

My visit to Mikeshin's apartment convinced me that its occupant had not exaggerated at all. A depressing picture: ceilings and walls covered with moisture, an oppressive smell of wet, peeling plaster, a heavy stagnant odor of rotting carpets and furniture.

It is the same in all the apartments - complained the neighbors that had gathered.

The apartment house was almost new. The builders from Construction and Assembly Enterprise 378 (CAE-378) had completed it four years earlier with so many flaws that criminal proceedings were instituted against the management of that organization. However, the flaws have not been corrected and the tenants do not feel any warmer.

The occupants of an old house in Sibirskaya Street found themselves in a similarly desperate situation.

"In our apartments no repairs have been made in eighteen years - wrote M. Fedchenko, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, and other correspondents in letters to GUDOK. The pipes have rusted through - only some of the occupants get water and sewer service. The ceilings are leaking, the stoves are falling apart, the cellars are flooded and even in the winter there is ice on the floor. Every occupant burns up to seven buckets of coal each day and the result is still negligible".

The cold temperatures have prompted a real avalanche of complaints about the poor preparation for winter in Bogotol. There are twelve railroad boiler rooms in the city. Their boilers have aged morally and physically, but under the circumstances