

The homes in Dikson have every convenience and yet on its streets today trucks can be seen delivering water. Everyday people carry it to their apartments in buckets. Some to the fifth floor, and others to the second. Nearby are the ocean and countless rivers and lakes in the tundra, but there's a "drought" in the settlement.

And what about the water supply system? There is one. True, there's unfortunately no cold water in the pipes now. It's finished for the winter in the collector lake. So people will have to wait until July, when the snow begins to melt.

For the time being there is hot water--from the sea. But it's salt water, of course. And in colour it looks a bit like the coffee made in the local restaurant. Doctors don't recommend using such water. This is because Dikson has no sewage-treatment facilities. All the spent water flows back to where it came from without being treated.

Dikson's problems are typical of the Arctic as a whole. Take housing, for example. Housing is built in the settlement. In recent years they have even begun to erect five-storey buildings instead of two-storey wooden ones. But there continues to be an acute shortage of well-built apartments. The reason is obvious. Credit authorities are usually scared of high prices. It is no joke that one square metre here costs over a thousand roubles? Twice as much as in Krasnoyarsk, for example.

But there are other problems besides housing! Last year a wooden secondary school burned in the settlement. A new one will have to be built. But where can the resources be obtained? The executive committee doesn't have them. It is true that negotiations were begun several years ago with the Murmansk Steamship Line to have it bear those expenses. Particularly since the settlement is made up essentially of enterprises belonging to the