recipients to supervisory bodies.

The main cause of the reduction in fish is confusion in the fishing industry ... During the fish-breeding season and in the use of pools for the rearing of young fish, no tangible effects have been produced because of the low quality of these constructions... In the Federation of Russia, in Lithuania



- KO DARĪSIM AR SODA NAUDU PAR GAISA PIESĀRŅOŠANU!
- IERAKSTĪSIM SKURSTENĪ.

J. Mežavilka zīm

- How are we going to enter in our books expenditure on fines for air pollution?
- Don't worry. It isn't our milk we're spilling.

Dadzis, No. 3, Riga 1967

and other republics, illegal fishing means confiscation of property and imprisonment for a period up till 4 years. In our republic these fines are much milder...

Much damage to nature is done by unskilled and careless use of chemicals in agriculture. This applies in particular to pesticides and herbicides. We still have many shortcomings in the protection and reconstruction of natural resources.

Z. Holsteins, Chairman of the Commission for the protection of nature: "At present the most polluted is the lower part of the river Daugava as well as the rivers Lielupe, Rēzekne, Slocene, Ciecere and Laucese and the lakes of Liepāja and Alūksne and others, and the canals of Liepāja and Riga. Water pollution is increased by the residues of oil carried by ships, by water flowing from defective installations for the washing of cars and other technical plants, and from the canalization of cities and enterprises. In many industrial enterprises, purification installations are used in an unskilled way. Management and upkeep is bad, so their efficiency is very low.

Very often, water purification installations are supervised by unskilled workers. According to calculations, the chemical, oil, cellulose, paper, food and other enterprises every year discharge in waste water many thousand tons of various acids, iron, zinc, bromine, copper, phenol, wood fibres and other materials.

In 1967, the Jelgava sugarworks discharged into the river Lielupe about 15 tons of heavy oil, but the Riga electrical machinery works about 10 tons of heavy oil. How comes it that 3 managers of Jelgava sugarworks did not have to pay a fine of 300 roubles? In Liepāja, the people's court declared 5 times null and void the fines imposed upon managers of enterprises who had tolerated the pollution waters rich in fish."

Debates: A. Sliede, Chairman of the Riga City Executive Committee: "The air in Riga is very polluted. Smoke in some districts of Riga is higher than the permissible norms. This is caused mainly by car exhausts. Many boilers are not built for the effective burning of wood, and filtering installations are very ineffective. The law for the protection of nature is disregarded as far as water is concerned."



— Ви чому порушуєте правила протипожежної безпеки?!

ATTENTION! SMOKING AT RIVERSIDE PROHIBITED Notice:

Perec, No. 14, Kiew 1970 - Why do you disregard the fire safety regulations?

Minister for the Protection of Health, V. Kaneps: "The seriousness of the problem of the protection of water basins in the republic is illustrated by the fact that some infections diseases are largely caused by public water basins which are polluted by non-purified sewage."

Deputy V. Lazdups: "Some industries in Liepāja are polluting water basins by oil products and industrial waste, but the Ministries take no serious steps to stop this irregularity."

Director L. Zviedre from Kemeri Sanatorium: "For two years, the trade union council of the republic has been disregarding the decision of the Executive Committee to install a filter in the boiler-house of the Kemeri polyclinic, which is emitting 150 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of unfiltered gases into the air."

Secretary G. Kyrillov, of the Krāslava communist party committee: "In our linen factory, filtration does not mean that the sewage water is cleaned effectively. It is stored in the nearby lake, which is connected with the river Daugava. Fish are killed by the waste water of the dairy and distillery. The lake of Dagda is being polluted too. The reason for all this is hasty construction of enterprises and bad water-purifying installations. For years after the session of the Supreme Soviet it was discovered that about every third water-purifying installation cannot meet the demands of efficiency. Sometimes managers of enterprises have no interest in purifying-installations. To the question: "Can you fine those who pollute waters?" the Minister replied: "We cannot."

#### CHRONOLOGY CRIES OUT

Total disregard of rules for the protection of the environment at the Sloka cellulose and paper mill situated at the river Lielupe, southern part of the Gulf of Riga, Latvia, during 15 years.

#### "Cīṇa" June 6, 1957

Report concerning debate in Supreme Soviet of Latvia: "The condition of the river Lielupe is intolerable. The Minister of the Forest industry, Mr. Vimba, and the director of the Sloka plant, treat ironically every visitor and commission interested in the problem of water pollution. The enterprise pays 25 kopeks (about 3 cents. Ref.) for every m<sup>3</sup> of industrial waste discharged



- JĀZVANA ĀTRAJAI PALĪDZĪBAI - RŪPNĪCAS TERITORIJĀ PARĀDĪJIES TRAKAIS!

N. Zvirbulis

- Quick! Call the emergency squad! - There's a madman in the factory grounds!

Dadzis, No. 9, Riga 1971

into the river Lielupe. During the first three months of this year, the fines paid by the enterprise have amound to 450,000 roubles... Doctors maintain that the water of Lielupe poisons bathing people, too: they get all kinds of skin inflammations."

#### Riga Radio May 10, 1967

published by "SOVIETSKAYA LATVIYA" on May 19, 1967: "The river Lielupe is now polluted mainly by industrial waste from the Sloka cellulose and paper mill. The enterprise emits 57,000 m³ of highly polluted water every day. It has been established that waste from the Sloka plant has a bad effect on many water organisms which contribute to the self-purifying of water. This increases the difficulties in the purifying process."

#### Riga Radio May 16, 1967

From a talk by Mr. Gunnars Andrušaitis: "Everybody knows that nowadays the big Latvian rivers Daugava and Lielupe are being polluted, and that the pollution is constantly increasing... The Bay of Tallinn is much more polluted than the Gulf of Riga."

#### Riga newspapers on March 22, 1968.

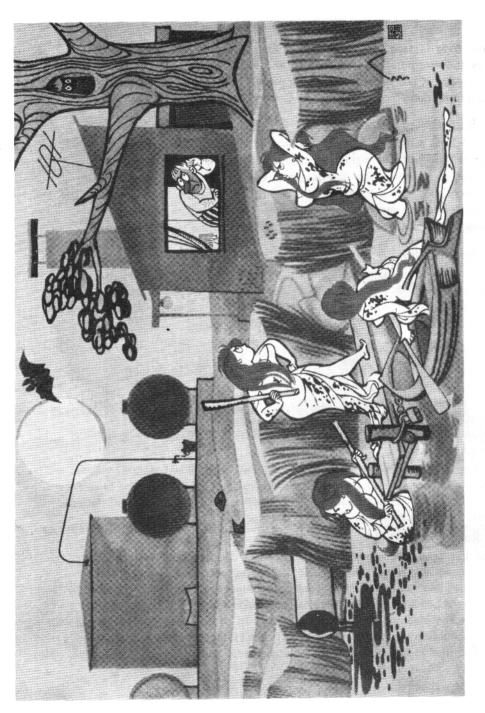
Statement by P. Strautmanis, first deputy President of the Council of Ministers, during a session of the Latvian Supreme Soviet: "Laboratory data prove that of all waters of Latvia the water of the river Lielupe is the most polluted. The blame must be put especially on the Sloka cellulose and paper mill. The river's oxygen balance is heavily disturbed during some years."

#### Riga Radio January 17, 1970

"... countless unsolved and ever increasing problems of our days are caused by pollution of water. Examples: the Lake Baikal, the Black Sea, the Baltic Sea, the Volga-Caspian Sea, the river Lielupe."

#### Riga Radio August 15, 1970

"There has been much trouble about the Sloka cellulose and paper mill which pollutes the rivers Slocene and Lielupe by untreated sewage. The problem has been discussed by the press, and Riga Radio has received letters concerning this subject. A decision has now been made to build the installations for the cleaning of the plant's sewage in two phases. The first phase comprises installations for the mechanical and biological treatment of the Sloka industrial sewage. By 1975 the Lielupe river will get clean water."



KĀ VARĒTU IEVILINĀT TO NAFTAS BĀZES DIREKTORU! ...

e ≪

persuade the director of the oil basis to take a dip! could only

Dadzis, No. 13, Riga 1968

#### Riga Radio December 3, 1971

"... Many speakers denounced the Sloka cellulose and paper mill, the cellulose mill at Lake Baikal, and other big industrial enterprises as water polluters. The purification and channelling away of industrial waste is still a cause of great worries for the management of enterprises and state water inspection authorities. Not so many years ago, we did not even talk about waste from agricultural enterprises."

#### "Cīṇa" April 26, 1972

Minister V. Samolevskis at a meeting of the Commission for the Protection of Nature: "At first it was planned to discharge the waste of the Sloka cellulose and paper mill into the Baltic Sea, but the Latvian Academy of Sciences rejected this proposition. At present the goal is to clean the waste on the spot so that the river Lielupe will get clean water. This complicated problem will be solved by 1975."

#### THE VENTSPILS OIL PIPE-LINE TERMINAL

only 140 km from Gotland

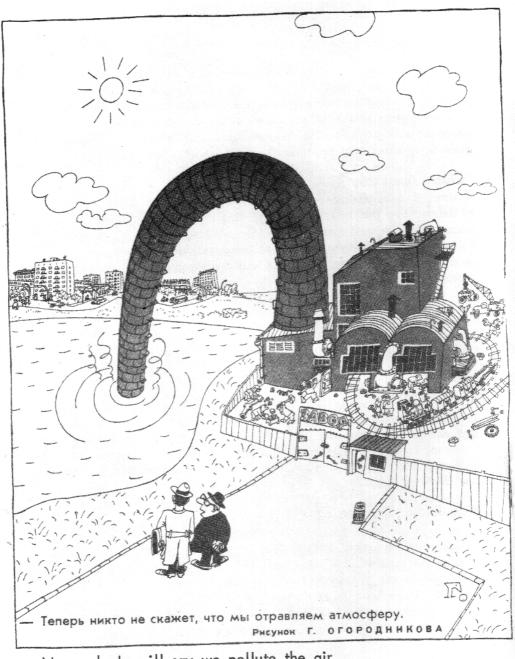
#### Riga Radio October 9, 1971

-31

Director Viktor M. Odnoralenko: "The Venspils oil basis is one of the biggest enterprises of this kind in the Soviet Union. Its capacity is being constantly increased. We deliver oil from Ventspils to 40 nations. The turnover increased four times in 10 years, labour productivity increased 3.2 times, and the wages increase was 25 per cent."

#### Riga Radio October 25, 1971

"Today it is ten years since the first tanker left Venspils with a cargo of oil products and turpentine. By this time we have dispatched more than 6,000 ships to the ports of other continents. We started by dispatching 10 - 20 ships every month, but at present the number of dispatched ships is above 100 a month. The second oil pier was ready in 1965, so now we can load four tankers simultaneously. The third oil pier is expected to be ready in 1975. Its under-the-waterline pier is planned for the needs of big tankers."



- Now nobody will say we pollute the air.

Krokodil, No. 31, Moscow 1966

#### SMOKE AND SOOT

The Riga superphosphate plant was at last closed down when its smoke and exhausts had killed the pine-trees of the nearby northern part of Mežaparks. The newspaper "SOVIETSKAYA LATVIYA" No. 297, 1971 published a report containing an analysis of readers' letters concerning this subject matter. Information on March 24, 1972: 6 enterprises are planning the installation of filters against air pollution. The Riga Cement works will install cement dust exhausters by 1974.

#### Riga Radio Februari 26, 1972

"Dark-blue smoke erupts from the chimney of the Ogre city bath and laundry. This is the cause of many complaints from the pupils of the kindergarten. There is no end to the washing of windows and of the dirty hands and faces of the children when they enter the room after having played their games in the sooty sandboxes."

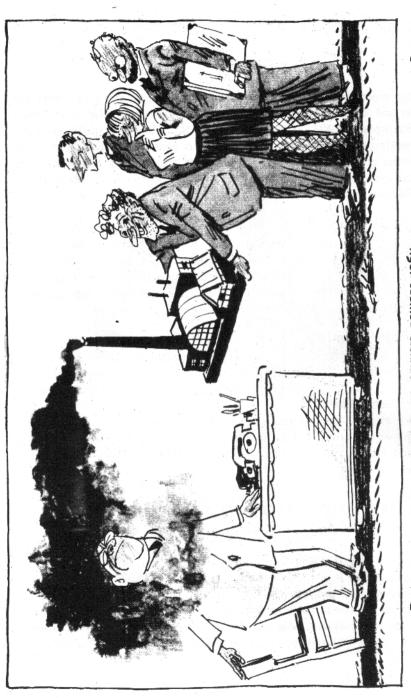
#### Riga Radio February 15, 1972

The specialists of the MARA knitted garments factory replied to a complaining professor: "If our output is sometimes not of satisfactory quality, you have to blame the Latvian worsted yarn makers, who deliver low-quality dirty yarn."

The specialists of the worsted yarn enterprise pointed to the chimney of a neighbouring factory and declared: "The real culprit is that factory. The wind brings smoke and soot into our premises, and that is what damages our goods."

### DRINKING WATER FROM ONE OF THE SOVIET UNION'S SEWERS

Excessive urbanization and industrialization have caused a shortage of drinking water in Riga. Looking for new sources, Latvian geologists have discovered that no additional water can be taken from Lake Jugla and underground sources at the river Gauja. The way out of this crisis is to accept the water of the river Daugava as drinking water, although this water is heavily polluted by industrial waste from the chemical plants of



- Comrade director, please accept this model of your works! — Товарищ директор, позвольте по случаю вашего юбилея преподнести вам действующую модель вашего завода!

Рисунок А. ЦВЕТКОВА

Krokodil, No. 19, Moscow 1971

Daugavpils, ordinary city sewage from Daugavpils, and the waste of the Jēkabpils sugar plant. According to the plans, the task has to be carried out by 1975.

The river Daugava is 1020 km long and rises in the plateau of Waldai in Russia. For 367 km Daugava flows through the territory of Latvia.

#### "MATUSCHKA" (Mother) VOLGA POLLUTED

"KROKODIL" No. 24 1970: "... In Ulyanovsk they were very interestes in the problem of the purification of industrial waste and sewage... For 12 years they were busy building the installation... which is still not ready. To tell the truth, in December the builders managed to get rid of the construction by handing over the installation to the users. But now it is already half a year since a lot of staff workers have been doing nothing else but mending all kinds of holes and finishing up the shortcomings of the builders. In the meantime, household and industrial waste is being discharged into the river Volga along the bathing beach... Moreover, by now it has been established that the installation is undersized and does not meet the needs of even one-quarter of the needs of the district..."

On March 13, 1972 the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Government of Soviet Russia published an order about the measures for avoiding the pollution of the basins of the Volga and the rivers of Ural.

#### MINERAL FERTILIZERS CAUSE CANCER IN LATVIA

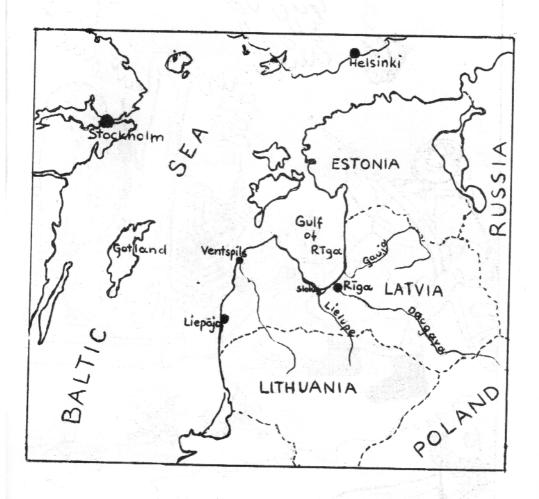
#### Riga Radio May 4, 1972

Dr. Ērika Mūrniece: "Cancer of the skin is the most frequent among malignant tumors. Most prone to the sickness are country people. There are indications that permit the assumption that the cause is to be looked for in working conditions, for instance contacts with mineral fertilizers."

Рибки закортіло...

He wanted some fish.

Perec, No. 14, Kiew 1969



In this short survey concerning pollution in the Soviet Union the problems in the Baltic are singled out because there they are discussed with particular vehemence and frequency. Similar conditions exist in all industrialised regions of the Soviet Union.

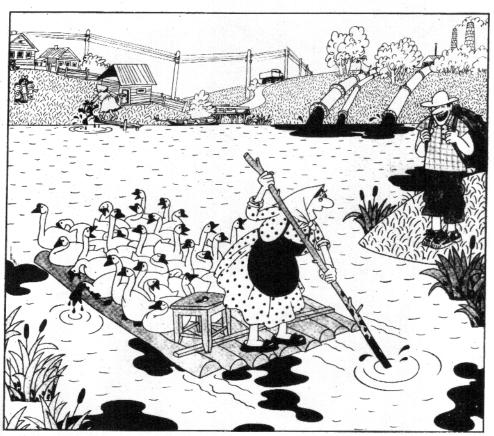


«Птички замолкли в саду, Рыбки уснули в пруду...»

Рисунок Е. ГОРОХОВА

"The birds are silent in the garden,
The fish are sleeping in the pond..."

Krokodil, No. 19, Moscow 1967



— Что они у вас, плавать, что ли, не умеют?

— Боятся испачкаться.

Рисунок Г. ОГОРОДНИКОВА

3

- Why don't those birds of yours swim?

- They're afraid of getting dirty.

Krokodil, No. 18, Moscow 1970



Браконьера поймали!

Рисунон Л. САМОЙЛОВА

They caught the fish-poacher!

Krokodil, No. 12, Moscow 1966

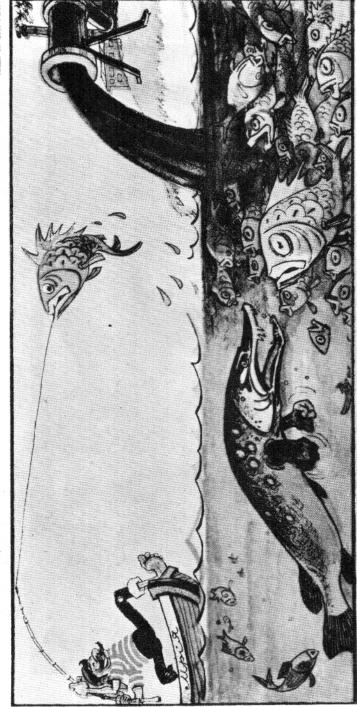


OVERCOME BY THURST

— Дяденька, даи глотнуть водички!

-Uncle, give us a drop of water, will you?

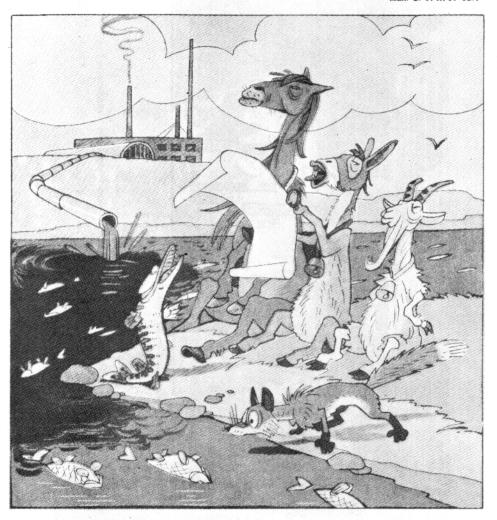
Many enterprises pollute water by industrial waste Krokodil, No. 10, Moscow 1953



- Куди прешся? Зараз моя черга.

#### НОВИЙ ВАРІАНТ СТАРОЇ БАЙКИ

Мал. В. ГРИГОР'ЄВА

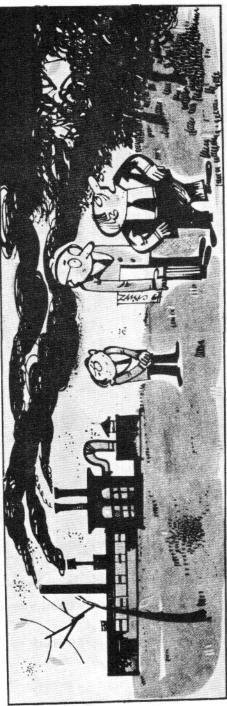


Щука: — Робіть зі мною що хочете, тільки не кидайте в цю річку.

A NEW VARIANT OF AN OLD TALE

The pike: -Do what you like with me, but, please, don't chuck me into that river!

Perec, No. 13, Kiew 1969



- KO VIŅI RUNĀ PAR DABAS POSTĪŠANU! ES TE NEKĀDU DABU NEREDZU!

/. Z.a k 1

- What are they talking about - destruction of the landscape? I can't see any landscape!

Dadzis, No. 15, Riga 1967



A KNOT TO REMIND US

- Not to forget the need for a smoke filter...

Krokodil, No. 16, Moscow 1965

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