

MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT writes:

MUCH propaganda is being issued by the Housing Department, but replies to practical questions seem to be met with deafening silence. Perhaps I may beg answers

A 'deafening silence' from the Housing Department

to the following questions:

- Several hundred housing units are set aside for families evicted from dangerous

buildings. Only about 10 per cent of these have been used up this year.


Can the department therefore explain why the victims of dangerous buildings in the Ngautaukok area near the bus terminus have been relegated to a Transit Centre, instead of being offered the housing allocated for that purpose?

- A large number of families whose housing numbers were reached a year ago have been left waiting for housing, on the grounds that there are no small housing units. One such family has been left homeless by the department and told that they may have a hut space if they will cancel their housing application. I know of no such policy.

Why are small units being reserved for "special cases", "emergencies" and so on, while really needy families are left without housing?

In making no preparation for small families, is the Housing Department working in opposition to the Family Planning

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Association?

Is the Housing Department not aware that most families applying for low-cost housing now are young newly married people, who should be encouraged to keep their families small? Some young couples are actually asking how many children they are expected to have before they can get housing!

I have proposed many times that the "Public Relations" section of the Housing Department would be better employed giving out necessary information to the people in need of housing; however, that department insists on house-decoration for foreign readers to admire.