

SWEEPINGS. IS THIS PROBLEM IMPORTANT AND HOW IS TO RESOLVE?

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In the developed countries the population makes mountains of sweepings. For example, the quantity of sweepings accumulated each year in the USA, one thinks that the water equal to sweepings mass can pack 68 000 Olympic pools. In Germany every year they throw out such quantity of sweepings that one may pack a train with length of 1 800 km. In Great Britain, according to some evaluation, every year the 4-members family throws out such quantity of paper that six trees are needed for its production.

The problem of sweepings accumulated concerns to the developing countries too.

What is to do with an unnecessary thing? The answer is evident: It may be thrown out. But it's no easy to get out of sweepings. Where is to throw? One calculated that polyethylene bag need 10-20 years to be decomposed in the sea, nylon products- 30-40 years, metal tin -500 years and glass bottle needs 1000 years to be decomposed.

Last time the quantity of such sweepings is increasing. Now the market possesses a great number of goods and the advertising convinces us that we need of it. The British newspaper «Gardian» noted: «The advertising helps as to satisfy the necessities which existence is not suspected by us». Today they're many disposable products. Their validity is short. Yesterday it was in fashion, today it is throwing out. And a valuable raw material is dumped.

If is useful this wish to buy? Thus it is very advantageous for businessmen who receive a great profit. At Switzerland, a weekly magazine «Weltwoche» notes: «If each of us use only the furniture or a car during the whole life or longer in two times as we do the economic crisis would break out». The economic crisis can't save the situation.

How can we resolve the problem of dumps?

Some industrial countries found a solution by transferring of waste products to the developing countries. But this method is not a way out and serves as an example of disrespectful attitude to other countries.

If the unused things are not to throw out but to use them as secondary raw material? Certainly, in this case it needs to be assorted. Some counties have the laws to do it.

The treatment has advantages. For example, the treatment of aluminum economizes a great quantity of energy and reduces the damage to the environment by bauxite extraction in open way. The treatment needs less the energy in two times and the water - in ten times for paper production.

If some branch of industry can't to use the waste products it's possible to treat them and transfer to other users. Thus, in Holland, there is network of exchange of secondary raw material existing from the beginning of 1970.

In some countries the authorities prevent the production of the waste materials instead of looking for their moving away.

Thus, the problem of sweepings is resolving. Besides the mentioned methods there is an easy but prior way: to become a society of thrifty people where the sweepings are minimal and the resources are economized.